

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, **6:46 PM April 9, 2007**, at the Resource Conservation District Office, 820 Bay Avenue, Suite 128, Capitola, California.

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

WELCOME - INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting opened at 6:46PM with a quorum present.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

There were no oral communications.

MINUTES

The Board reviewed the March 12, 2008 meeting minutes. John Ricker moved to accept the March 12, 2008 meeting minutes. Howard Liebenberg seconded the motion. All were in favor.

BUDGET & FINANCE

Expenditures

General Expenditures – The General Expenditures for March 2008 were circulated for review. John Ricker pulled three invoice binders to cross-reference items on the expenditures. Roberta requested that there be more detail on the expenditure sheet. Sharon explained that there is not enough room and that it would not be cost effective to supply this detail. Karen reminded the Board that if there are any questions she or Sharon would be happy to explain verbally what projects each item correlates to in the budget. Sharon also indicated that she could send out a key attached to the monthly expenditures that would decode the items. The Board agreed that this would be helpful. Karen also suggested having an accomplishments meeting with staff so that they could deliver their updates to the Board first hand. John Ricker moved to accept the March 2008 General Expenditures. Tom Lukens seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Transfers

There were no transfers.

ACTION ITEMS

Program Discussion Items

Resolution 2008-02r – Sharon presented the Board with Resolution 2008-02r a Resolution Accepting Unanticipated Revenue. This is the same resolution that was adopted by the Board at the February 2008 meeting. Karen explained that

the County Council suggested the resolution should pass with a six out of seven vote rather than the five out of seven votes. Roberta Smith moved to accept Resolution 2008-02. Howard Liebenberg seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Annual Benefits Renewal– Karen circulated renewal premium notifications from HumanaDental and CalChoice. She pointed out that the dental premium will increase by 9.7% and the medical premiums will increase by 6% in June 2008. Sharon suggested continuing to cover 100% of employee premiums and 0% of dependent premiums. Karen also requested that the Board consider covering Karen and Sharon in the Dental benefits. Roberta Smith moved to continue coverage of benefits at the current level of 100% for employees and also include Sharon Corkrean and Karen Christensen in the HumanaDental premiums. Sheryl Bailey seconded the motion. All were in favor.

City of Capitola North Rispin Parcel– Karen reminded the Board that in April of each year the District is obligated to inspect the North Rispin Parcel. She circulated the completed evaluation with Attachment A which describes the Soquel Creek Ivy Removal and Habitat Restoration Project. Karen noted that the evaluation shows that the City of Capitola is in compliance with the Parcel Agreement. Roberta Smith moved to approve the North Rispin Parcel evaluation and Attachment A as presented. Sheryl Bailey seconded the motion. All were in favor.

REPORTS

Staff Reports

Karen informed the Board that the District received a grant of \$50,000 to research and identify opportunities for fire prevention outreach. This grant was written in collaboration with local Fire Districts. Karen reported that there are 23 Permit Coordination projects proposed for this construction season and are funded by various grants. Additionally, there are 10 projects that are not included in the Permit Coordination program. Karen told the Board that the database development continues to move forward and that this summer a GIS intern will be hired to cross reference the data. She hopes to see the program online by this fall. Staff will be trained on the program after the fall when workload decreases. Karen further reported that the Roads program has received approximately 65 calls from Road Associations interested in getting involved in the program. Karen has been pleased with Kelli Camara's excellent training of staff on Conservation Planning. She reported that the Roads Technical Advisory Committee is currently updating selection criteria for programs. Roberta Smith, John Ricker, Nick Lasher, Kelli Camara, Howard Liebenberg, Kristen Kittleson, and Rich Casale sit on the TAC.

Written Communications

Karen shared an agenda and invitation to the Board to attend the Area 5 Central Coast Resource Conservation District Meeting to be held April 24 starting at 9:00AM. The focus will be on rangeland and related issues. Karen encouraged a Board Member to be present; Roberta Smith indicated that she may attend. Jim McKenna shared the award the District received at the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Awards Dinner from Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary and Sam Farr. The event was sponsored by the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments. Karen wondered out loud if the RCD staff could attend the AQWA meeting on April 15.

Calendar Dates

April	24	CCRCD Area 5 Meeting, Santa Margarita Ranch, 9:00AM
May	21	CCRC&D Council Meeting, King City, 1:00-4:00PM

Directors/Associate Director Reports

Howard Liebenberg reported that he is currently working with District employee Joseph Issel and Mike Gagarin of CDF to conduct a second chipper training. This training will certify volunteer fire fighters to help operate the chippers for neighborhood fuel load reduction programs. Howard also attended the Integrated Regional Water Management tour held in March to highlight Proposition 50 projects.

John Ricker reported that the state has signed the Integrated Regional Water Management Proposition 50 agreement and it is up to them to make the next move. John attended several meetings; he gave a presentation to the Community Foundation Board. He also attended a meeting with Congressman Sam Farr and Monterey Bay water agencies where he put in a good work for the work that the NRCS has been doing. Finally, he reported on the State Water Plan Update meeting he attended.

NRCS Reports

Rich Casale circulated an activity report for NRCS (see attached). Rich reported that at a first line supervisor meeting Jeff Rodriguez approached him requesting to attend a RCD of Santa Cruz County Board Meeting. He explained that Jeff has time and energy to spend on conservation activities outside of RC&D. He encouraged the Board to extend an invitation for

Jeff to attend a Board meeting and give a presentation. Karen questioned whether staff could attend the CCRC&D meetings in place of a Board Member. Rich continues to try to fill Kelli Camara's vacancy. He hopes to have a step student fill the vacancy that then graduates to a full time position. He reported that Nick Lasher will become reimbursable to 20% for his work on the Roads Program. Rich is also worried that one of the Agriculture Engineers "has his feelers out" for a new position. Karen congratulated Rich for his recognition award at the agricultural luncheon sponsored by the Farm Bureau.

NEXT MEETING

Date/ Agenda Items

The next **Board Meeting will be on Thursday May 15, 2008 6:30pm at the Capitola Office, Suite #136 conference room.**

Jim McKenna
Director, Board of Directors

(TC: JM)