



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

(831) 975-7775

January 16, 2020– MEETING MINUTES—Approved 2/20/2020

Regular Board Meeting, Thursday, January 16, 2020, 8:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.

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

Directors Absent: None

Others Present: P. Robins (RCDMC), M. Barker (RCDMC), M. Errea (RCDMC), A. Carter (RCDMC), L. Murphy (RCDMC), N. Solares (RCDMC), B. Bates (RCDMC), E. Zefferman (RCDMC), K. Robins (guest/facilitator)

Recorders: M. Barker, P. Robins

<u>Time</u>	<u>Agenda Topics</u>	<u>Presented by</u>
8:06 A.M.	Call to Order	<u>B. Jefferson</u>

Public Comment: None.

Consent Agenda

- *Approval of Draft Meeting Agenda*
- *Approval of Minutes from the December 19, 2019 Regular Board Meeting*
- *Accept Staff Activities Report for December 2019.*

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

Introductions and Sharing Exercise:

RCDMC Board members and staff introduced themselves to one another, sharing how they became introduced to the agricultural field, the RCD as an organization and where their favorite place is. Board members and staff then broke into small groups and shared their personal and professional goals and then participated in a group brainstorming activity led facilitator, K. Robins. A more detailed transcription of this and following exercises is included in a separate, attached document.

RCDMC Strategic Direction Review:

RCDMC board members and staff engaged in a review of the RCDMC 2017-2022 Strategic Direction. The purpose of the exercise was to assess the organizational goals, outcomes and strategies using questions or prompts as lenses, for example, equity/inclusiveness of services, timeliness/relevance, sustainability/feasibility, and opportunities for growth and development.

The Strategic Direction Review was followed by a debrief session, in which board members discussed any surprises or key findings. These included staff feelings about tenure, the board portfolios concept, and a desire to recognize non-ag conservation projects, such as fish passage or urban/residential projects.

Board Members then broke into small groups and later reported out to the group regarding their desired experiences and impacts of board service. This led to a discussion of Board Roles & Development Planning that touched on existing committees and positions, gaps in representation on the board, and means of addressing them. Board members were encouraged to each ask three people they know if they are interested in joining the Board or bring a friend or work associate to a board meeting to expose them to what the board does.

Reports

Executive Director Report: Robins reminded board members that the ethics training is required every 2 years.

Robins shared that CARCD is hosting a series of monthly webinars which will continue the thread from the Annual Conference about issues of inclusion, equity and diversity. The hope is that these discussions will help all California RCDs better serve their entire communities. Robins shared that he participated in the first webinar, which was mostly introductory. Robins has also been invited to participate in two, two/three-day inclusion-focused training retreats in May and June, and a week-long retreat in July for the Water Solutions Network members. All expenses would be paid. Robins is seeking more information to confirm the relevance of the content for his work with the RCD and the cost-effectiveness (time-wise) of the training opportunity for the RCD before requesting board support for his application to participate.

NRCS Comments: None.

Board Member Comments: 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 January 16, 2020. The accrual account balance on January 16, 2020 was \$193,421.06 with \$262,843.48 in the Chase Bank and County Treasury accounts (taking into account checks to be signed at the meeting), \$570,974 in liabilities, and \$501,551.46 due to the RCD as receivables from various grants and outstanding invoices. For comparison, the Accrual accounting balance for District Funds stood at \$190,359.16 on December 19, 2019.

Expenses: Robins presented the list of detailed expenses to be paid in January including bi-weekly salary through January 5, one-time and recurring miscellaneous expenses, and reimbursement for expenses incurred during the months of December and January, totaling \$310,835.66.

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

6-Month Fiscal Year Budget and Work Plan Review: Robins reviewed the status of financials relative to the Annual Budget and the status of activities and projects outlined in the 2019-2020 Annual Plan.

Robins confirmed with the board that RCDMC's \$100,000 dry period loan request to Monterey County was approved on January 7 and the funds transferred to the RCD's County fund as of January 15.

Robins distributed and described the updated Draft multi-RCD comment letter to Regional

Board regarding riparian setback that included board member comments provided in December.

Review of New or Revised Independent Contractor Agreements: none

Fundraising Update:

Annual BBQ planning: The RMU Association agreed to partner for this year's BBQ on April 24, and the RMU Board President consented to the RCD's preferred start-time. Board members confirmed they would prefer a 4pm start, and Director Jefferson said he would confirm that with the Rodeo Room office later that afternoon. Robins and Barker indicated they would provide updated fundraising outreach letters for board members to solicit donations.

Monterey County Gives! Campaign Center for Land-Based Learning: The Monterey County Gives! campaign raised \$1,800. Half of all contributions from RCDMC Board Members or partners will be distributed to the RCD. Robins and CLBL discussed that a more targeted campaign to individual donors might prove more fruitful next year.

New Business

Directors/ Staff

None to report.

Announcements

Directors/ Robins

None to report.

2:00 P.M. Meeting Adjourned

Next Regular RCD meeting and Board Retreat:

Date: Thursday, February 20, 10am

Location: Location TBD, possibly in Supervisorial District 3