RESOURCE
CONSERVATION DISTRICT
OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

820 Bay Avenue, Suite 1
Capitola, California 950
tel 831.464.29
www.rcdsantacruz.c

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 12, 2020 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 **6:31PM on February 12, 2020** at District Office, 820 Bay Avenue, Suite 136, Capitola, CA 95010.

Directors Present:	Kelley Bell
	Robert Ketley
	Mike Manfre, Vice President
	Jim McKenna, President
	John Ricker
Directors Absent:	Steve Auten
	Howard Liebenberg
RCD Staff Present:	Sharon Corkrean, Director of Finance
	Lisa Lurie, Executive Director
NRCS Present:	Whit Haraguchi, District Conservationist
Others Present:	Steve Daus, CA Prof Forester

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:31PM, with a quorum present. Jim McKenna chaired the meeting.

2. INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME

Jim McKenna welcomed everyone to the meeting.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Steve Daus gave an introduction and commented that he has been in the forestry industry since the mid 90's. He noted the bundled services; management, environmental compliance, planning. Their work is geared toward working with RCDs and Fire Safe Councils. He has worked with the RCD in the past and would like to re-engage the relationship. Located in Sunnyvale.

4. NRCS REPORT

Whit Haraguchi. Capitola, Templeton, and Salinas staff met with Kelli Camara to do PIR Training. Whit presented a revised, non-monetary state NRCS-CARCD-RCD MOU for review. The MOA should be reviewed, signed, and sent up to the NRCS State Office by the end of March. The Board requested clarification on how this MOU relates to our local partnership office Operational Agreement and requested further information from CARCD. Request for Tangi to pull the last Cooperative Agreement for review/discussion. Does the MOA supersede the Operational Agreement? To be agendized as an action item on the March Meeting. For more information on monthly activities, see attached NRCS report.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

The Board reviewed the consent agenda item and then, Robert Ketley moved to approve the consent agenda items. Mike Manfre seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion. Ketley amended to have the Strategic Planning Meeting minutes added to the consent agenda next month. Mike Manfre seconded the motion. The motion passed.

820 Bay Avenue, Suite 1
Capitola, California 950
tel 831.464.29
www.rcdsantacruz.c

6. ACTION ITEMS

6.1. Consider approval of an exemption from informal bidding procedure, as per Section 1080.9.3 of the District's Procurement Policy, for the Regional Conservation Investment Strategy

Lisa Lurie outlined the RTC RCIS program. Locally driven, build off conservation plans, leverage other programs. Original team: Kelli Camara (amphibians); Jim Robins (fisheries); and Jodi McGraw (lead in document development; Jodi will be doing the bulk of the work with assistance from her staff). RTC is leading the public/outreach portion of the document. With personnel changes, we will be shifting additional tasks to consultants. Lead consultant in the Land Trust's Blueprint document. Seeking an exemption to bidding procedure process due to unique qualifications. Statement of Qualifications was reviewed/discussed. John Ricker made a motion to approve the request for an exemption to the bidding process and to move forward with Jodi McGraw Consulting. Kelley Bell seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

6.2. Consider Approval of Cost-of-Living Adjustment

Lisa presented the Board with the published finding of The Bureau of Labor Statistics for the San Francisco Region deemed the CPI at 2.5%. After much discussion the Board deemed that since they fell 1.5% short last year that it would be warranted to add that 1.5% into the current increase. Kelley Bell moved to approve a 4% CPI increase to be effective at the start of the next pay period. Robert Ketley seconded the motion. The motion passed.

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS

7.1. Strategic Planning Session

A summary of the day will stand as minutes. Areas to move forward with development include: Agriculture, Restoration, Revenue, and Communication groups. Lisa will convene the subgroups in approximately 90-minute meetings. Groups include the following participants: Revenue – John Ricker, Jim McKenna, Arianne Rettinger, Sharon Corkrean, and Lisa Lurie; Restoration – John Ricker, Steve Auten, Kelli Camara, Angie Gruys, and Lisa Lurie; Agriculture – Mike Manfre, Sacha Lozano, Gerry Spinelli, Erin McCarthy, Angie Carreras and Lisa Lurie; Communications – Robert Ketley, Kelley Bell, Angie Gruys and Lisa Lurie. John Ricker requested that the developed plan be brought back to the Board for an annual review to see if we are on track; Robert Ketley interjected that it be reviewed on a semi-annual basis -- all agreed. Kelley would like to see that these goals and priorities are tied to staff workload so all can feel that progress is achievable. Subcommittees will meet first; then the Strategic Planning Committee will follow mid March. Need to get to measurable outcomes. Jim McKenna commented that it was great to see each staff member and how much they are committed to the team, mission and goals of the RCD; Robert Ketley fully agreed.

7.2. Executive Director Report

Lisa Lurie highlighted that she will be presenting at the Regional Water Board Meeting on March 6 in Watsonville. Staff will be wrapping up the Licensed Cannabis technical assistance needs assessment in March; a presentation of finds will be given at a future Board Meeting. Additionally, a "Diversity and Inclusion Training" is being presented by the Santa Cruz Mountains Stewardship Network, contact Lisa if you are interested in participating. Spotlight Stewardship, a program like Focus Ag will be starting soon, there is a link in ED Report if you would like to learn more about the program (deadline to sign up is March 15). Several of the staff have met with agriculture leadership and conservation partners to discuss the Ag Order and potential third party collaboratives. Finally, Lisa discussed staff transitions, hiring processes, and the fact that she will be focusing her attention on internal operation over the coming months.

7.3. Director Reports

Robert Ketley requested an update on the KT Sediment Basin; he would like to know if it is dry or not.

820 Bay Avenue, Suite 1
Capitola, California 950
tel 831.464.29
www.rcdsantacruz.c

8. ADJOURN

The next meeting of the RCD Board will be on March 11, 2020 at 6:30PM. **Robert Ketley moved to adjourn. Mike Manfre seconded the motion. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:20PM.**

(SC:JM)