



Santa Cruz County ***Resource Conservation District***

820 Bay Avenue, Suite 128
Capitola, California 95010

sccrcd@sccrcd.org

Ph: (831) 464-2950
Fx: (831) 475-3215

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING OF THE SANTA CRUZ COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

The regular Meeting of the Santa Cruz County Resource Conservation District (SCCRCD) Board of Directors was called to order at **6:38PM on May 11, 2005**, at the Resource Conservation District Office, 820 Bay Avenue, Suite 128, Capitola, California.

Directors Present:	Sheryl Bailey Howard Liebenberg Mike Manfre, Vice President Jim McKenna, President John Ricker Roberta Smith
Directors Absent:	Tom Lukens
Associate Directors Present:	Kathryn Tobisch Vasiliki Vassil
RCD Staff Present:	Tangi Chapman, Recorder Karen Christensen, Executive Director of Programs Sharon Corkrean, Executive Director
NRCS Present:	Rich Casale, District Conservationist

WELCOME - INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting opened at **6:38PM** as there was then a quorum present.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

There were no oral communications. Karen shared written communications. The RCD received an invitation from CARCD to spend a "Day in the Capitol" on May 18, 2005. Karen reported that she visited the Capitol in early April and met with Senator Joe Simitian and Assemblyman John Laird regarding RCD watershed programs and the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Early April is the time when new bills are being introduced and thus a critical time to meet with Legislators to discuss District Programs and learn what new legislation is being proposed. The Board suggested that a local tour for area legislators would be a good idea to illustrate District Programs.

MINUTES

Howard Liebenberg moved to approve the April 13, 2005 minutes as presented. John Ricker seconded the motion. All were in favor.

ACTION ITEMS

Program Discussion Items

Resolution 2005-04 Conflict of Interest Code – Karen explained that the Santa Cruz County Elections Office has sent two letters indicating that the SCCRCD needs to adopt a Conflict of Interest Code to comply with the Political Reform Act. Karen circulated a copy of the proposed Conflict of Interest Code. She reported that in addition to the Board of Directors having to file the Form 700, both the Executive Director of Programs and the Executive Director will have to file. The Board suggested changing the language of the Code to reflect the boundaries of the Resource Conservation District rather than Santa Cruz County. John Ricker moved to adopt Resolution 2005-04 to establish a Conflict of Interest Code for the SCCRCD. Sheryl Bailey seconded the motion. All were in favor.

2005-2006 Draft Budget – Sharon distributed the Draft Budget for Board review. Sharon reported that she received budget estimates from all Watershed Coordinators. These estimates include those projects which will likely be funded in the next year. Olsen Ford and Pajaro Vegetative Treatments, for instance, are not included in the budget because they will likely be delayed until the following construction season. Sharon explained that

staff is investigating Health and Retirement Benefit Plans which will also need to be included in the Budget. John Ricker moved to adopt the Draft Budget for 2005-2006. Mike Manfre seconded the motion. All were in favor. Sharon explained that there is still close to \$37,000 in the Packard Supplemental Fund. There are several projects within the Pajaro Project which could benefit from this money. Staff has put together a proposal for The Resources Law Group and the David and Lucile Packard Foundation to pre-approve. John Ricker moved to approve the Packard Supplemental Budget. Howard Liebenberg seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Board Meeting Time – The Board discussed keeping the Board Meeting time to 6:30PM year round. Roberta Smith moved to change the Board Meeting time to 6:30PM year round. John Ricker seconded the motion. All were in favor.

BUDGET & FINANCE

Expenditures

General Expenditures – The General Expenditures for April 2005 were circulated for review. Howard Liebenberg moved to approve them. John Ricker seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Transfers

There were no Transfers.

