



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 SEVENTY-FIFTH MEETING

Monday May 22, 2017—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 6:39 p.m. A quorum was established with Directors Beth Burnam and Nancy Helsley in attendance. Director Steve Rosentsweig was absent. Also in attendance were Executive Officer Clark Stevens and Operations Manager John Hendra.
2. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** Liz Keith, NRCS Soil Conservationist.
3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** there were no public comments.
4. **MINUTES:** Approval of minutes for meeting of April 24, 2017. **Moved/Seconded: Ms. Burnam/Ms. Helsley; approved 3-0.**
5. **MONTHLY CLAIMS AND FINANCIALS:** Approval of claims for April 2017 and review of financial reports through April 30, 2017. **Moved/Seconded: Ms. Burnam/Ms. Helsley; approved 3-0.**
6. **REGULAR CALENDAR**
 - A. Approval of Resolution #2017-05-01: Appointment of two Directors by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors: **Moved/Seconded: Ms. Helsley/Ms. Burnam; approved 3-0.**
 - B. Discussion of Board recruitment strategies: Directors discussed potential Board candidates and how to get them involved with the RCD. Mr. Brody and Ms. Burnam will reach out to some potential candidates.
 - C. Update on Department of Conservation RCD Financial Assistance Program funding: Mr. Hendra reported that the grant agreement has been signed and the RCD has been given the go-ahead to begin work. The first project will be the organizational assessment project, which will begin in July if we get approval from CARCD and Solid Ground Consulting.
 - D. Discussion of Solid Ground Consulting capacity building offerings and organizational assessment process: Mr. Hendra asked Directors to review the



menu of offerings from Solid Ground Consulting and let him know if there is anything they feel the RCD should participate in.

E. Preliminary discussion of 2017-18 budget: tabled to next meeting.

7. USDA/NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE REPORT:

Ms. Keith reported that their office is working with RCD Conservation Biologist Steve Williams on restoration planting for a project in Ventura. Also, Jeffrey Hirashima, the Irrigation Specialist hired through the RCD to work for the Ventura office, has taken a new job, so District Conservationist Dawn Afman will be posting the position in order to hire someone to continue the contribution agreement.

8. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS:

A. Staff Reports for April:

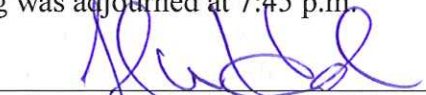
- i. Clark Stevens, Executive Officer: Education Program Supervisor Stephen Vodantis is leaving the RCD to pursue other interests. The RCD will need to take this opportunity to review and rethink the education programs as part of the bigger conversation that occurs around organizational assessment.
- ii. John Hendra, Operations Manager
- iii. Stephen Vodantis, Education Supervisor
- iv. Rosi Dagit, Senior Conservation Biologist

9. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

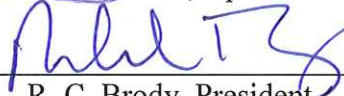
- Ms. Helsley reported that Jovita Pajarillo is now President of California Envirothon. The state event will be held June 17 at Stunt Ranch. Mr. Brody will be one of the judges. Pacific Palisades High School and Granada Hills High School will both be sending at least one team.
- Ms. Burnam reported that she has submitted the next North Topanga Canyon Fire Safe Council grant for hazardous tree removal. The Council is also doing a Home Ignition Zone Evaluation workshop at the Topanga Library June 6-7.

10. ADJOURNMENT: Moved/Seconded: Ms. Burnam/Ms. Helsley; approved 3-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Submitted by: 
John Hendra, Operations Manager

Date: 8/28/17

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

Date: 8/28/17