SONOMA
RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Board Meeting Minutes

June 25, 2026 - 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 10:32 am. A quorum was determined.
   Directors Present: Bruce Abelli-Amen, Steve Worrell, Isaac Jenkins, John Gorman, Fred Euphrat (arrived at 10:41 am, left at 12:18 pm)
   Directors Absent: John Nagle, Ariana Reguzzoni
   Associate Directors Present: Chris Peterson, Allyson Souza, Rob Lawson, Brynn O'Donnell
   Associate Directors Absent: Dennis Murphy
   Staff Present: Christine Kuehn, Bo Young, Jen Franco, Ari DeMarco, Anya Nejedlo, Jessica Pollitz, Steven Fry.
   Others Present: Katherine Korsak, Chase Garcia.

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

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

   Motion to approve: Isaac Jenkins, **2nd**: Steve Worrell. Motion passed, 4 ayes.

   Ayes: Abelli-Amen, Worrell, Jenkins, Gorman.

   Nayes: None.

4. **Public Comment:** None.

5. **Information Items:**

   A. **Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Report:** Chase Garcia, District Conservationist, provided funding and status updates on the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), and Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), and that FY2026 Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) proposals are due on August 24, 2026. He also announced that a new Chief of NRCS was appointed in May.

   B. **Executive Director Annual Performance Review Process:** Board Chair Bruce Abelli-Amen and Operations and Human Resources Manager, Jen Franco presented this item and provided an overview of the evaluation process. The evaluation will occur at the July 2026 Board meeting and will be held in closed session.

   C. **Annual Workplan for Fiscal Year 2026-2027:** Christine Kuehn presented this item. She gave an overview of the anticipated workplan actions across SRCD's grants and contracts for FY2627 that align with the Strategic Plan goals and strategies. The Board asked questions and discussed.

6. **Action Items:**

   A. **Approval of Budget for Fiscal Year 2026-2027:** Katherine Korsak from Regional Government Services presented this item and provided an overview of the collaborative annual budget development process, which is built from zero each fiscal year. She also presented a new draft budget format, a budget overview and year-to-year comparison. The Executive Committee proposed amending the Executive Director's employee agreement and a salary increase from Step 5 to Step 7 of the 2026 Salary Schedule, resulting in an annual salary of $150,722.60, effective July 1, 2026. The Board asked questions and discussed.

   Motion to approve: Steve Worrell, **2nd**: Fred Euphrat. Motion passed, 5 ayes.

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

   Nayes: None.

   B. **Approval of updated Personnel Manual:** Jen Franco and Christine Kuehn presented this item and highlighted statutory and discretionary changes and updates. The Board and Staff asked questions and discussed. The Board proposed amendments to the Holiday Policy and AI Policy.

   Motion to Approve with Amendments to Holiday Policy and AI Policy: Isaac Jenkins, **2nd**: Steve Worrell. Motion Passed, 5 ayes.

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

   Nayes: None.

   C. **Approval of Resolution 2526-009 Designating Authorizing Signatures Who May Act on Behalf of Sonoma RCD in Connection with Funds Held in the California CLASS Prime Fund:** Christine Kuehn presenting this item updating authorized signatures to include the Finance Manager.

   Motion to Approve: Steve Worrell, **2nd**: Isaac Jenkins. Motion Passed, 5 ayes.

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

   Nayes: None.

D. **Update Items:**

   A. **Executive Committee:** June 16, 2026, Executive Committee meeting notes were provided in the June 2026 Board packet.

   B. **Strategic Plan Impact Committee:** No meeting was held.

   C. **Board Development Committee:** No meeting was held.

   D. **Groundwater Sustainability Agency Reports:**

      - Director Fred Euphrat reported that John Nagle was confirmed as Vice Chair for Santa Rosa Plain GSA.
      - Jessica Pollitz, Engineering Director, reported that all GSA Boards were approving JPAs. The Amended and Restated Joint Powers Agreements will need to be approved at a future Board meeting.

E. Director's Reports:

- Director Steve Worrell reported that the City of Petaluma is participating in the Army Corp of Engineers beneficial use of dredge materials.
- Director John Gorman reported that Agricultural Commissioner, Andrew Smith, had an Agricultural Ad Hoc Meeting and proposed updates to Uniform Rules and Williamson Act. On June 2, 2026, the Board of Supervisors approved a Resolution and Workplan in support of the Agricultural Industry.

F. Executive Director Report: Christine Kuehn provided updates on staffing, operations highlights during FY2526 and recognized Board and staff anniversaries.

G. Other Staff Reports: None.

E. Future Agenda Items:

- AI Discussion
- Revisit the Operating Reserve Policy
- GSA JPAs approval
- Evaluation Technical Advisory Committee Members

F. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 12:37 pm.