



MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 17, 2008 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, **6:40PM September 17, 2008**, at the Resource Conservation District Office, 820 Bay Avenue, Suite 136, Capitola, California.

Directors Present:	Howard Liebenberg Tom Lukens Mike Manfre, Vice President Jim McKenna, President Roberta Smith
Directors Absent:	Sheryl Bailey John Ricker
Associate Directors:	Vasiliki Vassil
RCD Staff Present:	Tangi Chapman, Executive Assistant Karen Christensen, Executive Director
Concerned Citizen:	Carol Carson, Valley Women's Club

WELCOME - INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting opened at 6:40PM with a quorum present. Karen requested and the Board agreed to postpone the 401(k) discussion to the October meeting.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Carol Carson introduced herself to the Board. She is a member of the Valley Women's Club Environmental Committee and is interested in the Districts activities in the San Lorenzo Valley. The Board welcomed her to the meeting. Karen shared a written communication from the Regional Water Quality Control Board in which they explained that they would not be pursuing programs for grazing and livestock at the regional level; rather they will continue evaluating grazing and livestock operations on a case by case basis.

MINUTES

The Board reviewed the July 23, 2008 meeting minutes. Roberta Smith noted the misspelling of Vasiliki Vassil's last name. Howard Liebenberg moved to accept the July 23, 2008 meeting minutes with the above correction. Tom Lukens seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

BUDGET & FINANCE

2008-2009 Budget

Karen circulated the 2008-2009 Budget for the Board to review. She reminded the Board that they previously adopted a draft of the 2008-2009 Budget and that Sharon has since made some minor adjustments. Karen then explained that this annual budget represents the peak of the current grant funds and that in subsequent years the budget will decrease. The Board then discussed several line items in detail. Tom Lukens moved to adopt the 2008-2009 Budget as presented. Mike Manfre seconded the motion. All favored the motion.

Expenditures

General Expenditures – The General Expenditures for July 2008 were circulated for review. Karen pointed out that a large grant will be closing out in the next few months and that they can expect the numbers to drop off after the grant ends. Karen noted that there has been a huge demand for fire related workshops and materials from the public. Roberta noted

that Communications was misspelled on the expenditures. John Ricker moved to accept the June 2008 General Expenditures. Mike Manfre seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

Transfers

There were no transfers.

ACTION ITEMS

Program Discussion Items

Conflict-of-Interest Code – Tangi Chapman circulated the Conflict-of-Interest Code for the Board to review and approve. She explained that the changes to the policy include the addition of the Pajaro Program Manager, as well as clarification of language in the Disclosure Categories. Tom Lukens noted that on page 1 “employees” was redundant and needed to be removed. Tom Lukens moved to accept the Conflict-of-Interest Code with the above change. Roberta Smith seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

Drug-free Workplace Policy – Tangi circulated the proposed Drug-free Workplace policy for review and approval. The Board expressed their discomfort with the language under the search and seizure section of the policy. It was suggested that the first and last sentences in that section be omitted and that the remaining sentence read, “If an individual is suspected of violating the drug-free workplace policy, he or she may be asked to submit to a search or testing at any time.” Tom Lukens moved to accept the Drug-free Workplace policy with the above changes. Roberta Smith seconded the motion. All favored the motion.

Authorized Leave – Tangi circulated the proposed Authorized Leave policy for the Board to review and approve. After discussion of the policy, the Board recommended under Personal Leave, that the denial and approval of personal leave not fall solely on the Executive Director. It was suggested that the personnel committee of the Board of Directors share the approval or denial of personal leave. Tom Lukens moved to accept the Authorized Leave policy with the above change. Roberta Smith seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

REPORTS

Staff Reports

Karen reported on the Fire Prevention and Awareness meeting held on September 15 in Davenport. Roberta helped organize the event and Vasiliki gave a much-complimented presentation. The event was well attended, with 80 plus North Coast residents. The District will be sponsoring one or two more Fire Workshops this year.

Karen then highlighted the events of the CARCD-sponsored Central Coast NACD meeting that was held September 15 and 16. As the facilitators of the tour for the event, Lea and Karen took the group of seventy people to several RCD projects. Attendees to the meeting came from all over the Pacific Northwest, and Karen said that most were impressed with the variation in climate and ecosystems in Santa Cruz County.

Karen announced that the CARCD Conference will be held in November in Riverside. Any Director who wishes to attend should let Karen know as soon as possible to get the best room rates. She informed the Board that if a Director is in attendance that Rich Casale would go as well.

Karen informed the Board that Monica Barricate of the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board will be presenting at the next Board meeting. They will discuss irrigation and nutrient management.

Karen then highlighted projects done or in progress in the San Lorenzo Valley watershed. She noted that SLV schools are participating in the Watershed Cruzin’ workshops the RCD is sponsoring. Additionally, the District is implementing a project in Gold Gulch and a fish passage project is in development at Boulder Cascade in Henry Cowell State Park. Karen also shared that through the years the RCD has worked on livestock and land projects in the San Lorenzo Valley.

Written Communications

No written communications were given.

Calendar Dates

September	21	Waddell Creek Assoc. Presentation by Gage Daton on the UC Ecological Reserve System, Rancho Del Oso Natural History Center, 2:00PM
October	4	Environmental Committee of the VWC meeting, PG&E tree trimming, Henry Cowell State Park, 10:30- 12:00PM
November	18-22	CARCD/CARC&D Councils 63 rd Annual Conference, Riverside, CA

Directors/Associate Director Reports

Roberta Smith informed the Board of the Waddell Creek Association presentation by Gage Daton on the UC Ecological Reserve System.

NRCS Reports

No NRCS reports were given.

NEXT MEETING

Date/ Agenda Items

The next **Board Meeting will be on October 8, 2008 at 6:30PM at the Community Foundation Conference Room, 2425 Porter Street, Suite 16, Soquel.** Roberta Smith moved to adjourn (8:14PM). Howard Liebenberg seconded. All were in favor of the motion.

Jim McKenna
Director, Board of Directors

(TC: JM)