



744 La Guardia Street, Building A, Salinas, CA 93905

(831) 424-1036, ext. 124

JANUARY 2016– REGULAR MEETING MINUTES—*approved -2/19/2016*

Regular Board Meeting, Thursday, January 21, 2016, 10:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

Directors Present: B. Jefferson, R. King, J. Devers, B. Plemmons
Directors Absent: E. Paddock, L. Ferrasci, M. Duflock, P. Binsacca (Associate)
Others Present: P. Robins (RCDMC), B. Parsons (NRCS), D. Rao
Recorders: P. Robins

<u>Time</u>	<u>Agenda Topics</u>	<u>Presented by</u>
10:40 A.M.	<u>Call to Order</u>	<u>B. Jefferson</u>

Comments from the public

D. Rao mentioned her new blog and that she is signing up ranchers who want to participate in a weed management study with Elise Gornish.

<u>President's and Directors' Comments</u>	<u>Directors</u>
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Director King gave a brief summary of the mobile slaughter unit discussion held at the Ecofarm Conference the same week as the RCD board meeting.

<u>Minutes for January Meeting (Review for Approval)</u>	<u>P. Robins/Directors</u>
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After reviewing the minutes, Director King moved to approve the December 17, 2015 Meeting Minutes. Director Devers seconded the motion, which was approved by unanimous vote.

<u>NRCS Update</u>	<u>B. Parsons</u>
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B Parsons noted that the Salinas Field Office had received 55 requests for assistance since October, which is more than existing staff can handle, and that they are dealing with frustrated potential cooperators. There are four new conservation plans and contracts to be obligated shortly, one of which includes a ranch nutrient management plan. The next 'batching' dates are in February and April. She mentioned the Regional Conservation Partnership Program as a possible means for addressing the barriers impacting vegetable producers' ability to participate in EQIP (primarily regarding income limitations). The Service Center remodeling work should be complete in February.

<u>Budget and Finances (Review & Approval)</u>	<u>P. Robins / Directors</u>
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Monthly Financial Statements and Bills: P. Robins presented the financial statements regarding Accounts Receivable, Payables and Bank balances for the period ending January 21, 2016. The accrual account balance on January 21, 2016 was \$182,371.33 with \$65,080.78 in the Chase Bank and County Treasury accounts (taking into account checks to be signed at the meeting), \$202,714 in liabilities, and \$329,004.57 due to the RCD as receivables from various grants and outstanding invoices. By comparison, the Accrual accounting balance for District Funds stood at \$185,430.29 on December 19, 2015.

P. Robins presented the list of detailed expenses to be paid in January including bi-weekly salary through January 10, one-time and recurring miscellaneous expenses, and reimbursement for expenses incurred during the month of January. Approval for the January financial statements and for January expenses from the Chase Bank account was motioned by Director Devers, seconded by Director King and passed by a unanimous vote of directors present (4-0).

New Business

Directors

- Directors discussed new board member recruitment to fill the seat left open by Director Duflock's departure to the Planning Commission. President Jefferson said that he and former Director Duflock were seeking a candidate to represent South County.
- Directors each received copies of the Organizational Review conducted by Solid Ground Consulting, some commenting that it was well done and helpful. They settled on a date to hold a retreat based on the review: March 22, starting in late morning. Robins was directed to confirm this with absent board members and with the consultants. Directors King and Devers agreed to participate in a retreat planning committee with Robins and the consultant prior to March 22.

Program Updates

P. Robins

Robins gave board members a preview of a presentation on the Salinas River program and partnership that he and representatives of the Grower-Shipper Association and The Nature Conservancy were to present the following day in Paso Robles for the Salinas River Symposium. Robins also updated board members on the status of the Blanco Drain treatment wetland design project underway.

Closing Discussion

Directors

Board members discussed upcoming meeting dates as the February 18 date was a potential conflict with the Cattlemen's Association meeting. President Jefferson and Robins discussed visiting potential venues for the spring BBQ.

12:00 P.M.

Meeting Adjourned

B. Jefferson

The next Regular RCD meeting will be held:

Date: **TBA**

Location: **TBA**