



# Santa Cruz County Resource Conservation District

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## 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 **6:37pm on May 10, 2006**, at the Resource Conservation District Office, 820 Bay Avenue, Suite 128, Capitola, California.

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

### WELCOME - INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting opened at **6:37pm** with a quorum present. Mike Manfre presided over the meeting in Jim McKenna's absence.

### ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

There were no oral communications. Karen shared written communications to the Board. CARCD requested the SCCRCD circulate the Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative News brochure. LAFCO sent a letter requesting comments on the Amendment to the San Lorenzo Valley Water District Sphere of Influence and Annexation of Felton to the San Lorenzo Valley Water District.

### MINUTES

Roberta Smith moved to approve the March 8, 2006 minutes as presented. John Ricker seconded the motion. All were in favor.

### ACTION ITEMS

#### Program Discussion Items

**Annual Site Assessment** – Jen Stern gave an update to the North Rispin Parcel in Capitola. Jen shared the Covenants and Restrictions Check List sheet that has been prepared to ensure complete and accurate reporting of the inspections conducted by the RCD. She also reported on an invasive plant removal and restoration project which has taken place on the site. Jen has been coordinating with the Cabrillo College Biology Department to conduct pre- and post-restoration monitoring at another site on the property. John Ricker moved to accept the Check List as given and forward the document to the City of Capitola. Howard seconded the motion. All were in favor.

**Resolution 2006-02** – Karen explained that the funds for the Department of Fish and Game Olson Ford Fish Passage Project have not been allocated, but the RCD must be prepared to accept them if they do come through. Roberta Smith moved to accept Resolution 2006-02. John Ricker seconded the motion. All were in favor.

**Memorandum of Agreement (Consolidated Grant Program)** – Karen explained that the MOA before the Board provides a framework for communication, accountability and collaboration between each agency identified in the Northern Santa Cruz County Integrated Regional Water Management Plan. Roberta Smith moved to accept the Memorandum of Agreement for implementation of the Northern Santa Cruz County Integrated Regional Water Management Plan as written. Howard expressed concern with the financial responsibility to the RCD.

Karen explained that this agreement merely provides a mechanism for agencies to recognize and communicate with each other and that there are no financial implications. Sheryl Bailey seconded the motion. The motion carried with three ayes; John Ricker and Howard Liebenberg abstained.  
**Memorandum of Agreement (IWRP Partners)** – Karen explained that the MOA before the Board provides a framework for communication, accountability and collaboration between each agency identified in the Integrated Watershed Restoration Plan. Karen noted that the Davenport Sanitation District should be deleted. Roberta Smith moved to accept the Memorandum of Agreement for the Integrated Watershed Restoration Plan as amended on page 3 and to authorize Karen to sign the agreement. Sheryl Bailey seconded the motion. The motion carried with four ayes and one abstention from John Ricker.

## **BUDGET & FINANCE**

### **Expenditures**

General Expenditures – The General Expenditures for March 2006 and April 2006 were circulated for review. Howard Liebenberg moved to approve the March 2006 General Expenditures. Roberta Smith seconded the motion. All were in favor. John Ricker moved to approve the April 2006 General Expenditures. Roberta Smith seconded the motion. All were in favor.

### **Transfers**

There were no Transfers.

### **Draft Budget**

Sharon circulated the 2006-2007 Draft Budget for review. Sharon explained that the budget figures before the Board are estimates, and that the numbers will be more accurate as we approach the close of the fiscal year. The Board discussed the carry-over funds and how best to designate this money. It was agreed that money should be labeled to accurately reflect its use and whether the money is for reserves (long term) or contingencies (short term) and also what portion of the money is encumbered vs. unencumbered. This item will be placed on the agenda for review and adoption at the June Board meeting.

### **Transfers**

There were no Transfers.

### **CARCD Membership**

Sharon requested direction from the Board regarding calculating the CARCD membership dues. Sharon explained that last year the Board calculated dues based on 2% of the funds the RCD received from the County. Due to decreases in funding from the County, this formula would yield a total less than last year's dues. Karen pointed out that the state association has been much more responsive to the needs of the RCDs in recent months. The Board discussed the possibilities and suggested that staff send two checks, one check with the 2% calculation, and a supplemental check which would make up the difference to match the 2005 contribution. Roberta Smith moved to pay our 2% dues according to the formula and add the additional contribution to equate last year's quota to reflect our current fiscal situation and to acknowledge our appreciation for the CARCD in doing a great job. Sheryl Bailey seconded the motion. All were in favor.

## **REPORTS**

### **Staff Reports**

Karen informed the Board that all agriculture, manure, and roads grants are currently slated to run out of funding March of 2007. Staff has been busy submitting grant proposals to extend these projects. Karen noted that all the grants were recognized enough to receive call-backs for a second look. If successful, grant funding would be become available in spring 2007. Karen updated the Board regarding the reporting requirements and termination language negotiations for the vegetation treatment grant. Karen suggested that the RCD continue to do everything possible to resolve these requirements with the SWRCB. If this goes nowhere, Karen suggested signing the contract with caveats that include being able to amend the contract at a later date if the reporting requirements are changed and, second, that the contract language be changed so that the RCD will not be penalized if the contract needs to be terminated. The Board directed Karen to continue negotiations and to specifically resolve the termination language to not penalize the district for repayment plus interest for work successfully completed.

### **Directors/Associate Director Reports**

Mike Manfre attended a tour of a vegetation treatment site. The State Water Resources Quality Control Board attended the tour and addressed rules and regulations for the project. Mike felt the reporting requirement issue was heard and understood by the agency. Issues of food safety vs. soil erosion were discussed. It was suggested that this be placed on the agenda for discussion at the July meeting.

Howard Liebenberg reported that he was busy with all the rain this spring. He indicated his surprise that there were only a couple of major slides. Many slides happened but were not visible from roads. Culverts will likely be blocked by debris and should be checked before the next rainy season.

Vasiliki will be unable to attend the May 18 CCRC&D meeting.

#### **NRCS Reports**

The NRCS Activity Report for January-March 2006 was circulated for review.

#### **Calendar Dates**

May 18 **CCRC&D Meeting**, King City, 1:00-4:00PM (RCD)

May 19 **Central Coast Area Meeting**, time and location TBD.

#### **ADJOURN**

##### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35PM. The next **Board Meeting will be on June 27, 2006 at 6:30PM** at the Capitola Office, 820 Bay Avenue, Suite 128, Capitola.

James G. McKenna  
President, Board of Directors

(TC:JGM)