



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 **6:39pm on September 13, 2006**, at the Resource Conservation District Office, 820 Bay Avenue, Suite 128, Capitola, California.

Directors Present: Sheryl Bailey
Howard Liebenberg
Tom Lukens
Mike Manfre, Vice President
Jim McKenna, President
John Ricker
Roberta Smith

Associate Directors Present: Kathryn Tobisch
Vasiliki Vassil

RCD Staff Present: Tangi Chapman, Recorder
Karen Christensen, Executive Director of Programs
Leticia Hain, Pajaro Project

WELCOME - INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting opened at **6:39pm** with a quorum present.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Leticia invited the Santa Cruz County RCD Board to join the San Benito RCD Board for the Taste of San Benito tour taking place Sunday October 15.

MINUTES

Tom Lukens moved to approve the August 15, 2006 meeting minutes as presented. Roberta Smith seconded the motion. There were six yeas. Do to Sheryl Bailey's absence from the previous meeting, she abstained from the vote. The motion carried.

John Ricker moved to approve the July 19, 2006 meeting minutes as presented. Tom Lukens seconded the motion. There were six yeas. Do to Sheryl Bailey's absence from the previous meeting, she abstained from the vote. The motion carried.

ACTION ITEMS

Program Discussion Items

There were no action items.

BUDGET & FINANCE

Expenditures

Notice of Exemption – Leticia Hain gave a description of the Coward Road Hedgerow Project site and explained that the vegetation project in no way adversely effects endangered species, habitat or cultural heritage. The Notice of Exemption relieves the District of the requirement to conduct an initial CEQA study. Roberta moved approval of the Notice of Exemption for the Coward Road Hedgerow Project. John Ricker seconded the motion. All were in favor. The Board complimented Leticia on her contributions to the Pajaro Project.

Conflict of Interest Code – Karen explained that the State has requested that the District review the Conflict of Interest Code created in 2005, and, if any changes arise, the District would then need to amend the code and then re-file the new Conflict of Interest Code with the State. The Board made title changes to the Appendix of Designated Positions to Executive Director and Director of Finance. The Board also discussed and clarified when consultants would need to file the Statements of Economic Interest. Tom Lukens moved to include the title

changes, to reword the Appendix of Designated Positions to read, "Consultants to the District, if reasonably known to otherwise financially and substantially benefit from their involvement, may also be required to file Statements of Economic Interest..." and to strike "not" from the second sentence. John Ricker seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Resolution 2006-07 – Karen presented the Board with a resolution to support Proposition 84, the Clean Water Parks and Coastal Protection Act. Karen reported that the Proposition has been initiated by water districts, conservation and environmental groups, local governments, State Parks, and many others to address the need for natural resource and environmental protection funding. Karen shared results of a United Way study which prioritized community concerns and there was a huge response to address water quality, erosion and Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary health; Proposition 84 will address these issues. Tom Lukens moved to support Resolution 2006-07. Sheryl Bailey seconded the motion. All were in favor.

CARCD Annual Conference – Karen requested a delegate and alternate to attend the CARCD Annual Conference held November 1-4 in Santa Rosa. Jim and Sheryl expressed interest in attending the meeting. They will check their schedules and get back to Karen.

Ethics Training – Karen informed the Board that the City of Santa Cruz is sponsoring an AB1234 Ethics Training on November 13 at 6:00-8:00pm at the Civic Auditorium. All Directors including Karen and Sharon are required to take the two hour training.

LAFCO Elections – Karen reviewed the nominations for the Special District Representative on LAFCO. The Board read the Candidates' Statements and discussed the merits of each nominee. Roberta Smith moved to support James Anderson from the Felton Fire Protection District to be the Special District Representative on LAFCO. Tom Lukens seconded the motion. All were in favor.

REPORTS

Staff Reports

Karen reported that Carey has been working on a project with a Road Association in Aptos. The majority of landowners in the Road Association want to move forward with the project. However, there is one landowner who does not want to participate. This landowner has written a letter for Jim McKenna to review regarding the issue. The RCD will not pursue this project.

Karen called for a Director to attend the CCRCD meeting Wednesday, October 11. Please contact Karen if you can attend this meeting.

Karen then informed the Board that the RCD has been awarded \$4 million for IWRP Phase II. This grant will fund 15 projects throughout the County. There will be a press event Tuesday September 26 on the San Lorenzo levee at Laurel Street Extension to commemorate the grant award. Congratulations Karen and Staff on all your hard work! Karen explained that the Roads Program grant has been recommended for funding and that Carey will be in Sacramento tomorrow to find out if the grant will be funded. The Board expressed their concerns that the current staff will be able to handle this increased work load. Karen acknowledged that the RCD will need to address the increased human resource needs to support the increase in work load.

Karen recommended Jen Stern for heading up the Permit Coordination component of the IWRP Phase II. She also praised Angie Stuart for her ongoing work with the Manure Management program. She has been working with Ecology Action to secure curbside recycling for manure waste.

Roberta invited the Board to the 100th year anniversary of the Davenport Cement Plant. The cement plant was purchased 3 years ago by CEMEX, a Mexican company. She informed the Board that the company has a good environmental record.

Directors/Associate Director Reports

No directors reports were given.

NRCS Reports

Rich Casale circulated an update for August. Rich further explained that this year's funding priority will be given to landowners with Conservation Plans already in place. Rich reported that Zoe Carlson has been an excellent replacement in Kelli Camara's absence. Rich informed the Board that the next Blue Circle will commemorate the

10th Anniversary of the quarterly gathering. Rich will try to "piggy back" the NRCS State Meeting with the Blue Circle to highlight local partnerships. The Blue Circle is tentatively planned for October 17.

Calendar Dates

October	11	Central Coast Area RCD Meeting, Time and Location TBD (Loma Prieta RCD)
	15	Taste of San Benito, Tour begins in San Juan Bautista, 9:00AM-2:00PM (San Benito RCD)
	17	Blue Circle, Topic and Location TBD (NRCS, RCD)
November	1-4	CARCD Annual Meeting, Santa Rosa (RCD)

ADJOURN

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45PM. The next **Board Meeting will be on October 11, 2006 at 6:30PM** at the Capitola Office, 820 Bay Avenue, Suite 128, Capitola.

Jim McKenna
Director, Board of Directors

(TC:JM)