

**MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 12, 2011 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING OF THE
 RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY**

The Regular Meeting of the Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County (the District) Board of Directors was called to order at **6 37PM, January 12, 2011** at the District Office, 820 Bay Avenue, Suite 136, Capitola, CA 95010

Directors Present	Margaret Kinda Howard Liebenberg Mike Manfre, Vice President David Moeller John Ricker
Directors Absent	Jim McKenna, President Roberta Smith
Associate Directors Present	Kathryn Tobisch
RCD Staff Present	Tangi Chapman, Recorder Sharon Corkrean, Director of Finance Kelli Camara, Program Manager II
NRCS Present	Rich Casale, District Conservationist

WELCOME - INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting opened at 6 37PM with a quorum present. John Ricker chaired the meeting until Mike Manfre arrived at 6 43PM to assume the position of meeting chair.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

There were no oral communications.

MINUTES

The Board reviewed the November 10, 2010 meeting minutes. Tangi noticed that Jim Robins and Susan Pierce were not listed as attending, Sharon also noticed that Nikira Hernandez needed to be added to staff present. Dave Moeller moved to accept the November 10, 2010 meeting minutes with the above added to the list of attendees. Howard Liebenberg seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion. The Board then reviewed the minutes from the December 8, 2010 meeting. John Ricker pointed out that the sentence regarding Jim McKenna's Director Report description of the Resolution the Board created for the CARCD Annual Conference was incomplete. Tangi then rectified the omission. Howard Liebenberg moved to accept the minutes of the December 8, 2010 meeting with the discussed change. Dave Moeller seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

BUDGET & FINANCE *(Mike Manfre took over chairing the meeting)*

2009-2010 Expenditures – The November 2010 Expenditures were circulated for approval. Sharon pointed out that there was a typographical error regarding the cell phone reimbursement which should be \$35 billed to Livestock and Land and \$35 billed to Rural Roads (not \$70 to Rural Roads). John Ricker asked for clarification of some of the abbreviations. Sharon said she would make an acronym "cheat sheet" that could be on the table during meetings. The Board also discussed the AmeriCorps interns that the District is hosting. Sharon said unfortunately the RCD would be unable to count some of the trainings and mileage as match to the Watershed Stewardship Program grant, as previously thought. However, the supplies that were purchased, such as waders, boots and the like were billable toward the match. Kelli pointed out that the two interns have been extremely helpful and are doing a lot of work for the District. *(Rich Casale entered the meeting)* John Ricker moved to approve the November 2010 Expenditures. Howard Liebenberg seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

The December 2010 Expenditures were circulated for approval. Howard Liebenberg asked why there was a jump in payroll in December and Sharon explained that there were three pay periods in December instead of the usual two. Dave Moeller moved to accept the December 2010 Expenditures as presented. Margaret Kinda seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

ACTION ITEMS

Program Discussion Items

District Policies – Tangi Chapman circulated the proposed policies. Policy 1030, Public Complaints, was reviewed first, after discussion it was suggested by the Board that this policy and Policy 1060, Policy Complaints, were so similar as to be redundant. It was suggested that the wording in 1030 2 be altered slightly to read, “A public complaint is an allegation by a member of the public of a violation or misinterpretation of a District policy, state or federal statute or some other action by the District, of which the individual alleges to have been adversely affected.” The Board then looked at Policy 1040, Claims against the District. After discussion, the Board concluded that the language of this document should be reviewed by District Counsel prior to the Board voting on the policy. Policy 1050, Copying Public Documents, was then reviewed and discussed. The Board then reviewed Policy 1060, Policy Complaints, and decided that this policy was unnecessary as it was so similar to Policy 1030. Finally, the Board reviewed Policy 1070, Contributions. The Board concluded that this was a straightforward policy. John Ricker then moved to adopt Policies 1030, 1050 and 1070 with changes to formatting and inclusion of the suggested additions to 1030 2 outlined above, and have Policy 1040 reviewed by District counsel and then brought back to the Board for review. Dave Moeller seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

