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RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

820 Bay Avenue, Suite 136
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www.rcdsantacruz.org

**MINUTES OF THE NOVMBER 9, 2022 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 **1:05PM on November 9, 2022,** the meeting was conducted at the University of California Marine Campus Conference Room and virtually per AB 361 and Executive Order N-35-20 via Zoom, Meeting ID: 708-386-048.

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| Directors Present: | Kelley Bell |
| | Mike Eaton |
| | Howard Liebenberg |
| | Mike Manfre, Vice President |
| | Jim McKenna, President |
| | John Ricker |
| Directors Absent: | Robert Ketley |
| Associate Directors Present: | Vasiliki Vasil |
| RCD Staff Present: | Tangi Chapman, Recorder |
| | Lisa Lurie, Executive Director |
| NRCS Staff Present: | Drew Mather, District Conservationist |
| | Alanna Burhans, Soil Conservationist |
| | Dillion Beatty, Agricultural Engineer |

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 1:05PM, with a quorum present. Jim McKenna chaired the meeting. Roll was called and connectivity confirmed; Kelley Bell present; Mike Eaton present; Robert Ketley absent; Howard Liebenberg present; Mike Manfre present; Jim McKenna present; John Ricker present.

**2. INTRODUCTIONS & WELCOME**

Jim McKenna welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments given.

**4. NRCS REPORT**

Drew introduced Alana Burhans and Dillion Beatty to the Board. He reported that Alana has been at the Capitola Local Partnership Office for two months and has brought many new ideas and technical assistance to the area. He reported that one of their Earth Team volunteers has been accompanying staff on field visits and will be helping out through December. Jennifer Nowark will be stepping into her new role as Farm Bill Assistant and will be splitting her time between Salinas and other LPOs. Drew attended the Indigenous Tribute Day which was informative. Additionally, there is an application batch deadline of December 9th for Federal Assistance.

**5. CONSENT AGENDA**

The Board reviewed the consent agenda items, including the October 12, 2022, Regular Meeting Minutes and Resolution RCDSCC 2022-16 to extend remote meetings per AB 361 for an additional 30 days. John Ricker moved approval of the consent agenda items. Mike Manfre seconded the motion. The ayes included Kelley Bell, Mike Eaton, Howard Liebenberg, Mike Manfre, Jim McKenna, and John Ricker. There were none opposed; the motion passed unanimously.

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## 6. ACTION ITEMS

### 6.1. Consider adoption of Resolution RCDSCC 2022-17 to submit a proposal to the Department of Conservation for Restoration Planning in Lower Scotts Creek

Lisa Lurie explained that the resolution for the Boards consideration is required by the Department of Conservation for the RCD to submit a grant application, provide the necessary certifications and to designate an agent to act on the Boards behalf with regards to the grant agreement. Lisa shared that this grant opportunity with DOC is specific to Resource Conservation Districts. If awarded, this grant will provide assistance to Cal Poly Swanton Pacific Ranch to plan riparian conservation and floodplain enhancement projects on their working ranch in the Scott Creek watershed. After discussion, John Ricker moved to approve Resolution RCDSCC 2022-17. Mike Eaton seconded the motion. The ayes included Kelley Bell, Mike Eaton, Howard Liebenberg, Mike Manfre, Jim McKenna, and John Ricker. There were none opposed; the motion passed unanimously.

