

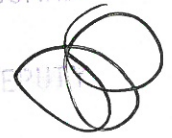


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CLERK OF THE BOARD



August 2018— REGULAR MEETING MINUTES—apprvd 10/18/2018

Regular Board Meeting, Thursday, August 16, 2018, 10:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

Directors Present: B. Jefferson, R. King, B. Lipe (remote), E. Gardner (remote)

Directors Absent: J. Devers, L. Ferrasci, B. Plemmons

Others Present: P. Robins (RCDMC), M. Barker (RCDMC), M. Errea (RCDMC), E. Boyland (NRCS)

Recorders: M. Barker, P. Robins

Time **Agenda Topics** **Presented by**

10:05 A.M. Call to Order B. Jefferson

Meeting was called to order once a quorum of Board Members was present. Approval of Agenda: No changes requested.

Consent Agenda B. Jefferson

- *Minutes from the July 26, 2018 Meeting.*
- *Staff Activities Report for July 2018*

Director King moved to approve the consent agenda. Director Lipe seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Reports

Executive Director Report: P. Robins briefly described a meeting with Butch Kronlund, Executive Director for Coastal Property Owners Association which included a discussion about past fire activity in the area and how this informs efforts for the fuel mitigation coordination work to be funded by the County. A fuel mitigation coordination committee met in anticipation of County execution of the funding agreement and discussed how to proceed to attract right personality to hub the effort—the challenge being the short-term nature of the funds (through June 2019). This position will be approved on August 28th by Monterey County Board of Supervisors. Paul has a few Forester candidates in mind. Robins put in a proposal for Forestry Assistance to NRCS that would leverage the county funds through 2021.

Executive Committee Report: No report.

NRCS Report: District Conservationist Erika Boyland reported that \$45,000 has been approved for the RCD to provide continued engineering assistance to NRCS. Paperwork for an agreement to carry that assistance forward through 2021 is in process and will additionally include \$15,000 for maintenance of the EVeg guide by CalFlora. NRCS is looking to interview candidates for the Engineer position, which closed yesterday. They are approaching \$1.7 million of EQIP contracts approved this fiscal year.

Finance Committee Report: Maggie just sent out information for audit which will start this month. A committee meeting will be scheduled for when the Auditor is at the office.

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 August 17, 2018. The accrual account balance on August 17, 2018 was \$187,515.49 with \$53,888.19 in the Chase Bank and County Treasury accounts (taking into account checks to be signed at the meeting), \$331,476 in liabilities, and \$465,103.53 due to the RCD as receivables from various grants and outstanding invoices. By comparison, the Accrual accounting balance for District Funds stood at \$172,036.44 on July 27, 2018.

Expenses: P. Robins presented the list of detailed expenses to be paid in July including bi-weekly salary through August 5th, one-time and recurring miscellaneous expenses, and reimbursement for expenses incurred during the month of July, totaling \$37,458.96.

Approval for the July financial statements and for July and August expenses from the Chase Bank account was motioned by Director Lipe, seconded by Director King and passed by a unanimous vote of directors present (4-0).

New BusinessDirectors/ Staff

Fund-raising/Education Planning: Robins discussed how RCDMC will apply for a small Community Impact Grant with the Community Foundation for an amount under \$12,000 by the deadline on September 7th. Robins and Barker will develop an elaborated version of the landjudging event to allow more students to benefit from the land judging program and associated enriched soil science education. RCDMC partnered with Center for Land Based Learning on the Monterey County Gives! application, which might also help. Directors Lipe, Gardner and Ferrasci will be consulted in the process.

Robins and Zefferman are preparing an application for ~\$3M of Arundo control funding through the Wildlife Conservation Board, due in early September. The grant application will include funding for bank stabilization at the Elm Ave bridge, and studies of wildlife benefits of the project with researchers at CSUMB. RCDMC is in communication with scientists evaluating arundo transpiration rates on the Santa Clara River in hopes of partnering with them to provide more precise information for the Salinas watershed. Director Lipe emphasized the timing is crucial because of the GSA dialogue going on and there is need for definition of the arundo removal water conservation benefits.

Robins had been hoping to meet with Lisa Dobbins about education planning, Lisa leads the Grower Shipper Association Foundation that runs AgKnowledge in Monterey County, to offer continuing education for adults. They also have a development program for career opportunities for college students. Robins has also been in contact with Mary Kimball from Center for Land-Based Learning and will meet with her in September when she's in the area with her Development Director.

The next board meeting may need to be shifted to Tuesday the 25th in afternoon and another date accommodate events on September 20 and the SpeakOff contest. Director Gardner indicated she will be in Sacramento that day. This date will be proposed to teachers. Director King announced that a Healthy Soils grant workshop will be held on her farm on September 27th, the topic of which will be related to animal husbandry for sheep and goats.

Conflict of Interest Code Review: Paul reviewed the updated Conflict of Interest Code and cited specific, minor language updates needed from the 2012 version to be consistent with current law. Director Gardner had asked Robins to inquire about the significance of the addition of a clause referencing 'business positions' in the new language, but he has not

yet received a response from the state. Director King moved to approve the updated Code as drafted and Director Lipe seconded the motion, which was approved by a unanimous vote of directors present (4-0).

Contract Approval: The County Resource Management Agency requested a contract approval policy that defines the RCD’s approved signatories for funding agreements and contracts. Robins presented a simple policy that outlines RCD standard practice allowing contract approvals by the President, Vice President or Executive Director; and allows approvals for payments for services by the Board President or Vice President, with subsequent approval by the board at a Regular Meeting. Director King moved to approve the policy and Director Lipe seconded the motion, which was passed by a unanimous vote of directors present (4-0).

District Calendar: Director King discussed the upcoming Fall Cheese & Wine event at Happy Girl Kitchen. She confirmed that Cima Collina and Odonata wineries want to participate, but still needs to confirm a date for the end of October or early November. Director King looked into Monterey Tourist websites, *Edible Monterey Bay* and *Monterey Weekly*, Megan will post an event announcement on Pacific Grove’s NextDoor forum. Director Lipe and Robins suggested radio commercials on 1460AM, KZSC or NPR that focus on the Peninsula audience with a wide reach as good places to advertise. Lipe offered to help with a radio ad and suggested Craigslist events might be another good option. Director King also has a contact with *Edible Monterey Bay* that might be able to include us in the print.

Preferred dates and location for the Annual RCDMC Barbeque are April 12 or 19th at the Rodeo Room in Salinas. Director Jefferson will check on venue availability. Salinas River or youth education are two possible fundraising theme ideas. Paul will discuss these ideas with Abby Taylor Silva from Grower Shipper Association.

Paul reached out to Chris Lopez about the general interest for another fall bus tour but has not received a response.

Announcements

Directors/ Robins

None.

11:24 A.M. Meeting Adjourned

B. Jefferson

Next Regular RCD meeting:

Date: **Tuesday, September 25, 2018, Time in afternoon TBD**
Location: **RCDMC Office, Salinas**

Attested by: _____



10/18/18

Paul Robins, Executive Director