



JUNE 2012– REGULAR MEETING MINUTES—approved 07/26/2012

Regular Board Meeting, Thursday, June 21, 2012, 10 A.M. - 12 P.M.

Directors Present: P. Binsacca, S. Cobb, R. King, M. Duflock , J. Devers, B. Jefferson
Directors Absent: T. Roberts (Associate)
Others Present: P. Robins (RCDMC), L. Ferrasci, D. Mathes, C. Holm, S. Darington, B. Leahy, A. Griffin
Recorder: P. Robins

<u>Time</u>	<u>Agenda Topics</u>	<u>Presented by</u>
10:05 A.M.	<u>Call to Order</u>	<u>P. Binsacca</u>
	<u>Comments from the public</u>	
	None made.	
	<u>President’s and Directors’ Comments</u>	<u>P. Binsacca / Directors</u>
	None.	
	<u>Minutes for May 2012 Meeting (Review for Approval)</u>	<u>P. Robins/Directors</u>
	Minutes from the May 24, 2012 Meeting were presented and reviewed. B. Jefferson moved to approve the May 2012 meeting minutes as submitted; S. Cobb seconded the motion; the motion was approved by 4-0 vote with P. Binsacca abstaining due to his absence at the May meeting. (Vote was prior to the arrival of R. King.)	
	<u>NRCS Update</u>	
	P. Robins gave a brief update on behalf of R. LaFleur:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NRCS staff are working hard on processing new cost-share applications. He expects there to be even more funding approved for Monterey County than last year’s \$1 Million. NRCS has selected a new Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations to fill Daniel Mountjoy’s position. Kay Joy will begin work in Salinas in late July. 	
	<u>Budget and Finances (Review & Approval)</u>	<u>P. Robins/Directors</u>
	<i>Monthly Financial Statements and Bills:</i> P. Robins presented financial statements regarding Accounts Receivable, Payables and Bank balances for the period ending June 21, 2012. The accrual account balance on June 21 stood at \$178,468.99, with \$69,711.63 in the Chase Bank and County Treasury accounts (taking into account checks to be signed at the meeting), \$6,942.63 in liabilities, and \$115,699.99 due to the RCD as receivables from various grants and outstanding invoices. By comparison, the Accrual accounting balance for District Funds stood at \$180,662.42 on May 24, 2012.	
	P. Robins presented the list of detailed expenses to be paid in June including bi-weekly salary through June 17, one-time and recurring miscellaneous expenses and reimbursement for expenses incurred during the month of June. Approval for the June financial statements and for June expenses from the Chase Bank account was motioned by M. Duflock, seconded by J. Devers and passed by a 6-0 vote.	
	P. Robins reviewed a final draft budget for the July 2012-June 2013 fiscal year that balances \$759,314 in income with \$759,314 in expenses, including a contingency line item of \$7,108. After a walk-through of the proposed budget and a month-to-month cash flow projection for the next year, board members discussed different elements of the budget but requested no changes. S. Darington expressed appreciation for the transparency of the budget information.	

B. Jefferson asked what the fiscal impact to the RCD would be for the new SimpleIRA benefit included in the budget, for which P. Robins responded with an estimate of \$400-500 annually depending on how much of his time was spent working on non-grant-reimbursable tasks. B. Jefferson moved to approve the budget as submitted. S. Cobb seconded the motion, and the board approved the motion with a 6-0 vote.

Program Updates

P. Robins

P. Robins provided the following updates:

- P. Robins provided an update on the status of the Proposition 84 grant for Irrigation and Nutrient Management assistance now that Coastal Conservation and Research, Inc., has assumed the role of fiscal agent (after the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Foundation determined it could not accept the State Water Board Standard Terms and Conditions). He expects work to initiate in the fall.
- P. Robins told board members that the Roads manual and Carmel Valley manual should be ready for print before the July board meeting.

New Business

Guests/Directors

B. Leahy of the Big Sur Land Trust presented background information for the RCD to consider regarding potentially assuming a conservation easement on their Odello parcel near the mouth of the Carmel River. S. Darington of the Ag Land Trust of Monterey County, the current easement holder, explained their concerns regarding the BSLT's plans for situating combined farm and park access parking on a corner of the Odello parcel as to why they would prefer to pass the easement to another entity. Board members inquired about the ability of the site to support a farm in terms of water supply, public accessibility and encroachment by wildlife from the river corridor. S. Darington advised the RCD to take into consideration all potential legal costs associated with holding such an easement, including easement enforcement. J. Devers stated that she would recuse herself from discussion and any decision-making on the topic to avoid a conflict of interest. R. King raised the concern that the RCD make sure to seek indemnification from conflicts between BSLT and its lessees. The board asked P. Robins to inquire further about potential liability issues and means of addressing them. B. Leahy told the board that BSLT would need a decision on the matter within a few months.

D. Mathes reviewed options for RCD technical assistance to landowners needing erosion compliance assistance as outlined in the attached handout that she circulated to meeting attendees. She encouraged board members to consider the benefits associated with enhancing the RCD-County partnership within the constraints of the RCD's non-regulatory mission. M. Duflock inquired about the potential liability that the RCD would assume by providing erosion-control plan approval. J. Devers emphasized the importance of thorough legal review of any agreement with the county, which should contain language regarding such liability among other things. P. Robins was directed to follow up with D. Mathes and other County personnel regarding this matter and to inquire among other RCDs conducting such work how they deal with liability and to acquire sample language from their respective RCD-County agreements.

Board members considered the application for Board membership as submitted by L. Ferrasci of Carmel Valley. After brief discussion, B. Jefferson moved to consider L. Ferrasci for appointment to the RCD Board. M. Duflock seconded the motion, and the motion was approved with a unanimous vote.

P. Robins reviewed an updated draft Annual Work Plan for the fiscal year starting July 1, 2012. B. Jefferson commented that the 5-year plan objectives need to be revised. R. King moved to approve the draft plan. J. Devers seconded the motion, and the motion was approved with a unanimous vote.

Closed Session

Directors

Board members conferred regarding the Annual Performance Evaluation for the RCD Executive Director

Report from Closed Session

Directors

The board took no action during closed session and will present the review and associated compensation adjustment at the July meeting.

12:40 P.M.

Meeting Adjourned

P. Binsacca

The next Regular RCD meeting will be held:

Date: **July 26, 2012, 10:00 A.M.**

Location: **Salinas Service Center: 744-A LaGuardia St., Salinas, CA 93905.**

