



**MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 13, 2021 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 **6:35PM on October 13, 2021** at Zoom Meeting ID: 708-386-048.

Directors Present:	Kelley Bell Mike Eaton Robert Ketley Mike Manfre, Vice President John Ricker
Directors Absent:	Howard Liebenberg Jim McKenna, President
RCD Staff Present:	Tangi Chapman, Recorder Lisa Lurie, Executive Director

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:35PM, with a quorum present. Mike Manfre chaired the meeting. Roll was called and connectivity confirmed; Kelley Bell present; Mike Eaton present; Robert Ketley present; Howard Liebenberg absent; Mike Manfre present; John Ricker present; Jim McKenna absent.

2. INTRODUCTIONS & WELCOME

Mike Manfre welcomed everyone to the meeting.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

4. NRCS REPORT

Tangi Chapman told the Board that Whit Haraguchi was not able to attend the meeting, but he gave a brief update. He said that Drew Mather has been acting District Conservationist for Jim Howard in the Half Moon Bay Office. Additionally, he said that NRCS has tentatively scheduled for a phased reopening of offices starting January 3rd and that all NRCS employees must show proof of vaccination by November 9th. Lisa Lurie said that Kay Joy Barge will be retiring at the end of the year and will be circulating a card and gift later for those that wish to contribute.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

The Board reviewed the consent agenda items. Kelley Bell moved approval of the consent agenda items Robert Ketley seconded the motion. The vote was by roll call; the ayes included Kelley Bell, Mike Eaton, Robert Ketley, Mike Manfre and John Ricker. The motion passed unanimously.

6. ACTION ITEMS

6.1. Consider approval of Resolution RCDSCC 2021-09 to extend remote meetings per AB 361 for 30 days

Lisa presented the Board with Resolution RCDSCC 2021-09 to continue remote meetings under a state of emergency per AB 361 requirements. Mike Eaton moved approval of Resolution RCDSCC 2021-09. John



Ricker seconded the motion. The vote was by roll call; the ayes included Kelley Bell, Mike Eaton, Robert Ketley, Mike Manfre, and John Ricker. The motion passed unanimously. It was suggested by Robert Ketley that this might be better to have with the consent agenda items.

6.2. Consider and designate a voting delegate for the CARCD 2021 annual Business Meetings scheduled via Zoom for November

Lisa explained that due to the pandemic the CARCD conference and annual meeting will have a different format. The annual business meeting will take place in November and the conference will be spread out during the month of January. Both will be held remotely via Zoom. The meetings will be held on November 10 and 15, both at 4:00PM. There will be no resolutions to vote on, rather the meeting on the 10th will consist of a presentation of the CARCD officer candidates; the candidates will be voted into office on the 15th. The officers serve for two years. There will also be reports from the Executive Director, NRCS, Department of Conservation, National Association of Conservation Districts and Pacific Policy Group. After discussion, John Ricker moved to nominate Jim McKenna as delegate and would serve as the alternate delegate if Jim could not attend. Kelley Bell seconded the motion. The vote was by roll call; the ayes included Kelley Bell, Mike Eaton, Robert Ketley, Mike Manfre, and John Ricker. The motion passed unanimously.

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS

7.1. Executive Directors Report

Lisa Lurie gave highlights from her Executive Directors report. The District and partners have removed several dams this summer and fall. The website is anticipating going live next month; Lisa would like to have the Board update and/or create their bios. She requested the Board include a statement of why they serve on the Board. She invited Board members to attend meetings she will be conducting with each of the county Board of Supervisors. John Ricker, Mike Manfre, Kelley Bell, Mike Eaton and Robert Ketley all volunteered to attend.

Lisa shared that there is good news from the state regarding funding for conservation, specifically related to fuels and wildfire resiliency, climate and drought resiliency, and sustainable agriculture. Lisa informed the Board that on October 27 Monterey RCD will be hosting the Area RCD meeting which will consist of tours and meeting at Garland Ranch; Mike Eaton expressed his interest in attending. Additionally, the RCD will plan a Board Tour for November 10 to showcase some of the projects the District has completed. It was suggested that the Branciforte Dam removal project was of interest. It also gives the opportunity to see a site in the planning stages for dam removal along side one that is just now wrapping up and one that was completed several years ago.

7.2. Director/Associate Director Reports

Robert Ketley reported that he worked with Don Alley and his crew recently to count steelhead on Soquel Creek. He reported that approximately 300 smolt were counted right at beach lagoon. He worries that the drought is pushing them into pools at the beach and worries that they are vulnerable there due to heat and low oxygen. He asked what is being or could be done to improve their survivability. Is there any discussion of low impact vegetation or temporary LWD in lower reaches to provide cover? John Ricker said that Large Woody Debris projects in the lower reach of Soquel Creek is not advisable due to potential flood concerns, and he is not aware of any temporary structures during drought years. Though he did say that there are some decent pools in the lower reach of the river where smolt might find refuge. Lisa also shared that streamflow enhancement and drought solutions will be critical in the years ahead and that



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the State Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) will help in better understanding and addressing surface/groundwater interactions as they relate to stream flows. We are also working with Soquel Demonstration Forest to plan and implement several Large Woody Debris projects on Soquel Creek in the upper watershed.

8. ADJOURN

The next meeting of the RCD Board will be November 10, 2021 at time and location to be determined. John Ricker moved to adjourn. Mike Eaton seconded the motion. The vote was by roll call; the ayes included Kelley Bell, Mike Eaton, Robert Ketley, Mike Manfre, and John Ricker. The meeting was adjourned at 7:46PM.

(TC:JM)

DocuSigned by:

Jim McKenna

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