REPORTS

Staff Reports

Karen told the Board that beginning in the fall Watershed Coordinators will give presentations to the Board at the monthly Board Meetings. Karen reported that there are two new staff members. Angie Stuart will be coordinating the Manure Management grant for which Ecology Action is the lead. The program will provide technical assistance to livestock owners and boarding facility operators throughout Santa Cruz, Santa Clara and San Benito counties. Leticia Hain will be replacing Ruthie Shaffer in the Pajaro Program. Both Angie and Leticia will be splitting their time between the Santa Cruz and Hollister offices. Karen reported that due to the lengthy negotiations over the Master Permit for the Permit Coordination Program the RCD and Sustainable Conservation are over budget and seeking augmentation from the Coastal Conservancy. Karen reported on the successful public input in favor of the Permit Coordination Program at the Planning Commission meeting held in April. The Commission approved the Master Permit with a 5-0 vote. Karen expressed her gratitude for all the hard work of Kelli Camara, Nicole Martin, Lloyd Williams and John Ricker. Lloyd Williams successfully represented the RCD to resolve the recordation and indemnification language the County desired to have in the Contract. Staff will track the process. The goal will be to complete one or two projects this construction season. The number of projects will increase in subsequent years. Karen attributed much of the success of this effort to the open dialogue between agencies from the beginning to the end.

Directors/Associate Director Reports

Roberta Smith shared photos of a cliff stabilization project she has been involved with in Capitola. Roberta also described a Scotts Creek Watershed Council botanical walk up Little Creek. Jim West will guide the outing that will lead through a previously logged area that boasts 115 species of native plants and very few invasive species.

Howard Liebenberg attended the Roads TAC meeting the first week of May. The group discussed the logistics of how and what projects will work, given funding and time constraints. Rich suggested that much of the erosion and run-off problems on roads begin with property owner's management of erosion and drainage issues on their own property. Karen agreed that this would be a good "jumping point" for educating individual property owners. A suggestion was made to conduct a demonstration project that would walk a landowner through the process of implementing drainage improvements and decreasing erosion from their property. The point was made by Rich and others that settling basins, water spreaders, and other methods to retain water on site need to be incorporated in drainage plans so as not to increase the erosive force of the water being carried away.

Jim McKenna attended the LAFCO meeting at the end of April. Don Ramos was elected the Special District Representative and Grant Estrada was elected the Alternate. Jim reported that there was a suggestion to conduct future elections via mail. However, it was decided at the meeting to continue elections in-person. The Board thanked Jim for attending.

Vasiliki Vassil reported that she will be unable to attend the CCRC&D meeting next week, the meeting for which Carey will be giving a presentation on the Roads Program. Vasiliki encouraged other Board Members to attend. Karen informed the Board that she spoke with Jeff Rodriguez to express the RCD Board's desire for a special

recruitment for the event, as requested earlier, and to request more time for Carey's presentation than the 10 minutes allotted on the agenda. Jeff responded that Carey should take as long as she needed.

NRCS Reports

Rich circulated the April/May activity report and an article on the Earth Team volunteer program anniversary. Rich reported that he has been receiving an increase in requests for road-related visits. Rich informed the Board that the Area V CARCD meeting was not well attended by RCD Directors and that there was no interest in the tour. The group voted the Director of the RCD of Monterey County to be the new Board Chair. Santa Cruz will be the next sponsor of the Area V meeting. The Board suggested making the meeting more interesting so that more people will attend. Rich attended Carter Christenson's retirement party and reminded the Board that Carter's last day is May 18, 2005. Daniel Mountjoy has applied for the Area Conservationist position vacated by Carter Christenson. Rich has withdrawn his application for the position. The San Mateo office may be moving. Rich reported that 20 applications were received for the District Conservationist position in San Mateo; only one was received for the position in Salinas. He is working on securing several interested interns for the summer. Seven EQIP contracts for Santa Cruz County have been approved. Property owners will be notified of their approval in the next couple of weeks.

Calendar Dates

For more information, contact the person or office in parenthesis.

May	14	Scotts Creek Watershed Council Meeting, Little Creek Botanical Walk, 3:00PM (RS)
	18	CCRC&D Meeting, King City 1:00-4:00PM (RCD)
	19	Monterey Bay Regional Water Forum, Water Supply Issues, Sponsored by AMBAG, 8:30AM-2:30PM (NRCS)

ADJOURN

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:42PM. The next **Board Meeting will be at 6:30PM on June 8, 2005**, at the **Resource Conservation District Office, 820 Bay Avenue, Suite 128.**

James G. McKenna
President, Board of Directors

(TC:JGM)