

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 FIFTY-FIRST MEETING

Monday May 20, 2024—6:00 P.M.

DRAFT MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** the meeting was called to order 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 in attendance. Also in attendance were Associate Directors Dennis Washburn and Deborah Klein-Lopez. Executive Officer Clark Stevens, Deputy Executive Officer/Principal Conservation Biologist Dan Cooper, and Office Manager/HR Specialist Lisa Rand were also present. Community Resilience Coordinator Shelly Backlar joined via Zoom.
2. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** Brooks Engelhardt, NRCS District Conservationist, joined virtually. 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 commercial agricultural damages from flooding.
5. Approval of minutes for Board meeting of April 29, 2024 and May 13 (Special Meeting), 2024. The Board reviewed the minutes and voted to approve them as presented. **Ms. Helsley/Ms. Burnam; approved 5-0.**
6. **FINANCIAL REPORTING:** Presentation of expense & other reports, through April 2024. Board members were positively impressed by the fact that the aging invoices list is down to a single page, and that net loss is decreasing. The report was “received and filed” (**Ms. Price/Ms. Burnam**).
7. **REGULAR CALENDAR**
 - A. Report by Personnel Committee on District Manager (“DM”) position, with discussion. Board members discussed differences between two search firms, and

discussed how Board and/or staff might advertise the position to augment the work of the firm hired. Director Burnam pointed out that the Board would take guidance from the search firm, and not be directly involved in advertising.

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

8. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS:

A. Staff Reports for April 2024:

- i. Shelly Backlar, Community Resilience Coordinator, mentioned that the recent “Ember House” event held in Monte Nido went great, thanks in particular to the organizational work of staff (Arezo Sarawy and Jelly Kahler).

9. DIRECTORS’ COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Ms. Price reported on the recent CARCD election, which included the reelection of Harold Singer (Tahoe RCD) and Peter Braudrick (Mendocino Co. RCD). She also reported that the staff-led DEI meeting are going well, and are well-organized.
- Ms. Burnam reported that she would be participating in the 2nd Annual Wildfire Resilience Week in the Eastern Sierra, from Mammoth. Ms. Helsley mentioned that she is involved with the Santa Monica Mountains Firesafe Council locally.

10. **CLOSED SESSION:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 and immediately moved to a Closed Session, when the Board met. Clark Stevens was present for a portion of it.

11. **ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
Dan Cooper, Deputy Executive Officer

Date: _____

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

Date: _____