



744 La Guardia Street, Building A, Salinas, CA 93905

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September 19, 2019– MEETING MINUTES—Approved 10/17/2019

Regular Board Meeting, Thursday, September 19, 2019, 10:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

Directors Present: B. Jefferson, R. King, B. Plemmons, J. Doud, J. Clarke

Directors Absent: L. Ferrasci, B. Lipe

Others Present: P. Robins (RCDMC), M. Errea (RCDMC), M. Barker (RCDMC), J. Warner (NRCS), D. Rao (UCCE)

Recorders: M. Barker, P. Robins

<u>Time</u>	<u>Agenda Topics</u>	<u>Presented by</u>
10:06 A.M.	<u>Call to Order</u>	<u>B. Jefferson</u>

Public Comment:

Devii Rao from UC Cooperative Extension announced an upcoming workshop on Wednesday, September 25th on 'Running a Ranch Business' and followed by a tour of the Monkeyflower Ranch later that afternoon. The Central Coast Rangelands Coalition will be holding meeting in Marin on October 17 and the San Benito Weed Management Area meeting will be held on December 4 at the Hollister Vets Building. Rao also shared that Luke McCully, a Rangeland Specialist from UC Berkeley, is interested in hosting a hunting concession workshop for ranchers.

Consent Agenda

- *Approval of Draft Meeting Agenda*
- *Approval of Minutes from the August 15, 2019 Regular Board Meeting*
- *Accept Staff Activities Report for August 2019.*

Director King moved to approve all items on the Consent Agenda. Director Plemmons seconded the motion, and all voted to approve.

Reports

Executive Director Report: Robins announced that NRCS has issued a new MOU for a uniform operating agreement between NRCS and California RCDs that doesn't appear to change current relations although there is some language about which other RCDs have requested clarification.

Robins also discussed that the new Monterey County Gives Campaign match program is currently underway and received feedback from the Board about a collaboration strategy with the Center for Land-Based Learning for the 2019 campaign.

NRCS Report: NRCS District Conservationist Whit Haraguchi is currently covering for Erika Boyland until her return at the end of September.

Board Member Comments: None.

Old or Standing Business

No items pulled from the Consent Agenda.

P. Robins / Directors

Monthly Financial Statements: M. Errea presented the financial statements regarding

Accounts Receivable, Payables and Bank balances for the period ending September 19, 2019. The accrual account balance on September 19, 2019 was \$200,938.97 with \$58,451.14 in the Chase Bank and County Treasury accounts (taking into account checks to be signed at the meeting), \$451,179 in liabilities, and \$593,667.16 due to the RCD as receivables from various grants and outstanding invoices. For comparison, the Accrual accounting balance for District Funds stood at \$192,734.41 on August 15, 2019.

Expenses: M. Errea presented the list of detailed expenses to be paid in September including bi-weekly salary through September 15, one-time and recurring miscellaneous expenses, and reimbursement for expenses incurred during the months of August and September, totaling \$140,030.84.

Director King moved to approve the September financial statements and the August and September expenses as presented. Director Clarke seconded the motion, and all voted to approve.

Review of New or Revised Independent Contractor Agreements for Board Approval: Robins and the Board reviewed two independent contractor agreement modifications. The original agreement with ACS Habitat (ICA 2019-03) included the full season of July 19 - November 30, 2019 with possibility of extension, but only specified work dates and expenses through August 24 (NTE \$216,806) in order to avoid over-obligation. RCDMC had one extension in August and a final one for late September work, both of which require formal approval by the Board in public meeting.

ACS Habitat (ICA 2019-13), Modification 1, dated 8/23/2019

- Increased the NTE by to \$266,806, partly to cover work for which our other contractor, California Reforestation, was unable to conduct due to their own scheduling conflicts.
- This extends their original work period through August 29. This work primarily includes retreatments of arundo mowed in 2017 and sprayed in 2018 but may include initial treatments.

ACS Habitat (ICA 2019-13), Modification 2, dated 9/19/2019

- Increases NTE by \$100,000 to a total maximum of \$366,806 for the 2019 work season.
- ACS Habitat will continue working from September 24- October 4, with travel days on Sept 23 and Oct 5. This work will include both initial arundo treatment and arundo retreatment.

Directors confirmed that they had no relationships with the contractor. Director Clarke moved to approve, Director King seconded the motion, and all voted to approve.

New Procurement Policy: The new procurement policy discussion has been moved until the October board meeting.

New Business

Directors/ Staff

Meet Your Makers Wine & Cheese "Friendraiser" Event: Director King will host Wine & Cheese Event at Cima Collina tasting room in Marina with a finalized date of Friday, October 25th from 5-8pm. King has lined up cheese and sausage donors and is looking for additional

help in finding wineries to contribute. Current donors include Odonata, Schoch, Cima Collina, Garden Variety Cheese, Central Coast Creamery, Happy Girl Kitchen, Stepladder Creamery, and Las Lomas Lavender. Tickets cost \$45 dollars and are available on brown paper tickets website. Director Lipe has offered to pay for the radio ads on the local AM station and NPR to advertise the event.

Health Benefits Resolution 2019-04: Robins reviewed the changes to the health benefits MOU for the Special Districts Risk Management Authority health insurance program for RCD employees. SDRMA made minor updates to the MOU for which they have requested all participating members to approve through a resolution in order to maintain participation.

Director King moved to approve Resolution 2019-04, and Director Plemmons seconded the motion; all voted to approve.

Next Board Meeting: A location still needs to be selected for the Thursday, November 21 'In District' Board Meeting, which will be followed by a project site tour. Directors considered Carmel Valley in District 5 or along the Salinas River in District 3 as the two preferred options for the coming meeting. Staff were directed to reach out to the respective Supervisors' offices to ascertain availability in order to make a final selection.

New Staff Introduction: Brandt Bates, Stream Maintenance Program Coordinator, has joined the team to manage the Stream Maintenance Program. His background involves. He recently received a Master's degree from SFSU with research in gully formations in the the Pescadero Watershed. Past employment has been with Turf Image and the Santa Lucia Conservancy.

Land Judging Contest: The Land Judging Contest will be held on Thursday, November 7th. We are still looking for a venue to host the event. RCDMC Ag Water Management Specialist Shaun Richards will be leading the event this year.

RCD Staff Presentation: Shaun Richards, the RCD Ag Water Management Specialist presented on his current projects. Shaun held three workshops over the summer, providing training on distribution uniformity and system design and sprinkler irrigation and wind fighter technology. Shaun has also been working on water management and related project development in the region, including bioreactor projects, collaboration with Taylor Farms, RCDSCC and Sustainable Conservation regarding Irrigation and Nutrient Management tracking for romaine and spinach. Shaun is also conducting design and evaluation work a on fee-for-service for two local companies.

Range Camper presentation Jessica Rodriguez: Watsonville high school student Jessica Rodriguez presented about her experience at Range Camp in June. Jessica was one of two RCDMC scholarship recipients from the 2019 Land Judging Contest. At camp, she developed a passion for entomology, bird watching, and botany, and formed meaningful friendships with other campers.

Announcements

Directors/ Robins

No announcements.

11:59 A.M. Meeting Adjourned for 2019 Speak Off Contest

Next Regular RCD meeting & Site Tour:

Date: Thursday November 21, 10am
Location: TBD