



Board Meeting Minutes

June 26, 2025 - 10:30 am

1221 Farmers Lane, Suite F

Santa Rosa, CA 95405

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89546736157>

(669) 900-9128

Meeting ID: 89546736157

- 1. Call to Order, Determination of a Quorum, Introductions:** Chair Bruce Abelli-Amen determined the quorum and called the meeting to order at 10:31 am.

Directors Present: Bruce Abelli-Amen, John Nagle, Fred Euphrat, Isaac Jenkins, Ariana Reguzzoni (arrived at 10:42am)

Directors Absent: Steve Worrell

Associate Directors Present: John Gorman, Rob Lawson, Dennis Murphy

Associate Directors Absent: Chris Peterson, Brynn O'Donnell, Allyson Souza

Staff Present: Christine Kuehn, Karen Scalabrini, Adrienne Pettit, Jen Franco, Aaron Fairbrook, Ari DeMarco, Jason Wells, Jessica Pollitz, Karen Saler.

Others Present: Duane Dewitt (arrived at 11:00am).

Additions/Changes to the Agenda (Gov. Code 54954.2 (B)): None

- 2. Consent Calendar:** Approval of June Board Meeting Agenda, May Board Meeting Minutes.

Motion to approve: John Nagle, **2nd:** Fred Euphrat. Motion passed, 4 ayes.

Ayes: Abelli-Amen, Nagle, Euphrat, Jenkins

Nayes: None.

- 3. Public Comment:** Duane Dewitt represented the Roseland neighborhood of Santa Rosa. He requested a copy of the Strategic Plan once complete and would like to collaborate with SRCD.

- 4. Information Items:**

A. NRCS Report: no report.

B. Executive Director Annual Performance Review Process: Board Chair Bruce Abelli-Amen and Administrative Manager, Jen Franco presented this item and provided an overview of the evaluation process. The evaluation will occur at the July 2025 Board meeting and will be held in closed session.

C. Initial Annual Workplan for Fiscal Year 2025-2026: Christine Kuehn presented this item. She gave an overview of the anticipated workplan actions across SRCD's grants and contracts for FY2526. The final workplan will include the goals established in the new Strategic Plan once it is adopted by the Board. The Board asked questions and discussed.

Action Items:

- A. **Approval of Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026:** Adrienne Pettit presented this item and provided an overview of the collaborative annual budget preparation process and the Board's role in budgeting. The projected surplus for 2025-26 is \$168,705, and management is again recommending that the surplus be transferred into operating reserves. The Board asked questions and discussed.
- Motion to Approve:** John Nagle, 2nd: Fred Euphrat. Motion Passed, 5 ayes.
- Ayes:** Abelli-Amen, Nagle, Euphrat, Jenkins, Reguzzoni
- Nayes:** None.
- B. **Adoption of Resolution No. 2425-006 Designating Authorizing Signers Who May Act on Behalf of Sonoma RCD in Connection with Funds Held in the California CLASS Prime Fund:** Adrienne Pettit presented this item updating authorized signers as a result of the turnover in the Director of Finance & Administration role, answered board questions, and provided further information.
- Motion to Approve:** Isaac Jenkins, 2nd: John Nagle. Motion Passed, 5 ayes.
- Ayes:** Abelli-Amen, Nagle, Euphrat, Jenkins, Reguzzoni
- Nayes:** None.
- C. **Approval of Updated Personnel Manual:** Jen Franco presented this item and highlighted statutory and discretionary changes and updates. The Board asked questions and discussed.
- Motion to Approve with addition of footnote "Minors and children are used interchangeably" on page 12 of the Personnel Manual:** John Nagle, 2nd: Fred Euphrat. Motion Passed, 5 ayes.
- Ayes:** Abelli-Amen, Nagle, Euphrat, Jenkins, Reguzzoni
- Nayes:** None.
- D. **Approval of new Director, make a recommendation to the County Board of Supervisors to fill Jennifer Kuzmar's vacant position:** Board Chair, Bruce Abelli-Amen, recommended John Gorman, current Associate Director, to the Board to fill the vacant Director position. After discussion, the Board agreed John Gorman was an ideal candidate and brings a variety of skills to our Board.
- Motion to Approve:** John Nagle, 2nd: Isaac Jenkins. Motion Passed, 5 ayes.
- Ayes:** Abelli-Amen, Nagle, Euphrat, Jenkins, Reguzzoni
- Nayes:** None.
- E. **Appointment of new Alternate Director of the Sonoma Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board:** Board discussed and appointed Steve Worrell as alternate Director for the Sonoma Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency.
- Motion to Approve:** Fred Euphrat, 2nd: Isaac Jenkins. Motion Passed, 5 ayes.
- Ayes:** Abelli-Amen, Nagle, Euphrat, Jenkins, Reguzzoni
- Nayes:** None.

F. **Approval of Quarterly Staff Report:** Christine Kuehn presented this item. She highlighted community engagement, staff learning opportunities and building internal capacity in Q3.

Motion to Approve: John Nagle, 2nd: Ariana Reguzzoni. Motion Passed, 5 ayes.

Ayes: Abelli-Amen, Nagle, Euphrat, Jenkins, Reguzzoni

Nayes: None.

7. Update Items:

A. **Executive Committee:** The Executive Committee met on May 22, 2025 and June 16, 2025. Meeting minutes were included in the June Board packet.

B. **Board Development Committee:** Christine Kuehn anticipates that this committee will meet soon to develop a more formal onboarding process.

C. **Technology Committee:** No meeting was held.

D. **Ad Hoc Strategic Planning Committee:** Christine Kuehn gave an update that the committee has a meeting on Monday, June 30, 2025, to review the final Strategic Plan draft incorporating staff and Board feedback. The Strategic Plan will be approved at the July 2025 Board meeting.

E. **GSA Updates:** Director John Nagle announced that Santa Rosa Plain GSA approved their fiscal year budget. Director Isaac Jenkins announced that Sonoma Valley GSA also approved their fiscal year budget.

F. **All Director Updates:** Associate Director Dennis Murphy gave an update on the proposed Alexander Valley Water District (AVWD). The Russian River Property Owners Association is halfway through their petition signature goal to include AVWD as a mailed ballot initiative. Murphy requested SRCD support the proposed formation of AVWD. The Board will consider this request at a future meeting.

G. **Executive Director & Other Staff Updates:** Christine Kuehn gave an update on Northern California investment opportunities and development efforts. Christine also introduced Karen Scalabrini, new Director of Finance & Administration, who will have a three-week overlap with Adrienne Pettit for knowledge transfer and training. One Board anniversary was recognized: Bruce Abelli-Amen (9 years). Two work anniversaries were also recognized: Keith Abeles (11 years) and Jason Wells (7 years).

Future Agenda Items:

- Alexander Valley Water District

8. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 1:02 pm.