

*The mission of the Sonoma RCD is to help agricultural and rural landowners protect, conserve, and restore natural resources through information, education, and technical assistance programs.*

**Minutes of the Board Meeting**

**January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

**9:00 AM-12:00 PM**

RCD Conference Room

1221 Farmers Lane, Suite F, Santa Rosa, CA 95405

707.569.1448

**Welcome/Introductions:** Chair Walt Ryan called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. and introductions of everyone present were made.

Board Directors Present: Dennis Murphy, Ron Rolleri, Steve Thomas

Directors Absent: Vickie Mulas, Earle Cummings

Associate Directors present: Ray Krauss, Hector Bedolla

Staff present: Kara Heckert, Jed Coffin, Aaron Fairbrook, Keith Abeles, Kevin Cullinen

Others present: Jennifer Walser, NRCS

**Consent Calendar:** January Board Meeting Agenda, December Board meeting minutes, and Bills for Board Approval. Motion to approve consent calendar. M: Murphy, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Thomas. 4 ayes (Mulas and Cumming Absent) Walt Ryan commented that Streamline Engineering does not appear to be licensed according to their website, Aaron to follow up.

**Public Comment**

None.

**Quarterly Financial Report:** Motion to accept report, M: Rolleri, 2<sup>nd</sup> Murphy. Director Rolleri interested in knowing more about the grant funding outlook. Kara said that will be part of our financial sustainability plan at a future board meeting. 4 ayes.

**Partner Report - NRCS**

Jennifer Walser, District Conservationist for the Sonoma-Marin Field Office provided a verbal update. Farm Bill agreement with RCD closed. Will look at the engineer agreement renewal in summer. New range specialist starting early February.

**Quarterly Staff Report:** Motion to accept report, M: Thomas, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Rolleri. 4 ayes.

**Treasurer Job Description:** discussion about potential board treasurer job description. With current structure of Executive Committee and staffing it was decided to table the need for a treasurer position.

**RCD Operations and Policy Manual Section 1-4:** Board reviewed all sections and made minor edits to Executive Committee descriptions and added signatory approval authority to the Board Chairman description. Motion to approve RCD Operations and Policy Manual with minor edits. M: Murphy, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Thomas. 4 ayes.

**Associate Directors- Delmar Freidrichsen.** Motion to appoint Delmar Freidrichsen as Associate Director.  
M: Rolleri, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Thomas. 4 ayes.

**Exploration of potential RCD role in local Groundwater Sustainability Agencies:** Board and staff discussed RCD legal opinion and different elements of being part of local GSAs. Motion to move forward with the discussion and explore further. M: Murphy, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Rolleri. 4 ayes.

**Discussion of RCD interest in working with cannabis cultivators on water quality BMPs:** tabled to a future meeting.

**Meeting was adjourned at 11:48 a.m.**