



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

(831) 975-7775

April 25, 2019– MEETING MINUTES—Approved 05/23/2019

Regular Board Meeting, Thursday, April 25, 2019, 10:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

Directors Present: B. Jefferson, R. King, B. Plemmons, B. Lipe, L. Ferrasci, J. Doud

Directors Absent: J. Devers

Others Present: P. Robins (RCDMC), M. Barker (RCDMC), M. Errea (RCDMC), J. Tuitele-Lewis (RCDMC), W. Haraguchi (NRCS)

Recorders: M. Barker, P. Robins

<u>Time</u>	<u>Agenda Topics</u>	<u>Presented by</u>
10:02 A.M.	<u>Call to Order</u>	<u>B. Jefferson</u>

Public Comment: None

Consent Agenda

- *Minutes from the March 21, 2019 Meeting.*
- *Staff Activities Report for March 2019.*

Director King moved to approve the consent agenda. Director Lipe seconded the motion and all voted to approve.

Reports

Executive Director Report: RCDMC received \$2.9 million grant for Wildlife Conservation Board. CSUMB received CalFire grant which will support additional mapping work and some of our Forest Health Coordinator’s time.

NRCS Report: NRCS District Conservationist W. Haraguchi notes that RCPP and EQIP deadlines are June 14. Ranking criteria for RCPP is almost complete. NRCS had a successful visit with the USDA National Programs Manager along the Salinas River. A. Tokunaga and D. Mather attended a Conservation in Ranching seminar which was very informational. NRCS Wild Pig funding is more for monitoring funds than structural implementation, such as fences.

Executive Committee Report: The BBQ brought in 58 people and over \$7,000 in proceeds. Several ideas were discussed about the reasons for low attendance this year, including Lent.

Finance Committee Report: The committee reviewed the initial Fiscal Year budget and funding issues for the coming year.

Fundraising & Education Committee Report: None.

Old or Standing Business

P. Robins / Directors

No items pulled from the Consent Agenda.

Monthly Financial Statements: M. Errea presented the financial statements regarding Accounts Receivable, Payables and Bank balances for the period ending April 25, 2019. The accrual account balance on April 25, 2019 was \$187,877 with \$39,157.80 in the Chase Bank and County Treasury accounts (taking into account checks to be signed at the

meeting), \$280,845 in liabilities, and \$429,564 due to the RCD as receivables from various grants and outstanding invoices. By comparison, the Accrual accounting balance for District Funds stood at \$184,696 on March 22, 2019.

Expenses: M. Errea presented the list of detailed expenses to be paid in April including bi-weekly salary through April 19, one-time and recurring miscellaneous expenses, and reimbursement for expenses incurred during the month of April, totaling \$168,286.21.

Director King moved to approve the April financial statements and the March and April expenses. Director Plemmons seconded the motion, and all voted to approve.

Resolution 2019-03 to enter into agreement with the Wildlife Conservation Board for Proposition 1 Stream Flow Enhancement Program funding for Salinas River Arundo Control Program, Phase 4: P. Robins reviewed the resolution with the Board, including reviewing maps to review future work areas. Director Lipe moved to approve the Resolution 2019-03, and Director Plemmons seconded the motion, and all voted to approve.

Compliance trainings/documentation: Robins reminded Directors of annual and biennial compliance requirements due: 2-hour online ethics training and submission of Form 700 Statements of Economic Interest.

New Business

Directors/ Staff

Staff Report: RCDMC Ag Water Management Specialist Shaun Richards provided a brief update on his projects, including:

- Researching model for surface and groundwater quality to be utilized with the NRCS-CIG nutrient cooperatives project.
- Sediment and erosion control site visits.
- Irrigation and Nutrient Management and Monitoring: setting up connections to use telemetry to ease data gathering for growers' nutrient and water management needs.
- Surveying with Engineer Adrienne Carter
- Various Spanish-language irrigation management presentations, trainings and demonstrations.
- CIMIS weather station irrigation system troubleshooting in Soledad.
- Organizing managed aquifer recharge geodata in the Elkhorn Slough watershed
- Assisting a cannabis production facility (fee-for-service) with a site management plan for erosion control and remedying sedimentation problems

Annual Plan/Budget 6-month review: M. Errea and P. Robins presented a revised current fiscal year budget that incorporates contracts awarded during the course of the fiscal year. The new agreements include those for CDFA Technical Assistance, Integrated Watershed Restoration Program (IWRP) projects, NRCS Technical Assistance, NRCS Forestry Assistance, Resource Management Agency Fire Fuels Mitigation Program funding, and Arundo contracting work. Director King moved to approve the revised budget, and Director Doud seconded the motion, and all voted to approve.

Draft Annual Budget and Workplan: New budget begins on July 1, 2019 and will factor in staff raises and cost of living increases. New projects and funds for FY 2019-20 will include IWRP projects for Moro Cojo runoff treatment wetlands and Mitteldorf Preserve Bridge Replacement, and Forest Health and ag water management projects through RCD of Santa Cruz. With increasing budget, Robins noted that cash flow will be tighter with increased payroll, benefits

and insurance costs. Grant invoices are paid far in arrears, making a cash flow bridge loan essential. Robins is still trying to coordinate a \$50,000 - \$250,000 bridge loan with the County, which may require additional push from County Supervisors supportive of the RCD. Director Plemmons has also inquired with American AgCredit since the RCD provides services to farmers on private land. A third option discussed is approaching private investors for 12-month CDs or Money Market accounts to serve as collateral for a loan from a local bank, such as Pacific Valley Bank. Robins has started a line in the new budget for bank fees. The fourth option is to consider drawing from County funds again, i.e. putting funds back in with the County, though this would likely be risky. The fifth option is cutting programs and staff, which is a last resort.

Robins had a Workplan update prepared but deferred it to the May meeting, before which he will review it with the Executive Committee.

Donor Outreach: A template could be established to ask for donor legacy giving. Director Lipe offered to look into examples.

Director Recruitment: Robins asked Directors to keep in mind future potential Board candidates in order to broaden the Board and be prepared for future vacancies.

Announcements

Directors/ Robins

None.

12:15 P.M. Meeting Adjourned

Next Regular RCD meeting:

Date: Thursday May 23, 10am
Location: RCDMC Salinas Office