Board Meeting Minutes

August 28, 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 called the meeting to order at 10:30am. A quorum was determined.
   Directors Present: Bruce Abelli-Amen, John Nagle, Fred Euphrat, Steve Worrell, Isaac Jenkins, Ariana Reguzzoni, John Gorman
   Directors Absent: None
   Associate Directors Present: Dennis Murphy, Chris Peterson, Brynn O'Donnell, Rob Lawson, Allyson Souza
   Associate Directors Absent: None
   Staff Present: Christine Kuehn, Karen Scalabrini, Jen Franco, Anya Starovoytov, Jessica Pollitz, Sarah Greer.
   Others Present: Joel Butterworth, Devin Best, Rob Moore, Sebastian Tsocanos, Earle Cummings

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

3. **Consent Calendar:** Approval of August Board Meeting Agenda, July Board Meeting Minutes.

   Motion to approve: John Nagle, **2nd**: Steve Worrell. Motion passed, 7 ayes.

   Ayes: Abelli-Amen, Nagle, Euphrat, Worrell, Jenkins, Reguzzoni, Gorman.

   Nayes: None.

4. **Public Comment:** None.

5. **Information Items:**

   A. **NRCS Report:** Sebastian Tsocanos, Rangeland Management Specialist, provided funding and status updates on the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) and Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP).

   B. **Golden State Land Conservancy Introduction:** Devin Best, Executive Director of Golden State Land Conservancy (GSLC), was introduced to the Board. He provided an overview of GSLC and ideas about how RCDs could potentially partner to support the organization. The Board asked questions and discussed.

   C. **Fiscal Year 2025-26 Annual Workplan:** Christine Kuehn presented this item. Christine gave an overview of the grant and contract priorities for this fiscal year and how they aligned with the new strategic plan goals and strategies. The Board asked questions and discussed.

6. **Action Items:**

A. **Adoption of Resolution No. 2526-002 Authorizing Signatures on the Exchange Bank Accounts:** Karen Scalabrini presented this item updating authorized signers as a result of staff turnover, answered board questions, and provided further information.

Motion to Approve: Isaac Jenkins, **2nd**: Ariana Reguzzoni. Motion Passed, 7 ayes.

Ayes: Abelli-Amen, Nagle, Euphrat, Worrell, Jenkins, Reguzzoni, Gorman.

Nayes: None.

B. **Adoption of Resolution No. 2526-003 Authorizing Signatures for Funds 72403 and 72404 with Sonoma County:** Karen Scalabrini presented this item updating authorized signers as a result of staff turnover, answered board questions, and provided further information.

Motion to Approve: Steve Worrell, **2nd**: Isaac Jenkins. Motion Passed, 7 ayes.

Ayes: Abelli-Amen, Nagle, Euphrat, Worrell, Jenkins, Reguzzoni, Gorman.

Nayes: None.

C. **Discussion on Board Committees** Christine Kuehn and Board Chair, Bruce Abelli-Amen presented this item. The board reviewed current committees and discussed the removal of some committees no longer serving the organization. The board also discussed the need for a new committee to serve as the strategic plan tracking and implementation committee. A vote to formalize the committees will take place at the September 2025 Board meeting.

Motion to Approve: John Nagle, **2nd**: Steve Worrell. Motion Passed, 7 ayes.

Ayes: Abelli-Amen, Nagle, Euphrat, Worrell, Jenkins, Reguzzoni, Gorman.

Nayes: None.

D. **Discussion of Alexander Valley Water District Formation:** Board Chair, Bruce Abelli-Amen presented this item. Associate Director Dennis Murphy shared information and resources about the proposed AVWD. The board discussed providing a letter of support for the proposed Alexander Valley Water District (AVWD) to Sonoma County LAFCO. The Board asked questions. The draft letter of support will be considered for approval at the September 2025 Board meeting.

Motion to Approve: Steve Worrell, **2nd**: John Nagle. Motion Passed, 7 ayes.

Ayes: Abelli-Amen, Nagle, Euphrat, Worrell, Jenkins, Reguzzoni, Gorman.

Nayes: None.

7. Update Items:

A. Executive Committee: No meeting was held.

B. Ad Hoc Strategic Planning Committee: No meeting was held.

C. Board Development Committee: No meeting was held.

D. Technology Committee: No meeting was held.

E. GSA Updates: Director Bruce Abelli-Amen gave an update that Sonoma RCD hosted a GSA coordination meeting. Director Isaac Jenkins attended a Sonoma GSA meeting for local growers in the golf course area. Engineering Director, Jessica Pollitz gave an update that Sonoma Valley

GSA is inviting agricultural groundwater users to participate in a survey to inform future policies and programs.

F. **All Director Updates:** Director Bruce Abelli-Amen and some Sonoma RCD staff assisted with herding goats out of Sonoma County Regional Park as part of a LandSmart® Grazing project. Director Ariana Reguzzoni reported recent grazing at Ragle Ranch Regional Park. Director John Nagle recently traveled to Montana and visited a three-year maintenance project in Cold Creek. Director Steve Worrell reported that the City of Petaluma is running an Aquifer Storage and Recovery pilot program and results will be available soon.

G. **Executive Director & Other Staff Updates:** Christine Kuehn announced the departures of two staff members, Sophia Pruden and Aaron Fairbrook, and expressed gratitude for their contributions to the organization. She provided a recruiting update noting that the Program Assistant position is now posted and backfilling capacity in the Water Resources team will be determined. Christine will attend the Russian River Confluence.

8. **Future Agenda Items:**
   - Approval of Committee Updates
   - Approval of Letter of Support for the Alexander Valley Water District Formation

9. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 12:56pm.