540 South Topanga Canyon Boulevard Topanga, California 90290

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Richard C. Brody President

Steven Rosentsweig Vice President

Nancy Helsley Treasurer

Beth Burnam Director

Laurie Price

EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Clark Stevens

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

EIGHT-HUNDRED THIRTIETH MEETING Monday August 22, 2022—6:00 P.M.

MINUTES

- 1. CALL TO ORDER: the meeting was called to order via Zoom videoconference by President R.C. Brody at 6:08 p.m. A quorum was established with Directors Beth Burnam, Nancy Helsley, Laurie Price and Steve Rosentsweig on the videoconference. Also on the videoconference were Associate Director Dennis Washburn, Executive Officer Clark Stevens, Finance & Operations Officer John Hendra, Education Coordinator Marilyn Brody French and Community Resilience Specialist Pauline Allen.
- 2. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS: Brooks Engelhardt, NRCS District Conservationist; Glenn Bailey, past Director and RCD representative to the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Area Steering Committee; Jamie Quarfeld, NRCS Soil Conservationist (arrived at 6:53 p.m.).
- 3. PUBLIC COMMENTS: there were no public comments
- 4. MINUTES: <u>Approval of minutes for meeting of July 25, 2022</u>: After reviewing the minutes the Board voted to approve them as presented. **Moved/Seconded: Mr. Brody/Ms. Price; approved 4-0 with Mr. Brody abstaining.**
- 5. MONTHLY CLAIMS AND FINANCIALS: <u>Approval of Claims for July 2022</u> and review of financial reports through June 30 and July 31, 2022: The Board reviewed the Claims report and partial financial reports, then voted to approve the Claims report only until the financial reports are complete. **Moved/Seconded: Ms. Price/Ms. Burnam; approved 5-0.**

6. REGULAR CALENDAR

A. Approval of Resolution No. 2022-08-01: 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 August 25, 2022 to Sep 26, 2022 pursuant to Brown Act provisions: the Board discussed current covid conditions and voted to continue to meet remotely. Moved/Seconded: Ms. Burnam/Ms. Price; approved 5-0.



- B. Education Department year in review and plans for next year: Ms. Brody French reported that the Education Department held 473 programs last year (94 field programs, 58 on-campus and 321 virtual) with 7534 students served. She then discussed what programs are being planned for 2022-23, including the Malibu Lagoon Together program funded by the CA Coastal Conservancy. The Education Committee commended Ms. Brody French for her good work in her first year as Coordinator.
- C. Review and approval of fiscal year 2022-23 budget: Finance & Administration Committee report: the Board reviewed the budget and discussed the two largest lines items: Contract/Grant/Fee for Service Revenue and Payroll. Mr. Hendra discussed how these items were calculated and what the meaning for the overall budget is. The Board decided to table the budget to the next meeting to allow for Executive Officer salary discussions in the Closed Session.
- D. <u>Discussion: creation of an expanded Community Resilience Department</u>: Mr. Stevens described his vision for expanding the services offered by the RCD into water conservation and land use planning in addition to fire resiliency. Directors suggested he think about what kind of employee he is looking for—a manager or a creator. This will be discussed more as part of strategic planning.

8. USDA/NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

REPORT: Mr. Engelhardt reported that his office has a new Soil Conservationist from Oregon and a new Range Specialist in the San Diego area that we can call on. Ms. Quarfeld reported that they have a lot in the works around urban agriculture. Sept. 29 at 10 am will be a ribbon-cutting to open the People's Garden in Compton. She will send invites to the RCD. Also be on the lookout for the equity survey that will come from the national office of NRCS.

9. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS:

- A. Staff Reports for July 2022 (written):
 - i. Clark Stevens, Executive Officer
 - ii. John Hendra, Finance & Operations Officer
 - iii. Rosi Dagit, Senior Conservation Biologist
 - iv. Marilyn Brody French, Education Supervisor

10. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Ms. Helsley reported that the CA Envirothon Team earned 6th place out of 41 participants and each student got \$300. Next year's topic is on climate change.
- 11. CLOSED SESSION: <u>Personnel (Government Code Section 54957)—Executive Officer annual performance evaluation</u>. The Board entered closed session at 8:15 p.m.



and finished at 9:42 p.m. They reopened the regular meeting and reported that Mr. Stevens' evaluation will be continued at the next Board meeting with no decisions made at this meeting.

12. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 9	9:43 p.m. Moved/Seconded: Ms.
Price/Ms. Burnam; approved 5-0.	
Submitted by:	Date: (0/3) 22
John Hendra, Finance & Operations Officer	
Approved by:	Date: 16/31/22
RC Brody, President	
Roard of Directors	