

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
May 19, 2011
Time 6:30-8:30
Location: RCD Office

Directors Present: TJ Glauthier, Roxy Stone, Jim Reynolds

Staff present: RCD- Kellyx Nelson, Renee Moldovan, Karissa Anderson, Alyssa Hernandez
NRCS-Jim Howard

Guests: Susie Bennett, Ron Sturgeon

1 Call to Order

- TJ called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2 Introduction of Guests, Committee, and Staff.

3 Public Comment.

- No public comments

4 Approval of Agenda

- TJ moved to approve and Jim seconded. Agenda approved unanimously.

5 Consent Agenda

- Draft Minutes from December, March, and April
- Draft April Financials
- TJ moved to approve and Jim seconded. Consent agenda approved unanimously.

6 Discussion Items

- 6.1 Executive Director Report
 - **PPH**
 - Chronic poor WQ in harbor, have received grant funds to do a study including FIB, Circulation Study and MST.
 - Circulation study was to study where bacteria was coming from, where it stayed, etc. After State freeze, Harbor Commission gave RCD \$15k to do study report – got a draft from lead researcher and are making comments for second draft. Good thing is that all data collection has been done for the study and the analysis was what remained to do and what Harbor District funded. Analysis will illuminate other bacteria data.
 - Will be presenting Circulation Study at Harbor Commission on June 1st – Army Corps will be interested in results because of sand supply issue at Surfer's Beach.

- TJ was particularly interested in public outreach and informing the Board about progress and what the preliminary findings show.
- Final deliverable will be a plan for remediation – solutions will differ based on what data shows.
- **Rural Roads Program**
- Had our second annual workshop last weekend. Roads have been identified as a priority for Steelhead and Coho recovery plan because of risk of sediment pollution of spawning habitat.
- Program is chugging along – workshop was at Pie Ranch, had two speakers, Jim Kjelgaard and Vincent Hurley, attorney who spoke about erosion law and liability. Afterwards had a field site visit to BGRA site with DFG.
- Our selection committee chose 6 projects to receive road assessment and designs – Jim Kjelgaard and contractor.
- Pilarcitos contracts are moving forward, will have covered large portion of the watershed when we are done.
- We applied for FRGP funds to start implementing treatments and are approaching a tenant on one of the properties to do the designed improvements.
- **Water Quality Monitoring Successes**
- Two times recently we have had success with landowners who have had RCD doing monitoring.
- One on San Pedro Creek where landowner found out that he had a leaky septic and he fixed it.
- Another where RCD staff recommended changes and landowner made them and WQ immediately improved.
- TJ: have we revisited site on Frenchman's where we did fish passage project?
- JH: Yes, we have revisited, site looks pretty stable. Weeds are a big problem there – Pampas Grass, Cape Ivy, etc. Have been there during big storms and it looks good – discussions with fish biologist about whether it's quality fish passage – Jim believes it is working well, though doesn't subscribe to all specific "jump height" specifications, etc.
- Kx: Our project had included weed management but we didn't have funds. Kellyx updated Susie on history of project and described site. Kellyx wishes we had money to monitor what the fish are actually doing. We have conversations with agencies about this – we do photo monitoring but rarely get funds to do real follow up.
- Susie: GGNRA interns from Point Reyes might be able to come out and do assessments – could partner with RCD to do that.
- **Upcoming events and contracts**
 - *Contracts:*
 - Biochar, RCD is applying for NRCS CIG for Biochar field trials. Part of it will be KA's master's project, field trials are in three settings.
 - Caltrans, have been in negotiation for Cloverdale ponds restoration and so far they have been fairly reasonable. Agreement will come before the Board for review. JH mentioned issues with cattails and tules.
 - Kx mentioned that NRCS has done pond inventory for our area, we'll be doing some GIS analysis to inventory ponds and overlapping species habitat.

- Another agreement will be a County contract through Prop 84 for Fitzgerald Marine Reserve non-point pollution reduction and will subcontract to RCD through an MOU.
- *Events:*
- KA and Kx will present at MBNMS meeting, presenting WQ program at Adcock Community Center.
- Harbor Commission meeting June 1st – KA and Kx present. Labor Compliance. Kx has asked CARCD to convene a conference call with RCD's to develop strategies and guidance for how to proceed.
- KA invited Board members to come out and assist with PPH sampling – will inform of schedule so they can come out if they like.
- 6.2 NRCS Report
 - Jim H: Used up whole CCPI pot of money for irrigation efficiency with Tim Frahm's help. Jim has spent a lot of time in the field catching up with customers.
 - Lots of RCD projects are starting to roll with NRCS since with Kellyx's return.
 - NRCS is limited in what they can do outside of Farm Bill, but Kx and Jim met with State Conservationist and JH has continued to get feedback and our office was one of the highlights of his CA tour and he was impressed with NRCS-RCD partnership.
 - Jim feels confident and secure now allocating energy and resources to RCD projects and programs for technical assistance and conservation planning.
 - Jim Reynolds: How is our relationship with the Farm Bureau?
 - Kx: Really good! We attended recent meeting, have Stan Pastorino on Pilarcitos committee.
 - JH: Recommends FB's golf tournament, fun event and huge dinner. Suggested TJ play this year.
- 6.3 FY 2012 Budget
 - RM: In process of putting together, using staff to contribute to overall budget. Were hoping to present budget in June but have come up against scheduling problems.
 - Question for Board – do you want to have a special meeting for approval or have it be late?
 - Kellyx would prefer to get in on time – TJ suggested last week of June.
 - **Date for special meeting: June 29th, at 4PM.**
- 6.4 San Mateo County RCD Five Year Plan
 - This is something that Jim H., Marti and Kx worked on to submit for Watershed Coordinator Grant, based on Local Workgroup priorities. Kellyx wants to ask:
 - 1) What do you think?
 - 2) Does anyone want to be involved in this?
 - Priority geographic areas, prioritize resources in these areas. Conservation goals: WQ, water quantity, barriers to project implementation, ecosystem enhancement and district capacity.
 - Board input: one on one conversations with landowners we have worked with and their thoughts regarding the RCD and what we have provided to them. TJ is

interested in end results – what can we do to reduce beach closure days, factors to measure how well we are doing. Jim is interested in North to South such as San Pedro watershed.

- Kx wants to develop a sense of priority and direction to communicate what we do.

- 6.5 Biochar Trials in Coastal San Mateo County - presentation Karissa Anderson
 - Reviewed project with Board members and guests, answered questions about sourcing Biochar, possibly benefits other than soil amendments, etc.

 - Discussed what was and wasn't in scope of project and how Karissa's thesis project brings a new slant to biochar research.

7 **Adjourn -**

- TJ motioned to adjourn, Jim seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:15.