



## NOVEMBER 2017– REGULAR MEETING MINUTES—approved 12/15/2017

Regular Board Meeting, Tuesday, November 14, 2017, 10:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

Directors Present: R. King, L. Ferrasci, B. Plemmons, J. Devers  
Directors Absent: B. Jefferson, B. Lipe, E. Gardner  
Others Present: P. Robins (RCDMC), E. Boyland (NRCS)  
Recorder: P. Robins

<u>Time</u>	<u>Agenda Topics</u>	<u>Presented by</u>
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Reports

Director King described the ‘Forces of Nature’ meeting that she participated in earlier in the month, for women in agriculture. The four day event was organized by the California Climate & Agriculture Network with support from the Threshold Foundation and the California Endowment.

*NRCS Report:* E. Boyland informed the board that the NRCS staff are preparing for EQIP Fiscal Year 17-18 applications for which there are January 19 and April 6 batching deadlines. Applicants will be funneled through as they become eligible. She also noted that NRCS is hoping to consolidate future cooperative agreements with multiple RCDs and that education-related activities could likely be included in those agreements.

*Executive Director Report:* Robins gave directors a quick tour of the current contents of the RCD’s facebook page and encouraged them to refer to it for regular updates now that staff are contributing to it on a weekly basis. He also gave brief updates on the completion of grading and path construction at the N Monterey Co Amphibian Habitat Restoration project near Castroville, and the wrap up of this year’s work on the Salinas River.

10:55 A.M.	<u>Call to Order</u>	<u>R King</u>
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*Meeting was called to order once a quorum of Board Members was present.*

*Approval of Agenda:* No changes requested.

*Public Comment:* none.

<u>Consent Agenda</u>	<u>R King</u>
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*Minutes from the October 24, 2017 Meeting.*

*Staff Activities Report for October 2017*

Director Devers moved to approve the consent agenda items. Director Plemmons seconded the motion, which was approved by a 4-0 vote.

Reports

*Executive Committee Report:* Director King described the outcomes of the October 20 ‘Meet Your Makers’ Cheese & Wine Fest at Happy Girl Kitchen in Pacific Grove. 22 tickets were purchased, and the event went well. Income from tickets and raffle totaled \$1,245, and expenses were \$300 for site rental (cheese, wine and jams were all donated) and \$204 for the

Monterey Weekly email blast. Monterey Weekly also placed a print ad for \$400, which Director Lipe offered to cover. Total income from the event was \$741.

*Finance Committee Report:* None.

*Outreach/Education Committee Report:* None.

#### Old or Standing Business (Review & Approval)

P. Robins / Directors

*Monthly Financial Statements:* P. Robins presented the financial statements regarding Accounts Receivable, Payables and Bank balances for the period ending November 14, 2017. The accrual account balance on November 14, 2017 was \$227,303.57 with \$48,639.85 in the Chase Bank and County Treasury accounts (taking into account checks to be signed at the meeting), \$519,094 in liabilities, and \$697,757.44 due to the RCD as receivables from various grants and outstanding invoices. By comparison, the Accrual accounting balance for District Funds stood at \$214,932.44 on October 20, 2017.

*Expenses:* P. Robins presented the list of detailed expenses to be paid in October including bi-weekly salary through October 29, one-time and recurring miscellaneous expenses, and reimbursement for expenses incurred during the month of October, totaling \$206,120.99.

Approval for the November financial statements and for October & November expenses from the Chase Bank account was motioned by Director Ferrasci, seconded by Director Devers and passed by a unanimous vote of directors present (4-0).

*Approval of Business Planning Contract:* Directors briefly discussed the pending contract for business planning with Kristen Fletcher Consulting. Director Devers moved to approve the contract. Director Plemmons seconded the motion and all voted to approve (4-0).

