



JULY 2015– REGULAR MEETING MINUTES—*approved 08/20/2015*

Regular Board Meeting, Thursday, July 23, 2015, 10:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

Directors Present: B. Jefferson, R. King, B. Plemmons, L. Ferrasci
Directors Absent: M. Duflock, E. Paddock, J. Devers, P. Binsacca (Associate)
Others Present: P. Robins (RCDMC), K. Joy Barge (NRCS)
Recorders: P. Robins

<u>Time</u>	<u>Agenda Topics</u>	<u>Presented by</u>
10:30 A.M.	<u>Call to Order</u>	<u>B. Jefferson</u>
	<u>Comments from the public</u>	
	None.	
	<u>President's and Directors' Comments</u>	<u>Directors</u>
	None.	
	<u>NRCS Update</u>	<u>K. Joy Barge</u>
	K Joy Barge shared the following:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The building remodel is underway. Work on building interior expected to begin at the end of July.• Bobette Parsons, currently acting DC in Grass Valley, will be the new District Conservationist for the Salinas Service Center starting August 24. Her background includes:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ BS in Resource Planning from Humboldt State○ MS in Soil Science from Washington State U○ Work as hydrologist for US Forest Service○ Served as Soil Conservationist in Idaho, Washington, and Hawaii before operating a small farm in Washington state for a few years○ She has a strong partnership ethic and worked with a lot of small farms and underserved communities (especially in Hawaii).○ Has worked closely with Firesafe Councils and serves on the Area III Technical Team with focus on watershed projects• Director Jefferson asked when it would be possible to acquire additional NRCS engineers to meet the current backlog/workload in Monterey County. Joy Barge responded that while there are new vacancies in other offices that need to be filled first, there may be an opportunity for an engineering team to visit the office for a period to resolve backlogs during an intensive period of work, which appeared to work well at the Petaluma Field Office last year. She asked that the Board check back in with her in 6 months after Parsons arrives in Salinas for a status check on this matter.	

Minutes for June Meeting (Review for Approval)P. Robins/Directors

P Robins noted a grammatical error in the Minutes for the June 18, 2015 meeting in the first sentence under 'Program Updates'. Director Ferrasci moved to approve the June 2015 Meeting Minutes with that item corrected. Director Plemmons seconded the motion, which was approved by unanimous vote.

Budget and Finances (Review & Approval)P. Robins / Directors

Monthly Financial Statements and Bills: P. Robins presented the financial statements regarding Accounts Receivable, Payables and Bank balances for the period ending July 23, 2015. The accrual account balance on July 23, 2015 was \$202,701.01, with \$36,119.05 in the Chase Bank and County Treasury accounts (taking into account checks to be signed at the meeting), \$202,084 in liabilities, and \$368,666.22 due to the RCD as receivables from various grants and outstanding invoices. By comparison, the Accrual accounting balance for District Funds stood at \$184,907.35 on June 18, 2015.

P. Robins presented the list of detailed expenses to be paid in July including bi-weekly salary through July 12, one-time and recurring miscellaneous expenses, and reimbursement for expenses incurred during the month of July. Approval for the July financial statements and for July expenses from the Chase Bank account was motioned by Director Plemmons, seconded by Director King and passed by a unanimous vote of directors present (4-0).

New BusinessDirectors

Draft Annual Workplan:

Robins and Directors reviewed the draft workplan as submitted in June for consideration. Director King moved to approve the plan as submitted. Director Ferrasci seconded the motion. All voted to approve unanimously.

Salinas River Stream Management Program Partners MOU

Robins reviewed modifications made to the MOU for Salinas River Stream Management Program partner organizations to include correction of RCD name in agreement from 'MCRCD' to 'RCDMC', and shared with Directors discussion among MOU partners regarding the rationale for the lack of a 'hold harmless'/mutual indemnification clause. Director King moved to accept the MOU as modified. Director Plemmons seconded the motion and all voted to approve the MOU by unanimous vote.

Late Summer Fund-Raising Farm Dinner:

Director King updated Board members regarding progress for the event including:

- Chef Zachary Mazi, based in Santa Cruz, selected.
- Director King will work with Robins on a flyer to help generate sponsorships. She meets with the chef and winery on 7/30 for further planning.
- Odonata Winery may be able to sell event tickets through their website
- Board members are needed to help with donated produce and sponsorship solicitation
 - Director Ferrasci said she could provide bacon

- Director Jefferson said he could provide artichokes, Brussels sprouts and head lettuce
- Director King could provide lamb, pork and dairy
- Goal for event is to sell a minimum of 50 tickets
- Program will need to include a set of short presentations along with chef/vintner talking about different courses/foods and wines. At least a welcome from Board leadership and an informational presentation from Robins/staff
- Outreach for event through Slow Food Santa Cruz, Edible Monterey, Monterey Bay Farmers Market Association, chef and winery’s websites, and Garden Variety Cheese e-news.
- Driscolls likely the first sponsor
- Director King will send update to the group after meeting with Robins on 7/24.
- Directors thought that imagery from Salinas River work and flood modeling could be useful. Recommended inviting a representative from Wildlife Conservation Board to speak regarding state agency enthusiasm for RCD-led work.

Program Updates

P. Robins

Robins provided a brief power point presentation regarding the newly installed water quality project (sediment trap leading to vegetated ditch) south of Salinas and plans for water quality projects in the Blanco Drain area.

Closing Discussion

Directors

Agenda items for the next meeting to include Farm Dinner fund-raising, Salinas River projects update, introduction to the Snowy Plover Monitoring assistant, and hopefully introduction of the new NRCS District Conservationist.

12:15 P.M.

Meeting Adjourned

B. Jefferson

The next Regular RCD meeting will be held:

Date: **August 20, 2015, 10 A.M.**

Location: **American AgCredit office**