### 6.2. Consider approval of staff recommendation memo to enter into a consultant services agreement for Coastal Technical Studies for the Scott Creek Coastal Resiliency Project per section 1080.6.1.3 formal bid procedures of the Procurement Policy

Lisa presented the Board with a Staff Recommendation Memo for the procurement of services for the Coastal Technical Studies for the Scott Creek Coastal Resiliency Project. She explained that the ongoing effort to replace the Scott Creek Bridge continues to advance, the goal of this study is to look at the various plan designs considering sea level rise and to determine the best option. The contract is estimated to cost approximately $250,000. Therefore, in keeping with the 1080 Procurement policy Daniel Nylen released a Request for Proposals on November 8, 2022; proposals are due by December 8, and a consultant will be selected based on the most qualified bidder. A consultant is expected to be chosen by the selection committee by mid December 2022. After discussion, Mike Manfre moved approval of the staff recommendation to enter int a consultant service agreement for the Coastal Technical Studies for the Scott Creek Coastal Resiliency Project per section 1080.6.1.3 of the Procurement Policy. Howard Liebenberg seconded the motion. The ayes included Kelley Bell, Mike Eaton, Howard Liebenberg, Mike Manfre, Jim McKenna, and John Ricker. There were none opposed; the motion passed unanimously.

### 6.3. Review and consider approval of the annual North Rispin Property Inspection Checklist

Lisa reported that Angie Gruys conducted the North Rispin Property Inspection on October 11, 2022. She coordinated the inspection with Capitola Police who met her at the property. There were no issues to report other than some trash present but minimal in comparison to previous years; cape ivy and English ivy continue to cover much of the site. Howard Liebenberg moved approval of the North Rispin Parcel Covenants and Restrictions Check List. Kelley Bell seconded the motion. The ayes included Kelley Bell, Mike Eaton, Howard Liebenberg, Mike Manfre, Jim McKenna, and John Ricker. There were none opposed; the motion passed unanimously.

### 6.4. Nominate a delegate to attend the CARCD 77th Annual Conference and Business meeting and an alternate voting delegate to the CARCD Business meeting

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Lisa requested nomination for a Board delegate to attend the CARCD 77th Annual Conference and Business meeting. After consideration Mike Manfre confirmed his availability to attend the virtual business meeting, but not the in person conference. John Ricker moved to approve Mike Manfre as the voting delegate for the CARCD business meeting and to act on behalf of the RCD Board. Kelley Bell seconded the motion. The ayes included Kelley Bell, Mike Eaton, Howard Liebenberg, Mike Manfre, Jim McKenna, and John Ricker. There were none opposed; the motion passed unanimously.

## 7. DISCUSSION ITEMS

### 7.1. Returning to In Person Meetings; State of Emergency sunsets February 28, 2023

The Board discussed options for returning to in-person meetings starting in March. It was suggested that we could check in with the Soquel Creek Water District, the First Congregational Church and the City of Capitola Chambers.

### 7.2. Memorial planning for Director Roberta Smith

Efforts continue to be developed for a remembrance of Roberta linked to the reopening and dedication of the Pacific School garden. It was suggested that a Blue Circle prior to the garden dedication could be used as a fundraiser to provide either an individual or class scholarship at the garden dedication. Early February was suggested as a target for holding the Blue Circle.

### 7.3. Executive Director Report

Lisa reported on various projects and efforts over the past month. Highlights included a Scott Creek Tour with John Laird an others to continue the momentum to get the Scott Creek Bridget Replacement project over the finish line. Sacha was honored at the Cal Can Summit for his work on Carbon Farm Plans. Managed Aquifer Recharge funding continues to be a high priority. Lisa reported that Kay-Joy Barge's husband passed away unexpectedly last month and that a memorial is being planned. Lisa also suggested a low-key holiday party December 14 at a local restaurant.

### 7.4. Director/Associate Director Reports

Howard Liebenberg asked about the square waddles that were used at the Branciforte Dam removal. The engineered structures are called D-blocks.

## 8. CALENDAR DATES

No new Calendar Dates were discussed.

## 9. ADJOURN

**The next regular meeting of the RCD Board will be January 11 2023, at 6:30PM via Zoom.** John Ricker moved to adjourn the meeting. Mike Manfre seconded the motion. The ayes included Kelley Bell, Mike Eaton, Howard Liebenberg, Mike Manfre, Jim McKenna, and John Ricker. There were none opposed; the motion passed unanimously.

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Jim Mckenna
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**(TC:MM)**