

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 14, 2010 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 **6:36PM, April 14, 2010** at the Resource Conservation District Office, 820 Bay Avenue, Suite 136, Capitola, CA 95010.

Directors Present:	Mike Manfre Jim McKenna, President David Moeller John Ricker
Directors Absent:	Margaret Kinda Howard Liebenberg Roberta Smith
Associate Directors Present:	Ward Hastings
RCD Staff Present:	Tangi Chapman, Board Secretary Karen Christensen, Executive Director Sharon Corkrean, Director of Finance
NRCS Staff Present:	Rich Casale, District Conservationist Erin Kurtz, Soil Conservationist

WELCOME - INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting opened at 6:36PM with a quorum present. Jim McKenna chaired the meeting. Erin Kurtz, NRCS Soil Conservationist, was introduced to the Board.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

No oral communications were given.

MINUTES

The Board reviewed the March 10, 2010 meeting minutes. Dave Moeller moved to accept the minutes. John Ricker seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

BUDGET & FINANCE

2009-2010 Expenditures – The March 2010 Expenditures were circulated for approval. Sharon reported that the Olson Ford project has been paid in full and Karen further reported that the project looks great despite all of the setbacks. John Ricker pointed out that the project functioned very well during high flows experienced this winter. John Ricker then moved to accept the March 2010 Expenditures. Dave Moeller seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion. Sharon let the Board know that the auditors completed the 2007-2009 audits of the books and she reported that everything was in order and looked clean. She indicated that she will be working on the 2010-2011 Budget and hopes to have it ready in a working draft form for the June meeting with a draft budget in July and subsequently a final budget.

ACTION ITEMS

Program Discussion Items

North Rispin Property Parcel Checklist – The Board reviewed the North Rispin Property Checklist. Staff found no significant changes to the property. Dave Moeller moved to accept the N. Rispin Property Checklist as presented. John Ricker seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

Health Benefit Renewal – Tangi explained to the Board that the District had not yet received the renewal packet. Therefore, this action item would need to be moved to the May 2010 agenda. She said that she has been getting quotes from other insurance providers and would have options ready for the Board next month.

REPORTS

Staff Reports

Karen reported that the chipper program is up and running. Joe has been checking for endangered species and educating the community about the program. Each site will be visited prior to chipping and landowners will receive the fire safe guide and education on best management practices. Karen said that Kelli Camara is currently renegotiating the 10 year permit coordination program and that all agencies will need to reauthorize the program for it to proceed. Karen shared the letter the District sent to the Regional Water Quality Control Board. She explained that they were inundated with over 700 comment letters regarding the Agricultural Order dated February 1, 2010. The order received a huge outpouring against the program and the RWQCB will have much to digest from the comments. Karen recently met with the Loma Prieta RCD to discuss their goals for the Upper Pajaro River. She then encouraged Board members to attend the April 28 CARCD Area meeting the District is hosting at the Water Resources Center in Watsonville. Karen was recently approached by the National Association of Conservation Districts to host a focus group on organic farming with six different organic farmers presented at the meeting and provided a good cross-section of people and farms in the area, Alicia Moss and Erin Kurtz organized the meeting. Karen also reported that the City of Santa Cruz has approached the District regarding a culvert replacement project. Though the city is not currently within the District's boundaries, she explained that we could potentially provide a fee for service arrangement. John Ricker suggested contacting LAFCO to see what would need to be done in terms of including the city within the District boundaries or possibly within our sphere of influence. It was suggested that John contact Pat McCormick directly and then report back to the Board in May. John agreed to report back his findings at the next Board meeting.

NRCS Reports

Rich Casale circulated the NRCS quarterly report (see attached report). He then gave highlights of activities. The Board expressed congratulations to Rich for his National Earth Team Award.

Written Communications

Written communications from LAFCO and CARCD were circulated.

Calendar Dates

April	22	Blue Circle Meeting, First Congregation Church in Santa Cruz, 3:00-6:00PM
April	28	CARCD Area 5 Meeting, Water Resources Center in Watsonville, 10:00AM-4:00PM

Directors/Associate Directors Reports

Dave Moeller reported on the Farm Bureau Legislative Committee meeting that he attended.

NEXT MEETING

Date/ Agenda Items

The next **Board Meeting will be on May 12, 2010 at 6:30PM at the RCD office 820 Bay Avenue, Suite 136, Capitola, CA 95010.** Items to be placed on the May agenda include LAFCO and Health Insurance Benefits

Jim McKenna
Director, Board of Directors

(TC: JM)