LAFCO Alternate Board Elections – Mike shared the December 9, 2010 letter from LAFCO with the candidates for the 2010 Election of Special District alternate to LAFCO. The Board reviewed the candidates. Then John Ricker moved to vote for Eric Hammer to be the alternate Special District representative to LAFCO. Margaret Kinda seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

Designated Signatories – Staff brought to the Board's attention that with Karen out on emergency leave and Jim McKenna on vacation until January 18, 2011, there is no one currently available to sign contracts. John Ricker volunteered to be a designated signatory in the event that the Board President and the Executive Director were unavailable. The Board then discussed the various circumstances when official signatures were needed. After discussion, Howard Liebenberg moved to have John Ricker added as an authorized agent to sign contracts and to accept money in any or all agreements, including Farm Bill Programs, in the absence of the Board President and or Executive Director, effective January 12, 2011. Dave Moeller seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

REPORTS

Staff Reports

Sharon shared a conversation she had with Karen prior to the Board Meeting. She gave a positive report and indicated that the prognosis for Karen is favorable, all were relieved though not surprised given Karen's strong character. Kelli reported that she and staff had a “downloading” session on Monday to discuss what projects they were working on with Karen and to get a sense of what projects could continue and what would need to wait. Sharon and Kelli said that help has been offered to the RCD from many people including Jim Robins, Donna Meyers, Carey Cooper-Odden and John Ricker. The Board and staff then discussed various projects and who would be working on them as well as strategy for carrying the District forward. John Ricker reported on the Soquel Water District's proposal, laid out in their master plan, to drill 4-5 new wells further from the coast. The EIR for the proposed plan indicated that there could be decreases in instream flows, which NMFS has commented could be a problem. John is currently working on a solution that would give money to the RCD to implement stream improvements as mitigation for the decrease in instream flows. John expressed optimism that NMFS was eager to come up with an agreeable solution. John will continue to update the Board as the process unfolds.

Kelli Reported that Angie is “wrapping up” the 319 Roads Grant with a final presentation January 28 in San Luis Obispo.

Written Communications

Written communications were circulated from City of Capitola and Toni Danzig.

Calendar Dates

January 26-29 EcoFarm Conference, Asilomar, CA
March 6-8 California Small Farm Conference, San Jose, CA

Directors/Associate Directors Reports

Howard Liebenberg reported that Karen asked him to fill in for her on the Smoke Management Task Force of the Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District. He said he would attend the next meeting.

NRCS Reports

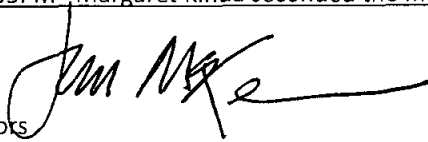
Rich updated the Board on projects and calendar dates. He will be giving a presentation at the EcoFarm Conference with Nik Strong-Cvetich and Deborah Nares. He reported that NRCS will be filling Erin Kurtz's position with a STEP student who is currently completing her master's degree in Soil Science at UC Davis. She will be working two days a week through February, in March she will begin to work full time. Rich said that her husband was hired to work as an engineer in the Hollister office as well. He indicated that he has a UC Santa Cruz student intern who will be working 12 hours per week. In addition, Glenn Wilcox and Jennifer Nowark continue to volunteer for NRCS. Daniel Mountjoy has given Rich the "green light" to help the RCD where needed given the present situation. Rich then gave an update on the projects NRCS is currently undertaking, including EQIP, Conservation Partnership Initiative, Forestry CAP and Flood Plain Easements.

NEXT MEETING

Date/ Agenda Items

The next **Board Meeting will be on February 9, 2011 at 6:30PM at the RCD Office in Capitola**. Howard Liebenberg moved to adjourn at 8:35PM. Margaret Kinda seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

Jim McKenna
Director, Board of Directors



(TC JM)