



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Steve Rosentsweig
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Beth Burnam
Director

Mary Ellen Strote
Director

EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Clark Stevens

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

SEVEN HUNDRED FORTY-SECOND MEETING

Monday April 28, 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 6:10 p.m. A quorum was established with Directors Beth Burnam, Nancy Helsley, Steve Rosentsweig and Mary Ellen Strote in attendance. Also in attendance were Associate Directors Lachlan McLean and Dennis Washburn, and RCD staff members Clark Stevens, Executive Officer, and Melina Watts, Santa Monica Mountains Watersheds Coordinator.

Emergency Addition to Agenda: in February 2013 the RCD passed a resolution to apply for a grant of up to \$350,000 from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) for southern steelhead trout lifecycle monitoring in Topanga Creek (Resolution #2013-02-02). The grant was awarded to the RCD in the amount of \$246,546. CDFW requires a resolution stating the exact amount of the award in order to disperse the funds, which must be encumbered before the next Board meeting. Thus, resolution 2014-04-02 is added to the agenda as Regular Calendar item 5J. **Moved/Seconded: Mr. Rosentsweig/Ms. Burnam; approved 5-0.**

2. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** there were no guests.
3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**
 - Ms. Watts introduced herself to the new Directors and discussed the extension of her Department of Conservation Watershed Coordinator grant. She is also teaching a course at UCLA Extension on sustainability, as part of which she will conduct a tour of the Santa Monica Mountains on May 31; the Board is invited to attend. Ms. Watts then gave an update of the projects she is working on currently.
4. **CONSENT CALENDAR: Moved/Seconded: Ms. Strote/Ms. Burnam; approved 4-0, with Ms. Helsley abstaining.**
 - **MINUTES:** Approval of minutes for meeting of March 24, 2014
 - **MONTHLY CLAIMS AND FINANCIALS:** Approval of financial report and claims for March 2014



5. REGULAR CALENDAR

- A. Approval of California Department of Parks and Recreation Standard Agreement C1341041 for \$42,540.96 to provide eight field surveys at Malibu Lagoon State Beach from April 28, 2014 through December 31, 2019: **Moved/Seconded: Ms. Burnam/Mr. Rosentsweig; approved 5-0.**
- B. Approval of contract with Friends of the Los Angeles River for up to \$5000 to conduct a one-day fish survey in the lower Los Angeles River between the Pacific Coast Highway and Willow Avenue bridges: **Moved/Seconded: Ms. Helsley/Ms. Strote; approved 5-0.**
- C. Approval of contract with California Department of Parks and Recreation in an amount not to exceed \$30,000 for Arroyo Sequit stream restoration monitoring: **Moved/Seconded: Ms. Strote/Mr. Rosentsweig; approved 5-0.**
- D. Approval of Proposal for Ecological Site Analysis and Planning services at Wildwood Property, Topanga Canyon Boulevard, Topanga: Mr. Stevens described the work to be done for this contract and the costs. **Moved/Seconded: Mr. Rosentsweig/Ms. Burnam; approved 5-0.**
- E. Vote for Independent Special District Representative to the Los Angeles County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO): the Board discussed the candidates and decided to cast a vote for E. G. Gladbach. **Moved/Seconded: Mr. Brody/Ms. Burnam; approved 5-0.**
- F. Resolution #2014-04-01: a Resolution of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles, the Board of Directors of the Las Virgenes Municipal Water District, the Board of Trustees of the Los Angeles County West Vector & Vector-Borne Disease Control District, and the Board of Directors of the Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains Approving and Accepting the Negotiated Exchange of Property Tax Revenues Resulting from Annexation of Property Designated as Annexation 29-1, as a Part of Local Agency Formation Commission Reorganization 2009-16, to Los Angeles County Waterworks District No. 29, Malibu: **Moved/Seconded: Mr. Rosentsweig/Ms. Helsley; approved 5-0.**
- G. Board meeting day and time: the Board discussed changing the time and/or possibly meeting less often, but decided to leave the meeting schedule as it is currently.
- H. Rules for filming at Board meetings: the Board directed staff to draft a policy statement regarding filming or recording Board meetings for inclusion on the agenda and on the sign-in sheet. Those who want to film or record are requested to notify the Board of their intention.
- I. National Association of Conservation Districts annual dues request: Directors discussed the benefits and costs of NACD membership. The Board decided to table this item indefinitely.



6. **USDA/NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE REPORT:**
No report.

7. **INFORMATIONAL REPORTS:**

A. **Staff Reports for March:**

- i. Clark Stevens, Executive Officer (oral): Mr. Stevens discussed negotiations with the Wildwood property purchaser and progress on other potential sites for lab and storage facilities. The Highway 101 Overpass project continues to move forward, with funding and a contract for the Project Study Report coming soon. Finally, the scope for the Santa Ynez Chumash Land Planning project is going to change due to uncertainty regarding where the easement is going to be. Mr. Stevens will bring the amended contract to the Board at a later meeting.
- 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. California Association of Resource Conservation Districts Central Coast Area: report on Spring meeting held April 23 in Santa Barbara County: Ms. Burnam reported on the Farmer to Farmer program and the similarities RCDSMM has with our Area RCDs in trying to change behavior with regard to the environment. Mr. Washburn reported on the fieldtrip to S&S Seed Co. and a potential RCD partnership with US Air Force bases for environmental work.

C. Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Area Steering Committee: Assoc. Director Glenn Bailey-Los Angeles City motion to prohibit certain behaviors in wildlife area: no report.

8. **CORRESPONDENCE**

- A. RCD comment letter and progress update: AB2193 (Gordon)-the Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Act-SUPPORT
- B. Los Angeles County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) Fiscal Year 2014-15 Proposed Budget
- C. LAFCO Special District Alternate Representative election results

9. **DIRECTORS' COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Mr. Washburn announced a Public Workshop on May 22 on the Enhanced Watershed Management Program hosted by the Hwy. 101 cities.



- Ms. Burnam announced the Regional Area Safety Taskforce Fire Summit on May 14 in Diamond Bar. The topic is fire, invasive species and environmental health.
- Ms. Strote wrote a press release about watering oak trees in the drought. The Board directed Mr. Stevens to have Rosi review and update as needed.

10. **ADJOURNMENT: Moved/Seconded: Mr. Brody/Mr. Rosentsweig; approved 5-0.**
The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
John Hendra, Operations Manager

Date: _____

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

Date: _____