

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Richard C. Brody
President

Steven Rosentsweig
Vice President

Nancy Helsley
Treasurer

Beth Burnam
Director

Laurie Price
Director

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

EIGHT-HUNDRED THIRTY-FIRST MEETING

Monday September 19, 2022—6:00 P.M.

MINUTES

EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Clark Stevens

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** the meeting was called to order via Zoom videoconference by President R.C. Brody at 6:00 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 Directors Deborah Klein Lopez (joined at 7:04) and Dennis Washburn, Executive Officer Clark Stevens and Finance & Operations Officer John Hendra.
2. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** Michael Hart, Malibou Lake resident; Brooks Engelhardt, NRCS District Conservationist; Glenn Bailey, past Director and RCD representative to the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Area Steering Committee.
3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**
 - Mr. Hart commented that LVMWD has 260 acres that they need to conserve. He is proposing a conservation burial land on 20-30 acres of this property. He is proposing that the RCD manage the whole area. He hopes the RCD will rehabilitate the land and add trails for the public. The Board thanked him for his comment and looked forward to further discussion with the Executive Officer.
4. **MINUTES:** Approval of minutes for meeting of August 22, 2022: After reviewing the minutes the Board voted to approve them as presented. **Moved/Seconded: Ms. Price/Ms. Burnam; approved 5-0.**
5. **MONTHLY CLAIMS AND FINANCIALS:** Approval of Claims for August 2022 and review of financial reports through August 31, 2022: The Board reviewed the Claims and financial reports, then voted to approve both. **Moved/Seconded: Ms. Burnam/Ms. Price; approved 5-0.**
6. **REGULAR CALENDAR**
 - A. Approval of Resolution No. 2022-09-01: 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 September 25, 2022 to October 24, 2022 pursuant to Brown Act provisions: the Board reviewed the current covid situation and voted to continue meeting remotely next month. **Moved/Seconded: Ms. Burnam/Mr. Rosentsweig; approved 5-0.**

- B. Resolution 2022-09-02: Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains Approving the Application for Grant Funds from the Wildlife Conservation Board for the Newhall Pass I-5 Wildlife Crossing Design Project: Mr. Stevens described the project, which will analyze the area surrounding the I-5 Freeway at the 14 Freeway for construction of a wildlife passage and habitat restoration. Directors expressed enthusiasm for the project and voted to approve the grant application. The Board also requested that staff send the LAFCO documents approving the RCD's revised sphere of influence. **Moved/Seconded: Ms. Burnam/Ms. Helsley; approved 4-0 with Mr. Brody abstaining.**
- C. Review and approval of fiscal year 2022-23 budget: Mr. Hendra reviewed the budget and answered questions from Directors. The main issue was Executive Officer salary: since it hadn't been determined at that time of the meeting there was concern about its effect on the budget. Mr. Hendra and Mr. Stevens assured the Board that a raise had been factored into the budget and any amount above this would be trivial compared to the overall budget. The Board requested that the Executive Officer review process begin earlier next year to complete it before the budget vote. The Board voted to approve the budget as presented. **Moved/Seconded: Ms. Price/Ms. Burnam; approved 5-0.**
- D. Review and approval of staff salary schedule for fiscal year 2022-23: the Board reviewed the schedule and asked staff how it compares with other RCDs. There was no information to compare with other RCDs, but Mr. Stevens noted that it was in line with other area non-profits and that the schedule was partially set by the necessity of being competitive in the Los Angeles job market. The Board voted to approve the salary schedule for fiscal year 2022-23. **Moved/Seconded: Ms. Burnam/Ms. Price; approved 5-0.**

7. USDA/NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

REPORT: Mr. Engelhardt reported that his office has wrapped up fiscal year 2022 and is planning for 2023. NRCS is available to help with projects and has a wider range of staff expertise than in past years, including a new regional forester out of Escondido.

8. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS:

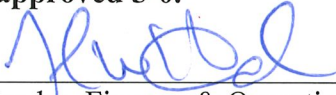
- A. Staff Reports for August 2022:
- i. Clark Stevens, Executive Officer

- ii. John Hendra, Finance & Operations Officer
- iii. Rosi Dagit, Senior Conservation Biologist
- iv. Marilyn Brody French, Education Supervisor

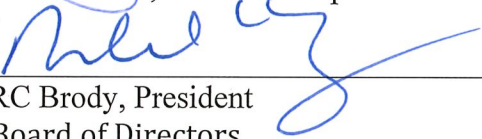
9. **DIRECTORS' COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:** there were no Directors comments.

10. **CLOSED SESSION:** Personnel (Government Code Section 54957.6)—Conference with labor negotiators. Agency Negotiators: Board of Directors; Unrepresented Employee: Executive Officer: the Board entered closed session at 7:23 p.m. and finished at 8:26 p.m. They reopened the regular meeting and reported that Mr. Stevens' evaluation was completed and his salary adjustment will be voted on at the next Board meeting.

11. **ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 8: 28 p.m. **Moved/Seconded: Ms. Price/Ms. Burnam; approved 5-0.**

Submitted by: 
John Hendra, Finance & Operations Officer

Date: 10/31/22

Approved by: 
RC Brody, President
Board of Directors

Date: 10/31/22