



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

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## November 21, 2019– MEETING MINUTES—*approved 12/19/2019*

Regular Board Meeting, Thursday, November 21, 2019, 10:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.

Directors Present: B. Jefferson, J. Clarke, B. Plemmons, J. Gularte

Directors Absent: R. King, B. Lipe, J. Doud

Others Present: L. Ferrasci, P. Robins (RCDMC), M. Barker (RCDMC), J. Tuitele-Lewis, J. Warner (NRCS), D. Rao (UCCE), C. Wyckoff (SLC), S. Hardgrave (Sup. Adams Office)

Recorders: M. Barker, P. Robins

<u>Time</u>	<u>Agenda Topics</u>	<u>Presented by</u>
9:57 A.M.	Call to Order	<u>B. Jefferson</u>

### Public Comment:

Sarah Hardgrave from Supervisor Mary Adams Office (District 5) expressed that Supervisor Adams is very pleased with the work that Jamie Tuitele-Lewis, RCDMC Fire Fuels Mitigation and Forest Health Coordinator, has been doing on the fire fuels mitigation work so far. Sarah stated that Supervisor Adams is supportive of extending funding for the fire fuels mitigation work and of RCDMC receiving the County Bridge Loan.

Devii Rao, Livestock and Natural Resources Director from UCCE, shared that the San Benito Weed Management Workshop will be held on Wednesday, December 4 at the Hollister Vets Building. Devii is also working on a CALFIRE prescribed burn grant with Jamie Tuitele-Lewis, for projects including Swanton Pacific Ranch, Santa Cruz Land Trust, Santa Lucia Preserve as well as projects for private landowners from Monterey County. NRCS Soil Conservationist John Warner noted that NRCS funding could be available for prescribed burns or fuel break work.

### Consent Agenda

- *Approval of Draft Meeting Agenda*
- *Approval of Minutes from the October 8, 2019 Special Board Meeting*
- *Approval of Minutes from the October 17, 2019 Regular Board Meeting*
- *Approval of Minutes from the October 31, 2019 Special Board Meeting*
- *Accept Staff Activities Report for October 2019.*

Director Gularte moved to approve all items on the Consent Agenda. Director Clarke seconded the motion, and all voted to approve.

### Reports

*Executive Director Report:* The October 25 'Meet your Makers' Event held at the Cima Collina Marina Tasting Room on October 25 was a success. Fifty-four (54) tickets were sold and the event brought in \$2,645 in ticket and raffle sales for RCDMC.

The CARCD Annual Conference was held in Redding last week. P. Robins shared an update about discussions held at the conference encouraging RCDs to address issues of

inclusion, equity and diversity in order to serve their entire communities. At the conference, Robins also gave a presentation on RCDMC's Dept of Finance audit experience. RCDMC Speak Off Contest finalist Hailey Higgins from Soledad gave an excellent speech on the Monarch butterfly protection topic, but she was not judged to be contest winner.

*Board Member Comments:* Director Brent Plemmons attended the CARCD Annual Conference and found it to be very informative and encouraged other directors to attend in the future. He also shared an announcement from the conference state funding available for outreach and education work, as well as riparian corridor programs.

Old or Standing Business

P. Robins / Directors

No items pulled from the Consent Agenda.

*Monthly Financial Statements:* M. Errea presented the financial statements regarding Accounts Receivable, Payables and Bank balances for the period ending November 21, 2019. The accrual account balance on November 21, 2019 was \$199,317.60 with \$74,551.49 in the Chase Bank and County Treasury accounts (taking into account checks to be signed at the meeting), \$832,577 in liabilities, and \$957,342.86 due to the RCD as receivables from various grants and outstanding invoices. For comparison, the Accrual accounting balance for District Funds stood at \$235,208.18 on October 17, 2019.

*Expenses:* M. Errea presented the list of detailed expenses to be paid in November including bi-weekly salary through November 21, one-time and recurring miscellaneous expenses, and reimbursement for expenses incurred during the months of October and November, totaling \$139,185.25.

Director Plemmons moved to approve the November financial statements and the October and November expenses as presented. Director Clarke seconded the motion, and all voted to approve.

*Resolution 2020-06 for Dry Period Loan Request from Monterey County Treasurer:* RCDMC is asking for a \$100,000 dry period loan from Monterey County, which requires an authorizing resolution from the RCDMC Board. Director Clarke moved to approve Resolution 2020-06 to authorize the Executive Director to make a Dry Period Loan Request of \$100,000 from the County Treasury. Director Plemmons seconded the motion, and all voted to approve.

*Draft multi-RCD comment letter to Regional Board regarding riparian setbacks:* RCDs have been approached by the Regional Water Board for input on the riparian setback requirements for irrigated lands proposed in Agricultural Order 4.0. The riparian setback which they are proposing ranges from 50-250 feet from each side of a given waterway depending on stream classification. Members of the agricultural community have also encouraged RCDs to provide commentary on the proposed requirements of the Ag Order 4.0. Robins has worked with RCD of Santa Cruz County staff in drafting a letter regarding the riparian setback requirements, which he shared with Board members and solicited their input.

Fundraising Update:

*Spring 2020 BBQ date, theme and sponsorships planning:* A date, location and theme for the Annual RCDMC BBQ still needs to be selected. Two potential dates are April 17th and April 24th. The theme for the Annual BBQ has still yet to be decided, but potential themes include the Salinas River and forest health. P. Robins, M. Barker, J. Gularte, J. Clarke and B. Jefferson will be part of a sub-committee for BBQ event planning. Director Lipe is reaching out to Kendall

Jackson and McIntyre vineyards to see if their venues could be available for hosting the event.

*Monterey County Gives! Campaign Center for Land-Based Learning:* The Monterey County Gives Campaign began on November 7<sup>th</sup>. Robins still needs to discuss how the proceeds from the campaign will be divided between RCDMC and Center for Land Based Learning.

*Board Member Retreat:* The RCDMC board planning retreat will be held on Thursday, January 16. Director Gularte suggested Merrill Ranch as a possible location for the retreat. Paraiso also has a conference room that can potentially be utilized as a meeting location. Director Gularte offered to contact both companies. The board recommended that RCDMC staff members should also attend for at least a portion of the day. Robins and the Executive Committee will confer to plan the retreat.

New Business

Directors/ Staff

*Santa Lucia Conservancy projects mini-tour:*

Jamie Tuitele-Lewis shared an example of his Fire Fuel Mitigation Program’s recent mapping efforts for four communities in north, coastal and south Monterey County. .

Dr. Christy Wycoff, Santa Lucia Conservancy Director of Conservation Science, led board members and guests on a two-stop tour within the Santa Lucia Preserve to demonstrate different types of fuel reduction treatments on lands managed by the Conservancy.

Announcements

Directors/ Robins

No announcements.

10:59 A.M. Meeting Adjourned for the Santa Lucia Conservancy site tour

Next Regular RCD meeting and Holiday Potluck:

Date: Thursday, December 19, 11am  
Location: TBA