

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 FORTY-FIRST MEETING

Monday July 24, 2023—6:00 P.M.

Location: RCD District Office, 540 S. Topanga Canyon Blvd., Topanga

DRAFT MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** the meeting was called to order by President R.C Brody at 6:01 p.m. A quorum was established with Directors Beth Burnam, Nancy Helsley, Laurie Price and Steve Rosentsweig in attendance. Also in attendance were Associate Directors Deborah Klein Lopez (via Zoom-left at 7:13 p.m.) and Dennis Washburn, Executive Officer Clark Stevens, Deputy Executive Officer Daniel Cooper and Finance & Operations Officer John Hendra.
2. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** Matthew Edwards, NRCS Soil Conservationist (left at 6:16 p.m.); Glenn Bailey, past RCD Director.
3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** there was no public comment.
4. **USDA/NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE REPORT:** Mr. Edwards reported that the NRCS Oxnard office has been busy with the Emergency Conservation Program due to flooding events in January. EQIP 2022: of the total 18 applications, 10 have been completed and 8 are on track for completion. EQIP 2023: 19 contracts out of 30+ applicants, with total obligated funds of \$832,000. Their office has welcomed 2 interns this summer: Michael Allred (USDA Pathways Intern) and Chris Hughes (Thurgood Marshall Scholarship Intern). Finally, NRCS is encouraging Districts to look into Conservation Innovation Grants, which can be a great source of funding for local conservation programs.
5. **MINUTES:** Approval of minutes for meeting of June 26, 2023: the Board reviewed the minutes and voted to approve them as presented. **Mr. Rosentsweig/Ms. Price; approved 5-0.**
6. **MONTHLY CLAIMS AND FINANCIALS:** Approval of Claims for June 2023 and review of financial reports through June 30, 2023: the Board reviewed the Claims report and the Financial reports and voted to approve them. The Board asked that Reserve

Fund replenishment be agendized next month and that staff propose a plan to build reserves. **Ms. Burnam/Ms. Price; approved 5-0.**

7. REGULAR CALENDAR

- A. Review of move budget and approval to transfer funds from CalTrust Capital Planning Fund to checking account to cover move expenses: Mr. Stevens presented the move budget and answered questions from the Board regarding costs of various budgeted items, how space will be utilized and what needs to be set up at the new location. Mr. Stevens requested that the Board authorize use of the Capital Planning funds to cover the move and new office set up. The Board approved use of all funds from the Capital Planning Fund to cover move expenses if needed. **Ms. Burnam/Mr. Rosentsweig; approved 5-0.**

8. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS:

- A. Staff Reports for June 2023:
- i. Clark Stevens, Executive Officer
 - ii. Dan Cooper, Deputy Executive Officer/Senior Conservation Biologist
 - iii. John Hendra, Finance & Operations Officer
 - iv. Rosi Dagit, Senior Conservation Biologist
 - v. Marilyn Brody French, Education Supervisor

9. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Ms. Lopez commented that she is working with RCDSMM through her day job at Assemblymember Gabriel's office. She is touring Topanga with Rosi on Thursday and will be touring Sepulveda Basin on a different date.
- Mr. Rosentsweig and Ms. Helsley mentioned an interesting article in the LA Times about the person who will select the plantings for the Liberty overcrossing.
- Ms. Burnam is actively working to organize an Eastern Sierra fire safe community.

10. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 p.m. **Moved/Seconded: Ms. Helsley/Ms. Price; approved 5-0.**

Submitted by: _____ Date: _____
John Hendra, Finance & Operations Officer

Approved by: _____ Date: _____
R.C. Brody, President
Board of Directors