

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Richard C. Brody
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Beth Burnam
Director

Laurie Price
Director

EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Clark Stevens

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

EIGHT-HUNDRED TENTH MEETING

Monday August 24, 2020—6:00 P.M.

MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** the meeting was called to order via Zoom videoconference by President R.C. Brody at 6:04 p.m. A quorum was established with Directors Beth Burnam, Nancy Helsley, Laurie Price and Steve Rosentsweig on the videoconference. Also on the videoconference were Associate Directors Deborah Klein Lopez and Dennis Washburn, Executive Officer Clark Stevens and Finance & Operations Officer John Hendra.
2. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** Dawn Afman, NRCS District Conservationist; Glenn Bailey, past Director
3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**
 - Mr. Bailey reported that the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Area Steering Committee had their first virtual meeting last month. Instead of the usual one-day cleanup of Haskell Creek, the Committee is planning to do a month-long campaign, starting with Coastal Cleanup Day, where volunteers and households will be asked to do their own cleanup while being COVID-19 safe by avoiding contact with those outside their household.
4. **MINUTES:** Approval of minutes for meetings of July 27 and August 3, 2020: Directors review and approved both sets of minutes as written. **Moved/Seconded: Mr. Rosentsweig/Ms. Helsley; approved 5-0.**
5. **MONTHLY CLAIMS AND FINANCIALS:** Approval of Claims for July 2020 and review of financial reports through July 31, 2020: the Board reviewed the financial reports and claims, then voted to approve both. **Moved/Seconded: Ms. Price/Ms. Burnam; approved 5-0.**
6. **REGULAR CALENDAR**
 - A. Update from Executive Officer: Las Virgenes Municipal Water District office space: Mr. Stevens reported that senior staff has looked at the floor plan of the LVMWD office space to start laying out offices. He also reported that he has

discussed pricing and amount of space with LVMWD. Ms. Burnam reminded staff that there is a 4-month notice to the current landlord and to plan accordingly.

- B. Selection of candidate to fill the Los Angeles Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) Independent Special District Alternative Representative position for the term expiring May 2022: Ms. Lopez pointed out that if we want to promote diversity we might consider our options with this appointment. For future elections, the Board requested that staff research the candidates and provide a report with a recommended choice. The Board tabled this item.
- C. Discussion of historic status and potential comment letter on national registry listing of Sky Valley/Santa Susana Field Lab: Mr. Stevens gave a history of the site and the RCD's involvement. The Santa Ynez Band of Chumash had asked the RCD to comment on this application, which the RCD could not do because of timing. They have requested that the RCD provide a support letter for the Federal national registry listing. The Board discussed the issues surrounding the site and the pros and cons of RCD involvement. Mr. Stevens will provide the previous RCD comment letters and other background information to the Board. This item is tabled until next meeting.

7. USDA/NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

REPORT: Ms. Afman reported that NRCS is finishing their 2020 fiscal year and were able to fund 40 projects, more than the last two years. Some of the projects are for willow flycatcher and other species that might be applicable to the Santa Monica Mountains.

8. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS:

A. Staff Reports for July 2020:

- i. Clark Stevens, Executive Officer: Mr. Stevens reported that Ventura County RCD is soliciting projects in Los Angeles County for a Woolsey Fire recovery grant, which is RCDSMM territory. He will contact VCRCO to ask them to stop this activity and discuss how to move forward. The Board suggested language and approach to make this happen. Mr. Stevens also reported on the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation grant and a personnel issue.
- ii. John Hendra, Finance & Operations Officer
- iii. Rosi Dagit, Senior Conservation Biologist
- iv. Kelly Kazmirchuk, Education Supervisor

9. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Ms. Helsley reported that the temperature gauge at Stunt Ranch read 115.3 degrees one day last week. She inquired where the Topanga gauge is. Directors mentioned the Topanga fire station and another location further up Topanga Canyon.
- Ms. Price noted that she heard the City of Calabasas is taking their anti-rodenticide campaign to the state legislature.

10. **ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m. **Moved/Seconded: Ms. Burnam/Ms. Price; approved 5-0.**

Submitted by: John W Hendra Date: 12/22/2020
John Hendra, Finance & Operations Officer

Approved by: R.C. Brody Date: 12/22/2020
R. C. Brody, President
Board of Directors