MINUTES OF THE MAY 8, 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 6:37 PM on May 8, 2019 at District Office, 820 Bay Avenue, Suite 136, Capitola, CA 95010.

Directors Present: Steve Auten
Kelley Bell
Robert Ketley
Mike Manfre
John Ricker

Directors Absent: Jim McKenna, President
Howard Liebenberg

RCD Staff Present: Tangi Chapman, Recorder
Lisa Lurie, Executive Director
Sharon Corkrean, Director of Finance
Kelli Camara, Technical Director

NRCS Present: Whit Haraguchi, District Conservationist

1. CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order at 6:37PM, with a quorum present. Mike Manfre chaired the meeting.

2. INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME
Mike Manfre welcomed everyone to the meeting.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT
There were no public comments.

4. NRCS REPORT
The NRCS report was circulated. Whit Haraguchi highlighted that the Regional Conservation Partnership Program has been at the forefront of activities. He continues to serve as the acting District Conservationist for Monterey County. He described a project that was highlighted at the recent Pajaro Compass meeting in which Drew Mather the Conservation Planner participated in a 500-foot hedgerow planting with 150 local kids in partnership with Point Blue. The project was a success.

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

6. ACTION ITEMS
6.1. Review and Consider Approval of the In-Lieu Fee Program Enabling Instrument
Lisa Lurie referred the Board to the Memo included in the Board Packet. This memo addressed the concerns the Board had and the resolution to those concerns. After review, John Ricker moved to approve the In-Lieu Fee Program Enabling Instrument. Robert Ketley seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.
(Kelli Camara left the meeting)

6.2. Consider Adoption of the Draft FY 2019-2020 Budget
Sharon presented the Board with the proposed FY 2019-2020 Budget. She explained that the District will be implementing two large project (Kelley Thompson Ranch Managed Aquifer Recharge Project and the Upper Zayante Large Wood Enhancement Project) and many smaller projects for Livestock and Land and the Pajaro Toxicity Reduction program this year. Additionally, the Fire program will be expanding, and the District may need to bring someone on to manage that program. The IWRP program which includes pass through money for Monterey and San Mateo RCDs in addition to money for Santa Cruz projects will be expending close to half a million dollars in this fiscal year. The Board had a lively discussion about indirect cost rates and recovering the full cost of doing business. They questioned whether some grants were worth the effort given the inability to recover costs associated with running the programs. The Board revisited the need for “baseline” funding in light of the difficulty of recovering the cost of doing business given the indirect cost limitations imposed by the funders. Robert Ketley suggested meeting with elected officials to promote District programs and illustrate the value of the District. Mike Manfre suggested that we might need to say no to some funding sources that will not allow the District to recover indirect costs. Sharon told the Board that she will continue to analyze the Cost Allocation Plan and different approaches to covering Indirect Costs. Robert Ketley moved approval of the Draft FY 2019-2020 Budget. John Ricker seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS

7.1. Executive Director’s Report
Lisa circulated the Executive Director’s report. She highlighted the various grants that have been awarded since the last meeting, including one from the Community Foundation for Strategic and Communications Planning. The District will be assisting the Regional Transportation Commission through a Wildlife Conservation Board grant to develop a Santa Cruz County Regional Conservation Investment Strategy. This will be a non-regulatory planning process supported by CDFW to develop species level conservation goals, objectives and priority conservation actions. Additionally, a grant was received from CalFire to reduce catastrophic wildfire risk and fire related greenhouse gas emissions. Lisa shared that staff have been working on project proposals for inclusion in the update to the Pajaro Integrated Regional Water Management plan for the next round of DWR funding. Lisa shared that the District has been working on outreach with the Pajaro Compass program. The CARCD Spring Area meeting included discussions on RCD assistance for Cannabis producers and Regional Forest Health initiatives. Lisa reported that the San Lorenzo Valley Water District Board confirmed their full support to the Upper Zayante Large Woody Debris Project at their board meeting.

7.3 Director’s Reports
John Ricker reported that Pat McCormick will be retiring from LAFCO; the new Director will be Joe Serrano.

Mike Manfre gave his congratulations to staff on their hard work in developing the Budgets, getting the In-Lieu-Fee Program moving forward.
8. **ADJOURN**

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors will at the District office on June 12 at 6:30PM. John Ricker moved to adjourn. Kelley Bell seconded the motion. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned.

(TC: JM)