



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 SIXTY-FIRST MEETING

Monday December 21, 2015—6:00 P.M.

**Resource Conservation District Office
 540 S. Topanga Canyon Blvd, Topanga, CA 90290**

MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** the meeting was called to order by President R.C. Brody at 6:06 p.m. A quorum was established with Directors Beth Burnam, Nancy Helsley and Steve Rosentsweig in attendance. Director Mary Ellen Strote was absent. Also in attendance were Associate Director Dennis Washburn (left at 6:45), Executive Officer Clark Stevens and Operations Manager John Hendra.
2. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** there were no guests.
3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** there was no public comment.
4. **MINUTES:** Approval of minutes for meeting of October 26, 2015 **Moved/Seconded: Ms. Burnam/Mr. Rosentsweig; approved 4-0.**
5. **MONTHLY CLAIMS AND FINANCIALS:** Approval of financial reports and claims for October and November 2015 **Moved/Seconded: Mr. Rosentsweig/Ms. Burnam; approved 4-0.**
6. **REGULAR CALENDAR**
 - A. California Association of Resource Conservation Districts: report on Annual Conference and Board Meeting: Ms. Helsley discussed the various sessions she attended regarding soil health and carbon farming. From the business meeting, the new officers are Glenn Franklin as President and Paul Williams as Vice President. Also, a resolution was considered to allow RCD Boards to appoint staff as voting delegates to the CARCD Annual Meeting, but it was tabled after agreement could not be reached. Mr. Hendra reported on the Day of Training on the Wednesday before the conference, which included a session on Board development and another on the CARCD Leadership Academy. Both Ms. Helsley and Mr. Hendra have signed up for the Leadership Academy and will report back to the Board. Mr. Hendra also reported on the capacity building sessions he attended, including fee-for service and in-lieu fee programs. Mr.

Brody asked staff to review the US Army Corps of Engineers website to collect information on the process of establishing an in-lieu fee program and to report back at the January or February meeting. He also asked Mr. Hendra to follow up with the Inland Empire RCD District Manager and their consultant about process and costs to establish an in-lieu fee program. Finally, Mr. Hendra distributed copies of the new Dept. of Conservation RCD Director Handbook.

- B. Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) of Los Angeles County: report on one-day information session: Mr. Hendra attended the course offered through UCLA Extension and taught by the Executive Directors of the Los Angeles County LAFCO. He reported on LAFCO's powers and history, and the process to expand boundaries and spheres of influence.
- C. Capacity building grants from Dept. of Conservation: CARCD has asked RCDs in the legislative districts of key representatives to assist in their effort to get money from Williamson Act funds earmarked for RCDs through the Department of Conservation. The funds will be available only to RCDs through a grant application process. CARCD will hold a conference call with these RCDs in January to discuss the funding request and how to talk to legislators about it. Mr. Brody volunteered to be available for this effort.
- D. Approval of RCD Board of Directors meeting calendar for 2016:
Moved/Seconded: Mr. Rosentsweig/Ms. Helsley; approved 4-0.

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

8. **INFORMATIONAL REPORTS:**

- A. Staff Reports for October and November:
 - i. Clark Stevens, Executive Officer: he is looking into a vineyard planning program since the new County Land Use Plan was approved and is working with LA County to get our name out to new vineyard applicants.
 - ii. John Hendra, Operations Manager
 - iii. Stephen Vodantis, Education Supervisor
 - iv. Rosi Dagit, Senior Conservation Biologist
 - v. Jen Mongolo, Conservation Biologist
- B. Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Area Steering Committee: minutes for September 29, 2015 meeting and agenda for Tuesday November 24, 2015 meeting

9. **DIRECTORS' COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Mr. Brody asked about progress on the sign and reconstruction of the office front. Mr. Stevens is working on adjusting the design of the front garden to meet



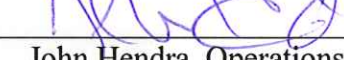
budget for this work since we went over budget in other areas of the watershed center.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

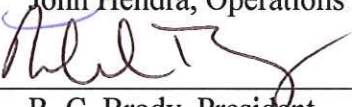
- Nomination of candidate to represent Special Districts on the Local Agency Formation Commission of Los Angeles County
- Letter from Donald Dear of West Basin Municipal Water District requesting support for re-election as Special District Representative to LAFCO

11. ADJOURNMENT: Moved/Seconded: Ms. Burnam/Mr. Rosentsweig; approved 4-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Submitted by: 
John Hendra, Operations Manager

Date: 1/25/16

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

Date: 1/25/16

