

**DRAFT Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
October 17, 2019
4 pm – 6:00 pm
Location: RCD Office**

Directors present: TJ Glauthier, Adrienne Etherton, Neal Kramer, Jim Reynolds
RCD staff present: Kellyx Nelson, Kasey Butler

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 4:04 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

Agenda passed unanimously. Glauthier moved to approve, Etherton was second, then Kramer

3. Introduction of Guests and Staff

Kasey Butler and Ron Sturgeon were introduced

4. Public Comment

Reynolds and Sturgeon discussed Pescadero Marsh.

5. Consent Agenda

5.1 August 15, 2019 Draft Regular Meeting Minutes

- Motion to approve Glauthier, move Kramer, 2nd Etherton

5.2 September 19, 2019 Draft Regular Meeting Minutes

- Motion to approve Glauthier, move Kramer, 2nd Etherton

The Board of Directors receives into record:

5.3 September 20, 2019 Governor's Executive Order N-19-19 requiring state government to redouble its efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and mitigate the impacts of climate change.

5.4 September 17, 2019 San Mateo County Board of Supervisors resolution declaring a climate emergency in San Mateo County that demands accelerated actions on the climate crisis and calls on local and regional partners to join together to address climate change.

6. Regular Agenda

6.1 Executive Director Report:

- Nelson announced that Brittani Bohlke will be leaving SMRCD. She has been the Water Quality Program manager and has been with the RCD for 6-7 years and accomplished great work. Because of the departure the water quality study session of the board is postponed.
- Completion of Butano Channel Reconnection Project (PowerPoint presentation referenced)
 - This project is complete! Sunday, October 27 there will be a public tour. Before and after photos were referenced from ppt. presentation as well as map of the

- marsh and dredge. Some accomplishments of this project: reduces the risk of future flooding and improves the likelihood of salmonid survival in the watershed/marsh.
- This was a very competitive grant program through NOAA and was the #1 granted project in the west. It was a significant example of partnership between local, state and federal agencies. State Parks was a huge partner even where the project did not take place on their property.
 - Directors and staff discussed the sediment removal and placement, anoxic conditions, berm on Level Lea Farm, surprises and challenges, potential trail access, maintenance and floodplain restoration upstream, upstream sediment control, historic sandbar formation, and new NOAA research about coho straying.
 - Directors requested that Jim Robins come join for a meeting.
 - Completion of Pescadero Creek Streamflow Enhancement at Butano Farms
 - The pond is complete and was made to specifications. There were many challenges in construction and associated finishing work (e.g. cleaning up roads) is not yet complete.
 - Board and staff discussed water storage to change timing of diversion versus irrigation efficiency resulting in total water conservation.
 - Completion of San Gregorio Creek Streamflow Enhancement at Moty-Klingman Ranch
 - The pond is not complete yet but should be in the next few days.
 - Discussed water seepage during construction, staff team, importance of working with traditional private landowners
 - Completion of Alpine Creek Fish Passage Project
 - Discussed project need, described work done, accolades given to staff member Amy Kaeser, discussion about location and access to the project, Fisheries Restoration Grant Program funding, San Mateo County partnership
 - Nelson would like to add to the board's agenda for November to pass a resolution thanking key landowners who were impacted by and contributed to this project. They put up with a lot and contributed a lot to our understanding of the hydrology. When the creek was re-watered the neighbors cheered. There was immediate flow.
 - The Butano and Alpine fish passage projects were the 2 highest priority remaining barriers to fish passage in the county according to resource.
 - This project was funded by the Fisheries Restoration Grant Program and it paid for the entire implementation. San Mateo County let the RCD do this project at a road crossing which was a big deal.
 - Completion of Pescadero Creek Habitat Enhancement at Portola Redwoods State Park
 - Project to trial bringing fallen trees into creek to provide fish habitat and increase complexity of creeks; slow flow down in the winter
 - NOAA approached RCD about this project and funded it, State Parks landowner partner.
 - This project cost 10,000 to plan and 10,000 to build
 - Glauthier recommended having all of the before and after photos of projects up on the wall.
 - Wildfire fuel load reduction chipper program services
 - Property owners in 4 neighborhoods can gather tree branches and shrubs to be chipped, chips can stay on their property or be disposed of elsewhere.
 - The Fire Safe Council with the leadership of Denise Enea has been a great partner, taking a lead role while we have staff transition.

- Rangeland Compost Application Trial
 - Staff provided overview and details of project, directors and staff discussed barriers to sourcing quality compost, including regulatory, Nelson suggested compost study session and directors expressed interest.
 - Etherton noted Office of Sustainability's foodware ordinance – asked whether RCD has been involved at all – RCD has not been involved
- “Cutting the Green Tape” with CA Landscape Stewardship Network
 - Through CLSN, Nelson has been working with California Secretary for Natural Resources Wade Crowfoot on initiative to reduce regulatory barriers to beneficial landscape stewardship
- Directors asked how Nelson's talk on “epic fails” went

6.2 Directors' Reports

- **Reynolds:**
 - watching dredge project closely from his property
 - attended dinner for As Fresh As It Gets at Long Branch – keep this location in mind for other events
 - Sturgeon commented that it was a great bridge between organic and conventional growers
- **Kramer:**
 - appreciated weekly project updates – must be a lot of work for staff
 - Kramer will be attending Central Coast Weed Management conference
- **Etherton:**
 - attended ribbon cutting at the Harbor for the sea bin being installed and managed by Sea Hugger, Hoping to bring one to Brisbane Marina
- **Glauthier:**
 - received piece of mail from Special District Risk Management Authority – no workers comp claims!
 - This month no financials – that's intentional because want to make fluctuations in income and expenditures less of a perturbation and distribute financials quarterly to line up with invoicing schedule
 - Nelson check to make sure this is legal

6.3 Directors and staff will discuss the role of the Resource Conservation District in implementing the Governor's Executive Order and the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors resolution regarding climate change.

- Demonstrate how we highlight and implement state policy
- Governor's executive order only talks about energy and transportation – doesn't talk about carbon sequestration or rural lands
 - RCD can still use broad discussion about climate mitigation to support our work
- San Mateo County's declaration of climate emergency
 - Could this help us streamline permitting?
 - County doesn't specifically mention RCD as a partner
 - Discussion about importance of RCD being included in such documents and how it really helps the visibility of the RCD
 - Directors recommended including them the next time Nelson sends anything like that so they can see and participate and support

- Etherton shared that there is a RICAPS meeting next week – Regionally Integrative Climate Action Plan
- Nelson asked directors to keep this in mind when talking about the RCD – the work we do and the higher level policy we are directly implementing and supporting
- Directors and Nelson discussed next meeting in November
 - Glauthier cannot attend, Etherton might not be able to attend and Nelson will have recently returned from vacation
 - Might be good idea to postpone to December

7 **Adjourn Meeting**

- Meeting adjourned 5:51

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