

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Richard C. Brody
President

Steven Rosentsweig
Vice President

Nancy Helsley
Treasurer

Beth Burnam
Director

Laurie Price
Director

EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Clark Stevens

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

EIGHT-HUNDRED TWENTY-EIGHTH MEETING

Monday April 25, 2022—6:00 P.M.

MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** the meeting was called to order via Zoom videoconference by Vice President Steve Rosentsweig at 6:01 p.m. A quorum was established with Directors Beth Burnam, Nancy Helsley and Laurie Price on the videoconference. Director RC Brody was absent. Also on the videoconference were Associate Directors Deborah Klein Lopez and Dennis Washburn, Executive Officer Clark Stevens, Finance & Operations Officer John Hendra, Senior Conservation Biologist Rosi Dagit (left meeting @ 6:37 pm) and Community Resilience Coordinator Antoine Kunsch (left meeting @ 7:15 pm).
2. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** Glenn Bailey, past Director and RCD representative to the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Area Steering Committee; Dawn Afman, NRCS District Conservationist; Jamie Quarfeld, NRCS Soil Conservationist.
3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**
 - Mr. Bailey asked that the Board consider hybrid meetings when they return to in-person meetings.
4. **MINUTES:** Approval of minutes for meeting of March 28, 2022: the Board reviewed the minutes and approved without change. **Moved/Seconded: Ms. Price/Ms. Helsley; approved 4-0.**
5. **MONTHLY CLAIMS AND FINANCIALS:** Approval of Claims for March 2022 and review of financial reports through March 31, 2022: Mr. Hendra reviewed the financial reports and discussed the overall position with 3 months left in the fiscal year. The Board voted to approve the Claims and Financial reports. **Moved/Seconded: Ms. Burnam/Ms. Price; approved 4-0.**
6. **REGULAR CALENDAR**
 - A. Approval of Resolution No. 2022-04-01: Proclaiming a local emergency exists, re-ratifying the proclamation of a state of emergency by executive order N-29-20, issued by Governor Newsom on March 17, 2020, and re-authorizing remote teleconference meetings of the legislative bodies of the RCDSMM for the period April 25, 2022 to May 24, 2022 pursuant to Brown Act provisions: Directors

- discussed the current health information from the State and LA County and decided to meet remotely next month, then voted to approve the resolution. **Moved/Seconded: Ms. Price/Ms. Burnam; approved 4-0.**
- B. Approval of Resolution 2022-04-02: Application by the Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains Requesting the Local Agency Formation Commission for the County Of Los Angeles to Initiate Proceedings for Change of Organization of Territory (Annexation of Sphere of Influence): the Board discussed the process and costs of the annexation, then voted to approve the resolution. **Moved/Seconded: Ms. Burnam/Ms. Helsley; approved 4-0.**
- C. Approval of Resolution 2022-04-03: CDFW grant of \$352,626 for Southern Steelhead Trout Recovery: Ms. Dagit described the work to be done with this funding and the process for getting it approved through the CA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife. The Board lauded Ms. Dagit for her work and voted to approve the resolution. **Moved/Seconded: Ms. Price/Ms. Burnam; approved 4-0.**
- D. Review and approval of Las Virgenes Municipal Water District lease agreement and instruction to ad hoc committee on negotiation of final lease: Mr. Stevens and Ms. Burnam described recent negotiations and hope to have a lease document for the next Board meeting.
- E. Review and approval of the RCD Equity Statement: the Board reviewed the statement and discussed various parts, then voted to approve the statement without change. **Moved/Seconded: Ms. Price/Ms. Helsley; approved 4-0.**
- F. Discussion of RCD work in Ventura County portions of the district: Mr. Stevens described the negotiations with Ventura County RCD to date and feels the process will benefit from Board involvement. He requested that the Board draft an amicable letter to the Ventura County RCD Board to respect boundaries and negotiate an MOU for joint projects. Mr. Stevens will produce a first draft and pass it along to Ms. Burnam, Ms. Price, Ms. Klein Lopez and Mr. Washburn for editing. The Board directed this ad hoc committee to approve the letter and send to the appropriate officials at VCRC.
- G. Discussion and approval of support for AB 1902-Division 9 clean up legislation: the Board reviewed the proposed changes and discussed the potential benefits and negatives, then voted to support the legislation. **Moved/Seconded: Ms. Burnam/Ms. Helsley; approved 4-0.**
- H. Discussion of CA Public Records Act requests for contracted documents: tabled.
- I. Board review and approval of final allocation of surplus funds from 2020-21 fiscal year for pickup truck and moving expenses: Mr. Rosentsweig reminded Directors that this has been discussed at previous meetings. There was no further discussion and the Board voted to approve the allocation. **Moved/Seconded: Ms. Burnam/Ms. Price; approved 4-0.**

8. USDA/NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

REPORT: Ms. Afman expressed gratitude for the work the RCD does. She will retire at the end of this week but will still live in the area. The Directors conveyed their appreciation for all that Ms. Afman has done for the District and for California resources.

9. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS:

A. Staff Reports for March 2022:


- i. Clark Stevens, Executive Officer: Mr. Stevens discussed the wildlife crossing ground-breaking ceremony. He also reviewed upcoming grant opportunities staff are pursuing.
- ii. John Hendra, Finance & Operations Officer
- iii. Rosi Dagit, Senior Conservation Biologist
- iv. Marilyn Brody French, Education Supervisor
- v. Antoine Kunsch, Community Resilience Coordinator

10. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

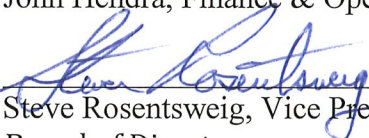
- Mr. Rosentsweig complimented Ms. Klein Lopez, Mr. Stevens and Mr. Brody on their representation of the RCD at the wildlife crossing ground-breaking ceremony. Ms. Klein Lopez said she was honored and very happy to have been a part of it.
- Ms. Helsley reported that a team from San Diego won the state Envirothon and will go to the national finals in July in Illinois. Carlos Suarez, NRCS State Conservationist, and Mr. Brody were judges. Ms. Price thanked Ms. Helsley for her work on this important project.
- Ms. Burnam noted that Mr. Kunsch was a speaker at the Protecting Your City From Wildfire conference and she was a panel moderator. She felt it was a good conference and well worth the time.

11. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m. Mr. Rosentsweig thanked the Directors for their efficiency in getting through the long agenda.

Moved/Seconded: Ms. Burnam/Ms. Price; approved 4-0.

Submitted by: 
John Hendra, Finance & Operations Officer

Date: 7/26/2022

Approved by: 
Steve Rosentsweig, Vice President
Board of Directors

Date: 7/26/2022