RESOURCE
CONSERVATION DISTRICT
OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

820 Bay Avenue, Suite 136
Capitola, California 95010
tel 831.464.2950
www.rcdsantacruz.org

MINUTES OF THE MARCH 13, 2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING OF THE RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

The Regular Meeting of the Resource Conservation District (RCD) of Santa Cruz County Board of Directors was called to order at **6:31 PM on March 13, 2019** at District Office, 820 Bay Avenue, Suite 136, Capitola, CA 95010.

Directors Present:	Steve Auten
	Kelley Bell
	Robert Ketley
	Howard Liebenberg
	Jim McKenna, President
	John Ricker
Directors Absent:	Mike Manfre
NRCS Present:	Whitney Haraguchi, District Conservationist
	Drew Mather, Conservation Planner
RCD Staff Present:	Tangi Chapman, Recorder
	Lisa Lurie, Executive Director
Others Present:	Melanie Mow-Schumacher

1. CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order at 6:31PM. Jim McKenna chaired the meeting. There was a quorum present.

2. INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME
Jim McKenna welcomed everyone to the meeting. Melanie Mow-Schumacher was greeted by the Board and attendees introduced themselves.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT
There were no public comments.

4. NRCS REPORT
Whit Haraguchi reported a successful visit and tour with Carlos Suarez, State Conservationist, and others from NRCS to discuss a pilot project to address groundwater depletion and recharge. Whit will also be acting District Conservationist for the Salinas Service Center while Erika Boyland is out on leave. Additionally, he anticipates a batching period deadline for the end of May. He hopes to have more information soon.

5. PRESENTATION – Pure Water Soquel Project
Melanie Mow-Schumacher gave a presentation on the challenges facing the Soquel Water District regarding seawater intrusion into the groundwater and the proposed suite of solutions. Melanie explained that this is a complex problem with effects already being felt by some customers. Soquel Water District has completed a Community Water Plan and several options were identified as vital options to pursue, the SWD believes that the solution will require the combination of water transfers, wastewater treatment and replenishing of the groundwater, and conservation. The Soquel Water District is meeting with local agencies to educate about the issue and to get community support. The Board thanked Melanie for the presentation and appreciated her taking the time to talk to the Board about this important issue.

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6. CONSENT AGENDA

The Board reviewed the consent agenda items and then Robert Ketley moved to approve the consent agenda items. John Ricker seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

7. ACTION ITEMS

7.1. Review and consider approval of Resolution RCDSCC 2019-02

Lisa Lurie presented the Board with a resolution to enter into agreement and designate a representative to negotiate and sign the agreement between the RCD and the California State Coastal Conservancy for Carbon Farming for Climate Resiliency. She said that the focus will be to increase carbon sequestration on farms and will focus on low income growers. The practices will include rotational cover cropping and riparian restoration. John Ricker moved approval of Resolution RCDSCC 2019-02. Kelley Bell seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion. The resolution passed.

8. DISCUSSION ITEMS

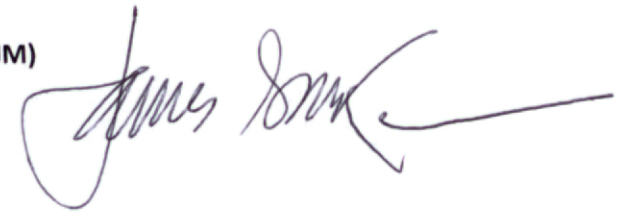
8.1. Executive Director's Report

Lisa circulated the Executive Director's report. She highlighted that the District has entered into agreement with PV Water to provide outreach, education and technical assistance for implementing the agency's irrigation efficiency and agricultural water conservation program. The RCD is working in partnership with UC Berkeley and UCSC to address barriers to implementation of managed aquifer recharge, expand participation in the Recharge Net Metering Program, and share lessons learned from this innovative incentive program with other critically over-drafted basins. The RCD also has entered into agreement with the Resources Legacy Fund to plan and design a project to remove 5 fish passage barriers on Branciforte Creek. Lisa reported that the RCD held a fire workshop over the weekend which included topics about defensible space, road readiness, creating fuel breaks and evacuating livestock and pets. Lisa mentioned that the RCD is leading a subcommittee of the Pajaro Compass to identify strategies to resource and sustain the effort moving forward. A spring Compass meeting is being held on April 24th in Watsonville with the theme "One Watershed, Many Perspectives: Partnerships in the Pajaro." This event will include a tour of the PV Water wastewater treatment plant.

7.3 Director's Reports

No District reports were given.

9. ADJOURN

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors will at the District office on April 10 at 6:30PM. John Ricker moved to adjourn at 8:10PM. Robert Ketley seconded the motion. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned.

(TC: JM)