#### New Business

Directors/ Robins

*Spring RCD BBQ Date and Venue:* Board members concurred that reserving the Salinas Rodeo Room for the BBQ on April 20 would be a good way to keep the date safe while board members consider alternative venues, such as the Braga or Bianchi Barns. Regarding solicitation of donations or sponsorships, directors present expressed preference for selling 'tables' rather open fund solicitation. Directors also discussed framing a compelling fund-raising objective, such as the Salinas River programs. Robins was directed to invite the 2017 and 2018 Range Camp scholarship recipients and Speak Off winners. Directors discussed sources for youth volunteer assistance such as the Ag Ambassadors or other clubs at Hartnell College or CSUMB.

*Resolution 2017-03 for SDRMA Health Insurance:* Directors briefly discussed the cost-savings with comparable benefits of shifting the employee health insurance program to join with the Special District Risk Management Authority program. Director Plemmons moved to approve the Resolution 2017-03 needed for the RCD to enter the new program. Director Devers seconded the motion. All directors present voted to approve the motion.

#### Strategic Discussion

Directors/ Robins

*Education Program Development:* Robins provided a brief update on information gathered regarding potential program needs and development in Monterey County. Director Ferrasci

inquired if the RCD was active with the Monterey County Ag Education program's Farm Days. Director King mentioned a colleague of hers, Melissa Schilling, who has worked many years in education and associated fund-raising efforts.

*Board development and recruitment:* Director Devers asked fellow directors to consider the list of elected officials and other local leaders as resources for recommending future board candidates that could represent a variety of constituencies for the RCD. She requested each member be assigned to one or more officials to make contact and develop (or build) their connection on behalf of the RCD. Initial arrangements based on directors signing up (or being volunteered if absent) are charted below:

<b>RCDMC Board development contact list--11/14/2017</b>					
<b>name</b>	<b>Participant in:</b>		<b>affiliation</b>	<b>phone</b>	<b>RCDMC contact</b>
	<b>tour</b>	<b>List Sess</b>			
Bruce Delgado	n	y	Mayor of Marina, Reg Water Qual Control Bd	(831) 277-7690	Paul Robins
Josh Stratton, aide to John Phillips	n	y	Monterey County Supervisor, District 2	755-5022	Rebecca King
Chris Lopez, aide to Simon Salinas	y	y	Monterey County Supervisor, District 3	784-5729	Bill Lipe
Wendy Askew or Chisty Marcy, aides to Jane Parker	y	y	Monterey County Supervisor, District 4	755-5044	Brent Plemmons
Susan Moore, aide to Mary Adams	n	n	Monterey Co Supervisor, Dist 5	831-647-7755	Linda Ferrasci
Jackie Jimenez, aide to Luis Alejo	y	n	Monterey Co Supervisor, Dist 1	755-5011	Joanna Devers
Laurel Lee-Alexander (Dan Baldwin is ED)	n	y	Community Foundation for Monterey County	831.375.9712 x115	Rebecca King
Candi DePauw	n	y	Monterey County Ag Education	905-3669	Linda Ferrasci
Mikel Ann Miller	n	y	First Capital	831-915-4396	Linda Ferrasci
Mary Ann Leffel	n	n	Monterey Business Council	402-4616	Benny Jefferson?
Aline or Peter Ansel, aides to Anna Caballero	y	n	State Assembly		Paul Robins
Kathleen Lee, aide to Jimmy Panetta (and formerly Sup. Potter)	y	y	US House of Reps	424-2229	Joanna Devers

An additional recommendation was made to contact Elkhorn Slough Foundation land farmer, Gilbert Yerena, to ascertain his interest as well. Robins was directed to distribute this list along with board member 'job descriptions' to each director after the meeting.

Announcements

Directors/ Robins

Robins requested that the December board meeting be held the second week of December. Directors present considered Tuesday, December 12 to be the best date for consideration that week.

12:20 P.M.

Meeting Adjourned

R King

Tentative date for the next Regular RCD meeting:

Date: **TUESDAY, December 12, 2017, 10 A.M.**

Location: **Jefferson Farms office, Marina**