



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-SIXTH MEETING

Monday June 26, 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 6:00 p.m. A quorum was established with Directors Beth Burnam, Nancy Helsley and Steve Rosentsweig in attendance. Also in attendance were Associate Directors Dennis Washburn and Operations Manager John Hendra.
2. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** Tim Pershing-Environmental Field Deputy for Assemblymember Bloom, Dawn Afman-NRCS District Conservationist.
3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** there were no public comments.
4. **MINUTES:** Approval of minutes for meeting of May 22, 2017. **Moved/Seconded: Ms. Burnam/Mr. Rosentsweig; approved 4-0.**
5. **MONTHLY CLAIMS AND FINANCIALS:** Approval of claims for May 2017 and review of financial reports through May 31, 2017. **Moved/Seconded: Mr. Rosentsweig/Ms. Burnam; approved 4-0.**
6. **REGULAR CALENDAR**
 - A. **Approval of fiscal year 2017-18 budget:** the Board reviewed the budget and inquired about various line items. Next year's budget includes a \$10,000 contribution to the Capital Planning fund and a contingency allowance of \$4800. The Board approved the budget unanimously. **Moved/Seconded: Ms. Burnam/Mr. Rosentsweig; approved 4-0.**
 - B. **Resolution #2017-06-01: Request by the Board of Directors to appoint Tim Pershing to fill remainder of four year term for resigned Director:** Mr. Brody gave a brief bio on Mr. Pershing prior to the vote. Mr. Pershing has worked with the RCD in the past, along with his work with local government and various other civic and environmental organizations. **Moved/Seconded: Ms. Helsley/Ms. Burnam; approved 4-0.**



- C. Update on Department of Conservation RCD Financial Assistance Program funding: the funding is now available for use. The first project will be the organizational assessment beginning in mid July.
- D. Discussion of timeline and list of partners to include in organizational assessment exercise: Mr. Hendra reported that Solid Ground Consulting, who will lead the exercise, estimates the process will take 10-12 weeks. The Board created a list of potential partner entities and individuals who would be beneficial to the process of assessing the RCD.
- E. Conservation Strategies Group funding request: Mr. Hendra requested that the Board approve a \$3000 contribution to CARCD to fund the work of Conservation Strategies Group on behalf of California RCDs. After discussion of the current year budget surplus and other needs, the Board approved the contribution.
Moved/Seconded: Ms. Helsley/Ms. Burnam; approved 4-0.
- F. CA Special Districts Association 2017 Board Election: selection of candidate: after review of candidates the Board decided not to cast a vote without further information.
- G. Resolution #2017-06-02: Election of Directors to the Special District Risk Management Authority (SDRMA) Board of Directors: after review of candidates the Board decided not to cast a vote without further information.
7. **USDA/NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE REPORT:**
Ms. Afman reported that she discussed with Mr. Washburn moving the Pierce Farm over to Woodley Basin near the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Area. She met with Mr. Washburn on site and has discussed ideas and funding with State Conservationist Carlos Suarez. As reported last meeting, Irrigation Specialist Jeffrey Hirashima moved on to another job so Ms. Afman is looking to hire a new Irr. Spc. Conservation Biologist Steve Williams has been working with Ms. Afman on revegetation projects in Ventura. NRCS assisted the Envirothon competition with questions and other support.
8. **INFORMATIONAL REPORTS:**
- A. Staff Reports for May:
- i. John Hendra, Operations Manager
 - ii. Stephen Vodantis, Education Supervisor
 - iii. Rosi Dagit, Senior Conservation Biologist
9. **DIRECTORS' COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**
- Mr. Washburn reported that he is working to set up a farm foundation site at Woodley Basin (see NRCS report above). He is working with a group to get buy-in from all stakeholders, such as Army Corps, LA City, LA County, Audubon Society, CA Native Plant Society, etc.



- Ms. Helsley reported on the Envirothon held June 17. It was a tough process this year because the Envirothon 501(c)(3) designation lapsed. Palisades High School brought 3 teams, one of which won the competition and is going to Maryland for the national competition. Ms. Helsley ask that the Board support the winning team by paying the registration fee of \$1600. The money is contingent on the team raising the funds to cover travel costs.
Moved/Seconded: Ms. Helsley/Mr. Rosentsweig; approved 4-0.
- Mr. Washburn complimented Ms. Helsley and the volunteers who made the Envirothon happen.
- Mr. Rosentsweig pointed out the article on Malibu Lagoon, which was favorable to the restoration.
- Ms. Burnam reported that Sheila Kuehl ask her to be on a cannabis working group for unincorporated Los Angeles County to help develop regulations.

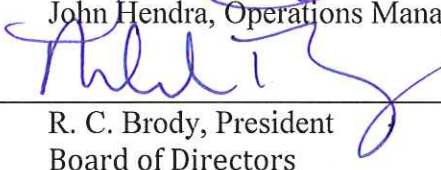
10. CORRESPONDENCE

- What is CARCD up to? The Board reviewed the document.

11. ADJOURNMENT: **Moved/Seconded: Mr. Rosentsweig/Ms. Burnam; approved 4-0.** The meeting was adjourned at 7:41 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

