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MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – January 22, 2014

President Dennis Murphy called the meeting of the Sonoma Resource Conservation District Board of Directors to order at 3:03 pm at the Finley Community Center, Manzanita Room, at 2060 W College Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA.

Directors Present: Dennis Murphy, Earle Cummings, Steve Thomas, Walt Ryan, Tom Scott, Garry Mahrt (in at 3:07), Ron Rolleri (in at 3:32)

Associate Directors Present: Ray Krauss

Directors Absent: Vickie Mulas, Delmar Friedrichsen

RCD Staff Present: Valerie Minton, Jed Coffin

Others Present: Charlette Epifanio, NRCS District Conservationist

CONSENT CALENDAR

Valerie Minton provided update on procedures for announcing and recording votes per SB 751.

Motion to approve consent calendar, with the addition of Board Committees, SDRMA Webinars and Drought as Information Items B, C and D, respectively. Ryan moved, Cummings seconded. Passed, 6 ayes (Directors Rolleri, Mulas and Friedrichsen absent).

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

PARTNER REPORTS

A. NRCS

Charlette Epifanio distributed Local Workgroup minutes and program descriptions for EQIP cropland and rangeland programs, and provided an update on how EQIP applications and ranking work.

ACTION ITEMS

A. Acceptance of Financial Reports

Motion to accept financial reports. Mahrt moved, Thomas seconded. Passed, 7 ayes (Directors Mulas and Friedrichsen absent).

Jed Coffin reported that, per board action in October 2013 (Resolution No. 041314), Education Endowment funds are being moved from an account under the name Southern Sonoma County RCD to an account under the name Sonoma RCD. Director Tom Scott was the only signatory on the account, so he will sign the document to transfer the funds.

B. Review of NRCS Mutual, Cooperative and Operation Agreements and direction to staff

No formal action taken. Staff will bring back agreements with suggested edits in redline format at a future meeting.

C. Review and Acceptance of Staff Activity Report

Motion to accept staff report. Scott moved, Rolleri seconded. Passed, 7 ayes (Directors Mulas and Friedrichsen absent).

COMMITTEE REPORTS (STANDING COMMITTEES)

A. Finance Committee (Garry/Walt/Dennis/Tom)

No meeting was held.

B. Board Development Committee (Earle/Delmar)

Committee did not meet, but indicated that they had made the decision to make Directors Cummings and Friedrichsen co-chairs.

C. Fund Development Committee (Steve, Vickie, Ron)

Committee did not meet, but indicated that they had made the decision to make Director Thomas chair.

INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Ethics Training

B. Board Committees

Board discussed composition of personnel committee and re-affirmed intention of Board Policy text that the personnel committee be composed of the Executive Committee, and that other members should only be added if they offer particular experience or expertise in handling personnel matters. It was also noted that the Board Development Committee is not currently listed as a standing committee in the District Operations Handbook, and that this addition could be brought to the board at a future meeting for approval.

C. SDRMA Webinars

Valerie distributed a list of webinars being offered free of charge from SDRMA. Directors who are interested should sign up with Becky.

D. Drought

Board discussed what they're hearing about drought issues and what the RCD can do to help, including helping people protect land from post-drought erosion.

Adjournment: 5:09 pm