

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

The regular Meeting of the Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz (the District) Board of Directors was called to order at, **6:40 PM March 12, 2007**, at the Resource Conservation District Office, 820 Bay Avenue, Suite 128, Capitola, California.

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

Directors Absent: Sheryl Bailey
Tom Lukens

Associate Directors Present: Ward Hastings

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

WELCOME - INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting opened at 6:40PM with a quorum present.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

There were no oral communications.

MINUTES

The Board reviewed the February 13, 2008 meeting minutes. John Ricker moved to accept the February 13, 2008 meeting minutes with Howard Liebenberg's name removed from the Directors present category. Roberta Smith seconded the motion. All were in favor.

BUDGET & FINANCE

Expenditures

General Expenditures – The General Expenditures for February 2008 were circulated for review. Mike Manfre pointed out that the Manabe project, which restored 17 acres of wetlands in the City of Watsonville, cost more than the land itself is worth. It was noted that this information is important to illustrate the costs per acre of repairing land. John Ricker moved to accept the February 2008 General Expenditures. Tom Lukens seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Transfers

Sharon circulated the Request for Transfer of Budget Funds for review. Sharon informed the Board that due to the up and coming move, coupled with increases in consultant fees and monthly reporting and payments to State Compensation Fund, the District needs to align the line item budget with expenditures by year end. She further explained that she has discussed this action with John Ricker, Karen Christensen, and the County Auditor. John Ricker moved to accept the Transfers as written. Roberta Smith seconded the motion. All were in favor.

ACTION ITEMS

Program Discussion Items

Resolution 2008-02 – Sharon presented the Board with Resolution 2008-02 a Resolution Accepting Unanticipated Revenue. Karen and Sharon recognized the need to allocate the undesignated funds for the current fiscal year. Roberta Smith moved to accept Resolution 2008-02. Howard Liebenberg seconded the motion. All were in favor.

REPORTS

Staff Reports

Karen circulated the 2007 Annual Report for the Permit Coordination Program put together by Kelli Camara. The Board was impressed by the document and suggested staff send out a press release highlighting the successes of the program. In an effort to increase the District's name recognition, Karen told the Board that Lea Haratani has purchased Patagonia vests with the District logo. Karen reported that the Blue Circle was a success with over 100 people in attendance and 15 to 20 conservation organizations and agencies participating with tables highlighting their projects and programs. Watershed awards were given to Jim Van Houten, WWW; Vai Campbell, Soquel Creek Water District and to Kate Goodnight, Coastal Conservancy. John Ricker gave a presentation on the Integrated Regional Watershed Management Program which received excellent reviews. Karen deemed the event a success and staff will be sending out thank-you notes to all involved. Both she and the Board suggested reducing the number of Blue Circles per year to two, one in the spring and one in the fall. After reviewing the 2007 Annual Report for Permit Coordination, Mike suggested waiting until the fall to announce a press release. Karen indicated that she would like to send the document to Ed Burton and Sam Farr with a thank-you letter. Roberta made an observation that the Swanton "before" picture was actually not what the sight looked like before any part of the project began. Karen clarified that the picture was taken before the RCD's Permit Coordination Project began. Roberta suggested adding a label that reflects the above. Karen informed the Board that on Wednesday March 17 and Thursday March 18, the Regional Water Management Foundation will be hosting tours of several Proposition 50 projects.

Written Communications

Karen circulated written communications to the Board including the following: the California Regional Water Quality Agenda Item Announcement, the LAFCO Agenda and Minutes, and a letter from James Armstrong, Board Chair of the Scotts Valley Fire Protection District to Fred Keeley, County of Santa Cruz Treasurer, nominating Mr. Richard Clark to the vacancy on the Treasurers Oversight Committee. CCRC&D requested a representative from the District at their next meeting to be held in May. Mike Manfre volunteered to attend, scheduling permitting. Karen suggested contacting her for specifics on meeting places for those Board Members interested in attending.

Calendar Dates

March , 17 Waddell Creek Assoc., Paleontologist Frank Perry, Rancho Del Oso Nature Center, 2:00PM

Directors/Associate Director Reports

Roberta Smith reported on the proposal for Bonny Doon to split from the CDF Fire Protection Unit and to create a separate Bonny Doon Fire District. LAFCO is currently reviewing the proposal, but she said that there has been sufficient resistance to that proposal from North Coast residents that another proposal has been suggested. This proposal calls for the formation of a North Coast Fire District including Bonny Doon. Roberta and others noted that people are very concerned regarding what they see as a potential decrease in services and an increase in taxes to pay for these services. John Ricker mentioned that he will be attending the State Department of Water Resources meeting March 25 at the Monterey County Agricultural Commission office. Ward expressed his gratitude to Karen and staff for following up on his questions at the last meeting. He noted that his wife is on the Board for the County Library where there was recently a decision to make building the new Felton Library a priority. He wondered if the RCD would be interested in collaborating with the effort and working on a water resources and conservation theme at the library. Karen suggested talking to the folks at Watsonville Wetlands Watch, who may have more experience with this type of undertaking.

NRCS Reports

There were no reports given.

NEXT MEETING

Date/ Agenda Items

The next **Board Meeting will be on Wednesday April 9, 2008 6:30pm at the Capitola Office in the new Suite #136 conference room.**

Jim McKenna
Director, Board of Directors

(TC: JM)