



Minutes of the Board Meeting

August 26, 2021

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 10:31 AM.
Directors Present: Bruce Abelli-Amen, John Nagle, Vickie Mulas (left meeting 11:23 am), Ron Rolleri, Jennifer Kuszmar, Ariana Reguzzoni (joined meeting 11:45 am)
Associate & Emeritus Directors Present: Dennis Murphy, Beth Bruzzone, Earl Cummings
Staff Present: Valerie Quinto, Christine Kuehn, Jessica Pollitz, Kari Wester, Kristopher Ballard
Others Present: Andrew Loganbill (NRCS)
2. **Additions/Changes to the Agenda:** None.
3. **Consent Calendar:** Approval of August Board meeting agenda and July Board Meeting minutes.
Motion to approve Consent Calendar. M: Rolleri, 2nd: Nagle. Motion passed, 5 ayes (Director Reguzzoni absent).
4. **Public Comment:** None.
5. **Information Items:**
 - A. **NRCS Report.** Drew Loganbill provided the report. The deadline for EQIP-CIC sign-ups has passed. Through EQIP, NRCS has been able to fund CSP projects and had obligated \$3.3 million for the current fiscal year. The board provided input on topics they want to see included in future NRCS Reports and inquired about procedures for use by landowners to create forestry management plans. It was noted that UC Cooperative Extension offers a Forest Stewardship Workshop to train landowners on this topic.
6. **Action Items:**
 - A. **Adoption of Social Media Policy.** Executive Director Valerie Quinto and Christine Kuehn presented this item. This new policy details guidance for RCD staff on managing the RCD's social media accounts, including maintaining posts and comments as public records. Motion to adopt, M: Nagle, 2nd: Kuszmar. Motion passed, 5 ayes (Director Reguzzoni absent).
 - B. **Recommendation to Board of Supervisors to appoint Beth Bruzzone to fill RCD board vacancy.** The Board Development Committee presented this item. Several Directors expressed appreciation for Beth's tenure as an Associate Director and enthusiasm for her appointment as a voting member of the board. Motion to appoint, M: Kuszmar, 2nd: Mulas. Motion passed, 5 ayes (Director Reguzzoni absent).
 - C. **Appointment of new Alternate Director for the Santa Rosa Plain Groundwater Sustainability Agency board, and potential changes to other GSA board assignments as needed.** The Board Development Committee presented this item. Board members discussed possible

appointments before selecting Bruce Abelli-Amen as temporary alternate for Santa Rosa Plain GSA. Beth Bruzzone will be appointed as Alternate to the Sonoma Valley GSA upon her confirmation to the RCD Board by the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors, at which point she will take over the position from Bruce Abelli-Amen. Motion to appoint, M: Mulas, 2nd: Nagle. Motion passed, 5 ayes (Director Reguzzoni absent).

- D. Approval of new Regular meeting time: fourth Thursday, 10:45 am.** Motion to approve, M: Rolleri, 2nd: Kuszmar. Motion passed, 5 ayes (Director Reguzzoni absent).
- E. Adoption of Resolution No. 2122-003 Authorizing the Adoption of the Sonoma County Local Multijurisdiction Hazard Mitigation Plan.** Valerie Quinto presented this item. It was noted that the primary benefit of adopting the Sonoma RCD annex to the Hazard Mitigation Plan is that it makes the RCD eligible for FEMA hazard mitigation funding. The board asked questions about how the plan's hazard risk rankings were determined. Motion to adopt, M: Nagle, 2nd: Rolleri. Motion passed, 5 ayes (Director Reguzzoni absent).
- F. Discussion and direction to staff regarding providing conservation services to cannabis producers.** Valerie Quinto and Jessica Pollitz presented this item. The board discussed the item before deciding through unanimous consent to recommend that RCD provide conservation services to cannabis producers as we would provide services to any other agricultural producer. No formal action was taken by the board on this item.

7. Update Items:

- A. GSA Updates.** Valerie Quinto reported on groundwater sustainability plan documents that are available for review and will be forwarded to the board. The October Board Meeting will feature a presentation on groundwater sustainability plans from the three GSAs to which the RCD belongs.
- B. Executive Committee – no meeting was held**
- C. Board Development Committee.** See Action Item 6B
- D. Technology Committee – no meeting was held**
- E. Director Updates.** Director Ron Rolleri attended a recent Gualala River Watershed Council meeting and reported back on a grant from the Bureau of Reclamation that will develop a coordinated group of stakeholders to work together on watershed management issues. Associate Director Dennis Murphy reported that Sonoma County has paused the issuing of well-drilling permits for the time being.
- F. Executive Director & Other Staff Updates.** None.

8. Future Agenda Items: See Update Item 7A.

9. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 12:24 PM.

Materials related to items on this agenda, included in the agenda packet or distributed to the Board after distribution of the agenda packet, are available for public inspection at 1221 Farmers Lane, Suite F, Santa Rosa, CA, 95405, by appointment (the office is not operating with normal business hours due to

COVID-19). To request board packet information, please contact Valerie Quinto at (707) 569-1448 ext. 102.

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RCD Board:

Bruce Abelli-Amen, *Chair*

Vickie Mulas, *Director*

Ariana Reguzzoni, *Director*

Beth Bruzzone, *Associate Director*

Earle Cummings, *Emeritus Director*

John Nagle, *Vice Chair*

Jennifer Kuszmar, *Director*

Ron Rolleri, *Director*

Dennis Murphy, *Associate Director*

Delmar Friedrichsen, *Emeritus Director*

RCD Staff:

Valerie Quinto, *Executive Director*

Christine Kuehn, *Education & Communications Manager*

Erica Mikesh, *Partner Engineer*

Keith Abeles, *Soil & Water Specialist*

Kevin Cullinen, *Project Manager*

Katie Robbins, *Project Manager*

Wendi Asuncion, *Staff Accountant*

Kristopher Ballard, *Office Assistant*

Adrienne Pettit, *Director of Finance*

Aaron Fairbrook, *Program Manager*

Jessica Pollitz, *Engineer*

Jason Wells, *Forester*

Kari Wester, *Project Manager*

Anya Starovoytov, *Project Manager*

Shannon Drew, *Program Assistant*