



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

R.C. Brody
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Steve Rosentsweig
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Nancy Helsley
Treasurer

Beth Burnam
Director

Mary Ellen Strote
Director

EXECUTIVE OFFICER
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REGULAR BOARD MEETING

SEVEN HUNDRED SIXTY-FIFTH MEETING

Monday May 23, 2016—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 6:02 p.m. A quorum was established with Directors Beth Burnam, Nancy Helsley, Steve Rosentsweig and Mary Ellen Strote (arrived 6:26) in attendance. Also in attendance were Associate Directors Glenn Bailey and Dennis Washburn, Executive Officer Clark Stevens and Operations Manager John Hendra.
2. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** NRCS District Conservationist Dawn Afman; NRCS Irrigation Specialist Jeffrey Hirashima; NRCS Soil Conservationist Wilma Bird.
3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** there were no public comments.
4. **MINUTES:** Approval of minutes for meeting of March 28, 2016. **Moved/Seconded: Mr. Rosentsweig/Ms. Burnam; approved 4-0.**
5. **MONTHLY CLAIMS AND FINANCIALS:** Approval of financial reports and claims for March and April 2016. **Moved/Seconded: Mr. Rosentsweig/Ms. Burnam; approved 4-0.**
6. **REGULAR CALENDAR**
 - A. Resolution #2016-05-01: Designating authorized representatives of the RCDSMM to negotiate and sign agreements for a grant from the California Coastal Conservancy's Explore the Coast Program in the amount of \$45,000: the Board voted to approve the resolution. **Moved/Seconded: Ms. Helsley/Mr. Rosentsweig; approved 4-0.**
 - B. Approval of draft comment letter: AngelFest at Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Area: the Board asked staff to add requests to Army Corps of Engineers to increase the security bond and address sound and pyrotechnic effects on the wildlife area. They also directed that the history of the formation of the Master Plan be reviewed in the letter to highlight the length of time and struggle involved in its



production. They approved the letter with amendments. **Moved/Seconded: Ms. Burnam/Mr. Rosentsweig; approved 5-0.**

- C. Information and preparation for financial audit for fiscal year ending June 30, 2016: the Board was happy with the auditor and agreed to the terms for next year's audit.
- D. Draft Mission Statement-report of the Strategic Planning Committee and discussion of strategic planning process: Ms. Burnam described the process the Committee went through to arrive at the 2 versions of the draft mission statement presented to the Board. She also discussed the difference between a mission statement and a vision statement, which will be developed after the mission statement. Directors made suggestions for additions and word changes. The Board commended the committee and staff for their work.

7. **USDA/NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE REPORT**: Ms. Afman introduced her 2 new employees (Ms. Bird & Mr. Haraguchi). She reviewed the handout from the CARCD Central Coast Area meeting regarding legislation and funding opportunities. Finally, Ms. Afman handed out a report detailing the work done and funds spent so far this year for boots-on-the-ground conservation in her district.

8. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS:

A. Staff Reports for March and April:

- i. Clark Stevens, Executive Officer: Mr. Stevens reported that he has been working on conservation planning in the Simi Hills to set up an easement to prevent development. The Board will be presented with more information at a future meeting.
- ii. John Hendra, Operations Manager
- iii. Stephen Vodantis, Education Supervisor
- iv. Rosi Dagit, Senior Conservation Biologist
- v. Jen Mongolo, Conservation Biologist

B. Strategic Planning Committee: see item 6D

- C. Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Area Steering Committee: in addition to discussing the Angelfest letter, Mr. Bailey also reported that 100% of the funds from the event for L.A. Parks will now be staying in Sepulveda Basin. Angelfest is on the agenda for the Steering Committee meeting on Tuesday May 24, but the meeting will probably be devoted mostly to the US Army Corps of Engineers' vegetation management plan.

9. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Ms. Strote sent a letter written by Richard Halsey of the California Chaparral Institute regarding the CalFire proposed Programmatic EIR and asked if the RCD



could join as a signer. The Board reviewed the letter briefly but decided that, since it wasn't on the agenda and the deadline is May 27, individuals should sign on if they so desired.

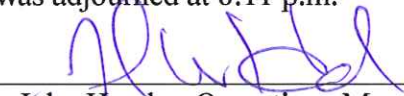
- Dr. Steve Davis of Pepperdine will present a talk on Thursday on the impacts of drought on native plants.
- Ms. Burnam attended the Santa Monica Mountains Fund fundraiser along with Ms. Helsley and Ms. Strote.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

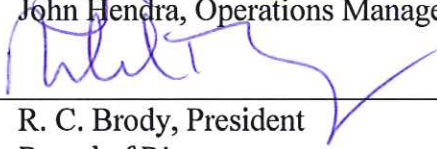
- Thank you note from State Senator Fran Pavley
- Memorandum from William F. Kruse detailing election results for the Special District representative to the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO)

11. ADJOURNMENT: Moved/Seconded: Ms. Helsley/Mr. Rosentsweig; approved 5-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Submitted by: 
John Hendra, Operations Manager

Date: 8/22/16

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

Date: 8/22/16

