



Minutes of the Board Meeting

October 22, 2020

Meeting was held remotely via Zoom.

- 1. Call to order, Determination of a Quorum, Introductions:** Board Chair Abelli-Amen called the meeting to order at 10:01 am.

Directors Present: Jennifer Kuszmar, Bruce Abelli-Amen, Walt Ryan, Dennis Murphy, Ron Rolleri, John Nagle, Vickie Mulas

Associate Directors Present: Ariana Reguzzoni, Beth Bruzzone

Staff Present: Valerie Quinto, Adrienne Pettit, Shannon Drew

Others Present: Drew Loganbill (NRCS)

- 2. Additions/Changes to the Agenda:** None

- 3. Consent Calendar:** Approval of October Board meeting agenda, August Board meeting minutes, and financial reports. Valerie Quinto presented this item. Motion to approve consent calendar M: Murphy, 2nd: Ryan. Motion passed, 6 ayes, 1 Abstention (Mulas).

- 4. Public Comment:** None.

- 5. Information Items**

A. NRCS Report. Drew Loganbill provided an NRCS update. He presented the NRCS Petaluma program activity for the 2020 fiscal year. All programs executed through the Petaluma office in that year were worth over \$2 million, and the majority of projects pertained to Sonoma County. Drew also presented a breakdown of the top ten NRCS EQIP practices throughout California in the past year, and the two most frequently implemented practices were Irrigation Water Management and Troughs/Tanks. The board asked questions to Drew and everyone discussed.

- 6. Action Items**

A. Quarterly Staff Report Executive Director Valerie Quinto provided the quarterly staff report. The board asked questions and discussed. Motion to approve M: Kuszmar, 2nd: Ryan. Motion passed, 7 ayes.

B. Resolution forming Technology Committee. Valerie Quinto presented this item. The RCD has been awarded foundation funding which will allow the organization to hire a professional to examine assess the RCD's current IT systems and help develop a plan for IT strategy moving forward. Part of the grant agreement requires there to be a technology committee. Associate Director Ariana Reguzzoni and Board Chair Bruce Abelli-Amen indicated their availability and willingness to participate on the technology committee. Motion to approve resolution M: Rolleri, 2nd: Ryan. Motion passed, 7 ayes.

C. Strategic Plan. Valerie Quinto outlined the proposed process for developing 2021-2025 Strategic Plan. In the past, this process was different because in-person meetings and interviews could

happen as needed. This time around, Valerie proposes collecting feedback on the RCD for the Strategic process via electronic surveys, holding meetings with targeted members of the community where surveys may not be answered, and looking for trends in the feedback received. There will need to be a Strategic Plan Committee which will meet periodically, and members of the committee will work on tasks between committee meetings. The goal is to produce a Strategic Plan draft by June 2021 and finish the final draft of the plan by August 2021. John Nagle, Denny Murphy, and Beth Bruzzone volunteered to be part of the Strategic Plan Committee. Approval of strategic plan process, including extending current Strategic Plan through August 2021 and forming Strategic Plan Committee M: Mulas, 2nd: Nagle Motion passed, 6 ayes (Director Ryan left the meeting during this item and did not return).

- D. Approval of October 2020 Emergency Addendum to RCD Personnel Manual.** Adrienne Pettit presented this item. The RCD has encountered a prolonged need to have staff work from home offices. As such, staff have been incurring costs to maintain those home office environments. This October 2020 emergency addendum will supersede the April 2020 emergency addendum, and now includes a subsection called “Qualified Disaster Relief Payments” authorizing a monthly \$30 allowance to all staff for the next three months for covering reasonable and necessary costs associated with maintaining an alternate worksite. Motion to approve emergency addendum M: Mulas, 2nd: Rolleri. Motion passed, 6 ayes.
- E. Approval of procedure to be used in the event of Executive Director transition.** The Executive Committee presented the proposed course of action to be taken if the Executive Director leaves the RCD. Transparency and flexibility would be prioritized within this process. Motion to approve M: Murphy, 2nd: Kuszmar. Motion passed, 6 ayes.
- F. Approval of updates to Executive Committee description/roles and responsibilities.** The Executive Committee presented this item. The board asked questions and discussed. Motion to approve M: Rolleri, 2nd: Mulas. Motion passed, 6 ayes.
- G. Consider cancelling November 2020 Board meeting and rescheduling December 2020 Board meeting** Valerie Quinto presented this item. Motion to cancel the November Board meeting and reschedule the December Board meeting to December 17th M: Mulas, 2nd: Murphy. Motion passed, 6 ayes.
- H. Selection of Delegate and Alternate for CARCD Annual Meeting.** Valerie Quinto presented this item. Board members discussed and asked questions. Director John Nagle volunteered as delegate and Director Bruce Abelli-Amen volunteered as alternate. Motion to approve selection M: Rolleri, 2nd: Mulas Motion passed, 6 ayes.

7. Update Items

- A. GSA Updates.** GSA Directors & Alternates presented this item. Director Vickie Mulas gave updates from the Sonoma Valley GSA, Director Bruce Abelli-Amen provided updates from the Petaluma GSA, and Director John Nagle gave updates from the Santa Rosa Plain GSA.
- B. Executive Committee** – notes from September 24, 2020 meeting were provided.
- C. Board Development Committee** – no meeting was held.

D. Director Updates. Directors Murphy and Nagle gave updates on the Potter Valley project and suggested interested parties seek more information on this project via the Two Basin Solution website.

E. Executive Director & Other Staff Updates Valerie Quinto provided brief updates.

8. Future Agenda Items None discussed.

9. Adjournment. Meeting was adjourned at 11:25 am.