

**PLACER COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING
July 25, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Placer County Resource Conservation District (District /RCD) Board was called to order by RCD Board Chair Claudia Smith, at 4:00 pm in the 2nd floor conference room at 11641 Blocker Drive in Auburn, CA.

MEMBERS AND OTHERS PRESENT

Directors Present: Claudia Smith
Stephen (Steve) Jones
Thomas (Tom) Wehri
Patricia (Patti) Beard

Directors Absent: Jonathan (Jon) Jue
Kristin Lantz
Cathy Johnson

Others Present: Sarah Jones, RCD Executive Director
Donna Thomassen, RCD Employee
Kate Espinola, RCD Employee
Scott Stephenson, RCD Employee (Introductions)
Chris Robbins, District Conservationist

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Patti Beard moved to approve the agenda. Steve Jones seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was given.

INTRODUCTION FOR NEW EMPLOYEE

The board introduced themselves to the district's new Forestry Director, Scott Stephenson. Scott provided a brief background of his experience.

MEETING MINUTES

Tom Wehri moved to approve the meeting minutes for the Regular Board meeting held on June 27, 2023. Patti Beard seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Donna Thomassen presented the financial reports for June 2023. It was disclosed that the monthly reports will change as we are still processing payments and creating vouchers. Pre-paid expenses will be moved next month, and other liabilities have not

been adjusted in the closing process. All 3rd quarter invoices except for CDFA have been paid. Tom Wehri moved to accept the financial reports as presented. Steve Jones seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

AGENCY REPORT

Chris Robbins, District Conservationist for NRCS Auburn Office presented his agency report. Chris reported that a few more applications have been funded from last batching period. There is no update on the Farm Bill for next fiscal year. The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) funding will not be affected by the Farm Bill delay. The Local Working Group meeting will be held on September 26th at 7:00pm at the Auburn Library.

BUSINESS

New Business:

a) Employee Acknowledgements

The board recognized Donna Thomassen for her one-year employee anniversary. Discussion only.

Old Business:

b) All Staff Report

Staff reports are provided in Board packet.

Entered Closed Session at 4:34 pm.

CLOSED SESSION

a. GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

Decision whether to initiate litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9: One Case

a) Report out: This Item was tabled for the next scheduled board meeting.

b. GOVERNMENT CODE SECTIONS 54956.8 and 54954.5

CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS

Property: 173 Taylor Road, Newcastle, CA 95658

Agency negotiator: Sarah Jones, Donna Thomassen- Placer County Resource Conservation District

Negotiating parties: Randy Reuter, Eugene Berger Management- Auburn

Under negotiation: Lease terms

b) Report out: The board directed the Executive Director to negotiate lease terms.

c. *GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957 (§ (b)(1))*

PERSONNEL DISCUSSION

Discussion of performance and pay rates of Chipper Program staff

- c) **Report out: The board approved pay increases for the chipper crew starting the next pay period.**

Closed Session ended at 4:50 pm.

DIRECTORS COMMENTS

Tom Wehri reported he attended the NACD summer meeting in North Dakota. They visited a 110-acre model farm and brought back information to share with staff. Tom will also attend the NACD Regional Meeting in August.

Claudia Smith spoke with a 4-H leader. He would like to schedule a meeting with Sarah Jones and Claudia to discuss future projects with the kids.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Future agenda items include follow-up on lease negotiations and litigation.

ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting was adjourned at 5:08 pm. Tom Wehri moved to adjourn the regular meeting. Patti Beard seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. The next regular meeting is scheduled for August 22, 2023, from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm in the upstairs conference room at 11641 Blocker Drive, Auburn.