



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 **6:38PM January 10, 2007**, at the Resource Conservation District Office, 820 Bay Avenue, Suite 128, Capitola, California.

Directors Present: Howard Liebenberg
Tom Lukens
Jim McKenna, President
John Ricker
Roberta Smith

Directors Absent: Sheryl Bailey
Mike Manfre, Vice President

RCD Staff Present: Tangi Chapman, Recorder
Karen Christensen, Executive Director
Sharon Corkrean, Director of Finance
Jen Stern, Restoration Ecologist

WELCOME - INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting opened at **6:38PM** with a quorum present. Chair Jim McKenna wished everyone a Happy New Year.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

There were no oral communications. Karen circulated written communications from LAFCO and CSDA.

MINUTES

The Board reviewed the December 13, 2006 meeting minutes. John Ricker moved to accept the December 13, 2006 meeting minutes as written. Howard Liebenberg seconded the motion. All were in favor.

BUDGET & FINANCE

Expenditures

General Expenditures – The General Expenditures for November 2006 were circulated for review. Howard Liebenberg moved to accept the November 2006 General Expenditures. Tom Lukens seconded the motion. All were in favor. The General Expenditures for December 2006 were circulated for review. Tom Lukens moved to approve the December 2006 General Expenditures. Roberta Smith seconded the motion. There were four ayes and John Ricker abstained. The motion carries.

Transfers

No transfers were discussed.

ACTION ITEMS

Program Discussion Items

There were no Program Discussion items

REPORTS

Staff Reports

Jen Stern gave a presentation and update of the projects on which she has been working. Jen has been collaborating with Road Associations and landowners and the County to replace several fords with bridges. The first bridge was completed in December in the Soquel Creek watershed. The Board congratulated Jen on the success of this monumental project. She and Karen explained that the bills for the project would need to be paid at the time the RCD receives funding, not later, as the project contractors are out relatively large sums of money. The Board agreed. The remaining two ford replacement projects have been stalled due to County permitting

complications. Jen has been collaborating with the Community Action Board, Cabrillo College, City of Capitola, Wildlands Restoration Team, UCSC and Stanford to implement exotic species removal and revegetation with natives on Soquel Creek. All four of the projects have utilized the Permit Coordination Program. Jen has organized a Public Informational Meeting in January to educate the public and partners of the Permit Coordination process and how it can be used by landowners. Jen highlighted her grant with the National Wildlife Federation to involve local schools in restoration projects, to develop a large woody debris implementation plan, to continue restoration monitoring in collaboration with Cabrillo and UCSC, and also to plan future collaborations with Watsonville Wetlands Watch on the Last Mile lagoon restoration project and the City of Santa Cruz on the San Lorenzo Estuarine Reach restoration project.

Directors/Associate Director Reports

Roberta Smith shared two resource conservation articles from the Smithsonian Magazine.

Jim McKenna will be attending the International Erosion Control Association Conference in Reno, Nevada and suggested that a staff person might benefit from attending the event. Directors favored the concept.

NRCS Reports

The NRCS staff report for October through December was distributed for review.

Calendar Dates

January 24 **Informational Meeting on Coordinated Permitting for Restoration Projects**, Veterans Memorial Building, Santa Cruz, 5:30-7:00PM (RCD)

PERSONNEL

Closed Session

Open Session (Motion)

Roberta Smith moved to adopt the Human Resources proposal on the table this evening which includes Position Levels with three ranges and 7 steps in each level, and to reconcile job classes with the level of work performed and responsibility undertaken for four existing positions. John Ricker seconded the motion. All were in favor.

ADJOURN

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:44PM. The next **Board Meeting will be on February 7, 2007 at 6:30PM** at the Capitola Office, 820 Bay Avenue, Suite 128, and Capitola.

Jim McKenna
Director, Board of Directors

(TC:JM)