

**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-NINTH MEETING

**Monday April 29, 2024—6:00 P.M.**

## 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 Nancy Helsley, Laurie Price, and Steve Rosentsweig in attendance, and Director Beth Burnam joining via Zoom. Also in attendance were Associate Directors Dennis Washburn and Deborah Klein-Lopez; Executive Officer Clark Stevens, Community Resilience Director Shelly Backlar, and Office Manager/HR Specialist Lisa Rand were also present. Principal Conservation Biologist Rosi Dagit and Senior Conservation Biologist Jamie King joined via Zoom.
2. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** Glenn Bailey, past RCD Director, joined virtually, as did Brooks Engelhardt, NRCS District Conservationist, and Alan DeRosset, a local entrepreneur. We were also joined by Cindy Solovei (virtually) and Rich Wilson of Agility, a financial consulting firm.
3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** **None.**
4. **USDA/NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE REPORT:** Mr. Engelhardt again discussed severe damages from floods, and mentioned new grants available for agricultural damages from flooding.
5. Approval of minutes for meeting of March 25, 2024 and April 8, 2024. The Board reviewed the minutes and voted to approve them as presented. **Ms. Price/Ms. Helsley; approved 5-0.**
6. **FINANCIAL REPORTING:** Presentation of expense & other reports, through March 2024. The board discussed audits, and switching to an every-other-year interval. The report was “received and filed” (**Ms. Price/Ms. Helsley**).
7. **REGULAR CALENDAR**
  - A. Report by Personnel Committee on District Manager (“DM”) position, with discussion. Staff and various board members commented that the job description

should be updated to a “multi-million dollar” budget (from “one million dollar”) budget. Add “federal and state grant oversight” wording. Add that DM should work with department heads/project managers to allow them to become public representatives/liasons for their own projects and work; add “other job duties as directed by Board”. The personnel committee and board agreed that quotes for a DM job search were not to exceed \$20,000 without prior Board approval, and that a future date (e.g., 5/13/24) would be held for a Special Meeting to discuss further.

B. Approvals

- i. Resolution for approval of application to WCB for funding for “Southern LA County Biodiversity and Connectivity Plan” (\$1.2 Million). **Mr. Rosentsweig/Ms. Price; approved 5-0.**
- ii. Approval of a two-part agreement (two contingent but separate contracts) and resolution for Seminole Springs alternative development. **Ms. Helsley/Ms. Price; approved 5-0.**

C. Report on Reserve Fund replenishment (*verbal*).

8. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS:

A. Staff Reports for March 2024:

- i. Summary of general fund vs. billed hours
- i. Clark Stevens, Executive Officer/Principal Architect
- ii. Dan Cooper, Deputy Executive Officer/Principal Conservation Biologist
- iii. Rosi Dagit, Principal Conservation Biologist
- iv. Marilyn Brody French, Education & Engagement Director
- v. Shelly Backlar, Community Resilience Coordinator

9. DIRECTORS’ COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Ms. Helsley gave a recap of Envirothon (2024), which was successful, and the site was excellent.
- Dennis mentioned that Alan DeRosset works with AI and was interested in working with RCDSMM.

10. CLOSED SESSION: The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 and immediately moved to a Closed Session, when the Board met (8:09, adjourned 9:34 p.m.). Clark Stevens was present for a portion of it.

11. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 9:34 p.m.

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dan Cooper, Deputy Executive Officer

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
R.C. Brody, President, Board of Directors

Date: \_\_\_\_\_