



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

R.C. Brody
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Nancy Helsley
 Treasurer

Beth Burnam
 Director

Mary Ellen Strote
 Director

EXECUTIVE OFFICER
 Clark Stevens

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

SEVEN HUNDRED SIXTY-EIGHTH MEETING

Monday October 3, 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 6:06 p.m. A quorum was established with Directors Beth Burnam, Nancy Helsley, Steve Rosentsweig and Mary Ellen Strote in attendance. Also in attendance were Executive Officer Clark Stevens and Conservation Biologist Sandra Albers.
2. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** Emmanuel Gonzalez-Hinojosa, NRCS
3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** there were no public comments.
4. **MINUTES:** Approval of minutes for meeting of August 22, 2016. **Moved/Seconded: Ms. Helsley/Mr. Rosentsweig; approved 4-0 with Ms. Burnam abstaining.**
5. **MONTHLY CLAIMS AND FINANCIALS:** Approval of claims for August 2016 and review of financial reports through August 31, 2016. **Moved/Seconded: Ms. Burnam/Mr. Rosentsweig; approved 5-0.**
6. **REGULAR CALENDAR**
 - A. Resolution #2016-10-01: Discussion and possible acceptance of Conservation Easement from Las Virgenes Unified School District and Endowment Agreement with the US Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) for portions of Los Angeles County Assessor Parcel No. 2173-013-902: Ms. Albers discussed a few minor changes that will be included in the final documents but weren't changed in the Board packet. The Board inquired about potential fire damage repair responsibility and brush clearance requirements. Ms. Albers has walked the property with LVUSD and said there is only one very small area of a couple bushes that may need to be trimmed, but ACOE will not allow any clearance unless there is an emergency. As to fire damage repair, ACOE said permittee (LVUSD) is responsible, but the conservation easement document isn't clear and indicates nobody is responsible.

RCD responsibilities for the easement include weeding, trash removal and reporting (annual checklist). The Board asked how the 2.7% capitalization rate was arrived at, which Ms. Albers explained was through consultation with other RCDs, ACOE and financial advisors like CalTrust. The rate is set low because the RCD is restricted to very safe investments with lower returns, plus the rate should be below the long term average investment return in order to ensure sufficient returns to fund the monitoring and maintenance work.

Moved/Seconded: Mr. Rosentsweig/Ms. Strote; approved 5-0

7. USDA/NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE REPORT:

Mr. Gonzalez-Hinojosa reported that Dawn has been acting District Conservationist for the Lancaster and Victorville offices until replacement DC's are hired. She has been working on the Duarte, Blue Cut and Pilot fires in those areas. Mr. Gonzalez-Hinojosa also reported that the CA State Forester Chris Zimney is working with Rosi Dagit on Santa Monica Mountains oak mortality. Tree mortality across the state is devastating. Polyphagus shot hole borer has been found in mulch in Somis from LA County as well as citrus psyllid.

8. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS:

B. Staff Reports for August:

- i. Clark Stevens, Executive Officer: Liberty Canyon undercrossing: MRCA has started planting and should be done by the end of the month. Hwy. 101 Overpass: Oct. 16-22 will be a celebration of P-22 with events each day to commemorate his journey to Griffith Park, culminating in P-22 Day on Oct. 22. The National Wildlife Foundation is leading the fundraising for the overcrossing. Mr. Stevens met with Abby Convery, Asst. Planning Director, and Jeff Phillips of US Fish & Wildlife for discussions on conservation incentives and strategies, including in-lieu fee and mitigation banking. The RCD has had its first repeat environmental assessment/baseline inventory customer. The Santa Ynez Band Chumash project is complete but there might be some further work on the interpretive center/landscape at Santa Susana Field Lab. Finally, Mr. Stevens and Rosi Dagit will be meeting with Supervisor Kuehl next week, primarily to discuss the tree mortality event and to discuss her priorities.
- ii. John Hendra, Operations Manager
- iii. Stephen Vodantis, Education Supervisor
- iv. Rosi Dagit, Senior Conservation Biologist
- v. Jen Mongolo, Conservation Biologist

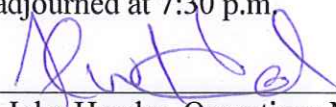
C. Strategic Planning Ad Hoc Committee

D. Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Area Steering Committee

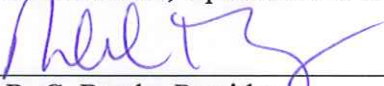


9. **DIRECTORS' COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:** There were no comments.

10. **ADJOURNMENT: Moved/Seconded: Ms. Strote/Mr. Rosentsweig; approved 5-0.**
The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Submitted by: 
John Hendra, Operations Manager

Date: 2/1/17

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

Date: 2/1/17