



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

R.C. Brody
President

Steve Rosentsweig
Vice President

Nancy Helsley
Treasurer

Beth Burnam
Director

Mary Ellen Strote
Director

EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Clark Stevens

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

SEVEN HUNDRED THIRTY-NINTH MEETING

Monday February 24, 2014—6:00 P.M.

Resource Conservation District Office

NPS Peter Strauss Ranch: 30000 Mulholland Hwy., Agoura Hills, CA 91301

MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** the meeting was called to order by President R.C. Brody at 6:05 p.m. A quorum was established with Directors Nancy Helsley and Steve Rosentsweig in attendance. Director Beth Burnam arrive at 6:10. Director Mary Ellen Strote was absent. Also in attendance was Associate Director Dennis Washburn and RCD staff members Clark Stevens, Executive Officer, and John Hendra, Operations Manager.
2. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** Lachlan McLean, clean energy industry employee and Topanga resident; Dawn Afman, NRCS District Conservationist.
3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** there were no public comments.
4. **CONSENT CALENDAR:** Mr. Rosentsweig had a few questions about the monthly financials, so they were removed from the consent calendar. The Minutes and Claims were approved. **Moved/Seconded: Ms. Helsley/Mr. Rosentsweig; approved 3-0.**
 - **MINUTES:** Approval of minutes for meeting of January 27, 2013
 - **MONTHLY CLAIMS AND FINANCIALS:** Approval of financial report and claims for January 2013. Mr. Rosentsweig asked staff about various budget line items and the dates of the report. Mr. Hendra noted that financial report was through February 19. **Moved/Seconded: Mr. Rosentsweig/Ms. Helsley; approved 3-0.**
5. **REGULAR CALENDAR**
 - A. Appointment of Lachlan McLean as Associate Director: **Moved/Seconded: Ms. Burnam/Mr. Brody; approved 4-0.**
 - B. Resolution #2014-02-01: Certification and authority for Bank of the West to accept facsimile signatures: the Board discussed ways to limit or discontinue use of signature stamps. It was decided to approve signature stamp acceptance by Bank of the West as a safeguard, but to have at least one live signature on every check and two if possible. This is not currently a requirement but a preferred practice and test of viability. **Moved/Seconded: Mr. Brody/Ms. Helsley; approved 4-0.**



- C. Resolution #2014-02-02: Authorization to apply to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife’s Fisheries Restoration Grant Program for up to \$200,000 to continue southern steelhead trout population monitoring for two additional years: **Moved/Seconded: Mr. Rosentsweig/Mr. Brody; approved 4-0.**
 - D. Board Committees: review of current committees and appointment of members: Directors discussed the names, purposes and best uses of the standing committees. The Board directed staff to produce a resolution changing the names of two committees and making the Personnel Committee an ad hoc committee. The Directors then made appoints to various committees.
 - E. Progress update on search for RCD home and lab facilities: Mr. Stevens updated the Board on the current options he is pursuing. He expects to have more information at the next meeting.
6. **USDA/NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE REPORT:** Ms. Afman offered to drive any Directors or staff to the next Central Coast Area meeting to be held in Santa Barbara County. She reported that the Cachuma RCD Mobile Irrigation Lab has lost its funding and the RCD is looking for potential paying clients; this could be beneficial to vineyards in the Santa Monica Mountains. Finally, Ms. Afman reported on the progress of two potential sources of state funding for RCDs: SB848 and a revision of the Williamson Act.
7. **INFORMATIONAL REPORTS:**
- A. Staff Reports for January:
 - i. Clark Stevens, Executive Officer (oral): Mr. Stevens reported that the RCD submitted a comment letter drafted by Senior Conservation Biologist Rosi Dagit regarding the restoration and use of the Santa Susana Field Lab. He also reported that the RCD is part of a group tasked with doing a project study report for the proposed Highway 101 wildlife overcrossing.
 - ii. John Hendra, Operations Manager (written)
 - iii. Stephen Vodantis, Education Supervisor (written)
 - iv. Rosi Dagit, Senior Conservation Biologist (written)
 - v. Jenna Krug, Conservation Biologist (written)
 - B. Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission: Executive Officer Clark Stevens: the Board discussed their recently completed Annual Report and review various projects such as rain barrels in Calabasas and sea urchin barren prevention in the Santa Monica Bay.
 - C. California Association of Resource Conservation Districts Central Coast Area: Spring meeting April 23 hosted by Cachuma RCD: probable RCDSMM attendees

include Ms Burnam, Ms. Helsley, Mr. Rosentsweig, Mr. Stevens and Mr. Washburn.

- D. Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Area Steering Committee: Assoc. Director Glenn Bailey: Mr. Bailey was unable to attend the meeting but emailed to Mr. Hendra the US Army Corps of Engineers Sepulveda Basin Vegetation Management Plan to rehabilitate the area cut last year. The Steering Committee will review the plan at their meeting Tuesday February 25, 2014. If the RCD has a preferred alternative or comments they would like shared, Mr. Bailey asks that he be called prior to the evening meeting. Otherwise, the ACOE is accepting comments until at least Friday February 28, 2014.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

- A. Memorandum from William F. Kruse: results of LAFCO Alternate Representative election
- B. Memorandum from William F. Kruse: Nomination of candidates to run for special district representative and alternate seats on the Los Angeles County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO)
- C. Joseph T. Ruzicka: request for support of candidacy for LA County LAFCO alternate seat

9. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Ms. Burnam notified the Board that Senior Conservation Biologist Rosi Dagit is being honored by Los Angeles County as one of their Women of the Year at a luncheon in Downtown LA on Monday March 10. Everyone is encouraged to attend.
- Mr. Rosentsweig distributed a notice from the US Department of Energy regarding the remediation of the NASA/Boeing site in the Simi Hills. The notice lists the date and place of two upcoming public comment meetings.
- Ms. Helsley met with a Los Angeles County Forester who advised that, due to the drought, oak trees on homeowner property should be watered.

10. **ADJOURNMENT: Moved/Seconded: Mr. Brody/Mr. Rosentsweig; approved 4-0.** The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
John Hendra, Operations Manager

Date: _____

Approved by: _____
R. C. Brody, President
Board of Directors

Date: _____