

## Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors June 26, 2014 Location: RCD Office

<u>Directors present</u>: Barbara Kossy, Jim Reynolds, TJ Glauthier, Dave Holland <u>Staff present</u>: RCD – Kellyx Nelson, Chelsea Moller, Renee Moldovan

NRCS – Jim Howard

Guests: Meredith Reynolds, Ron Sturgeon

### 1 Call to Order

• Glauthier called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm

### 2 Introduction of Guests and Staff

• Everyone present was already acquainted.

### 3 Public Comment

- Kossy will attend the WMA meeting on July 15, and is hoping that the RCD will do an update at this or another upcoming meeting.
- Glauthier requested added election of officers to the agenda for the next Regular Board meeting and expressed his support for transitioning the role of President to Holland.

### 4 Approval of Agenda

- Reynolds moved to approve the Agenda and Consent Agenda, Holland seconded. The Agenda and Consent Agenda were approved unanimously.
- Glauthier noted that financial statements for last few months are consistent with the mid-year budget review. Expenses are lower than anticipated.

### 5 Consent Agenda

- **5.1** March 20, 2014 Draft Regular Meeting Minutes
- **5.2** May 15, 2014 Draft Regular Meeting Minutes
- **5.3** March 2014 Draft Financial Statement
- **5.4** April 2014 Draft Financial Statement
- 5.5 May 2014 Draft Financial Statement
- **5.6** Correspondence: Letter to the Fisheries Restoration Grant Program

### 6 <u>Discussion Items</u>

### 6.1 Directors' Reports

- Holland is working with the County to pull together policies on agricultural land and recreation to get consistent policies across Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA), Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (MROSD) since trails will inevitably go thru agricultural land.
- Glauthier asked for an update about partnership with MROSD
  - Nelson said that we have increased the number of projects we are doing with them, many of the projects that are planned for the new bond money are things they anticipate working with us on. We do not have any institutional level agreement with them.

### 6.2 75th Anniversary Planning

- Glauthier reported that he our anniversary celebration will be at the Maverick's event center on November 20, 2014. It will be an evening event with some special speakers, history of the RCD, historical photos, etc.
- Reynolds reported on representing the RCD at the County Fair 4H Auction. He used our new banner and spoke about the RCD. It was a great crowd and we were well received.
- O About 60 people attended the event "Brews n Views" at the Half Moon Bay Brewery. Nelson was interviewed by Glauthier and spoke about the RCD and Pillar Point Harbor project. Supervisor Horsely, Harbor District directors, community advocates, former RCD Board President Rich Allen, kayakers, surfers, and other interested people attended the event.

### 6.3 Presentation: Conserving Water, Enhancing Streamflow, and Improving Agricultural Water Supply Reliability in the San Gregorio Watershed – Chelsea Moller

• Moller gave the attached presentation (Attachment A)

### 6.4 Grand Jury Report on San Mateo County Special District Websites

- The San Mateo County Civil Grand Jury investigated the websites of independent special districts for transparency and access to information. They titled their report "Cloudy with a Chance of Information." Our website was identified among 23 deemed inadequate. Nelson is preparing a draft response for Board consideration in July to submit to the County in August.
- The Grand Jury's report did not distinguish between districts meeting all legal requirements and their recommendations, which go beyond legal requirements and use standards of the California Special Districts Association to identify "Districts of Distinction." The RCD is legally compliant, but our website could be much better. We have wanted a better website for years but have not had the cash flow to do so.
- o ACTION ITEM: Nelson will draft a response for Directors' review.

### 6.5 Executive Director Report – Kellyx Nelson

• The Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) is the program through which much of the State bond money is administered for water projects in California. The state is divided into regions for water management. There was a solicitation for a round of funding, and we submitted an ambitious proposal for about \$5 million for off-stream storage, and to address flooding, water quality, etc in Pescadero. The Governor then announced a drought

emergency which earmarked money from IRWMP. Our project was very integrated and scored highly in IRWMP, but we had to take pieces out that were just about drought relief to apply for the emergency drought relief funding. We then combined our proposal with American Rivers' proposal for drought relief in San Gregorio. The total amount for the combined proposal was \$3.8 million and it was selected for our Bay Area region.

- Part of the proposal is to get Memorial Park off the creek in the summer. They divert about 25,000 gallons per day during peak use. We propose constructing expanded winter water storage (and associated water treatment since it is domestic water supply) to be used for the campground and Redwood Glen during the summer.
- We also pitched a number of ag off stream storage ponds (either regulating reservoirs or winter diversions) for improved water supply reliability and to minimize impacts to aquatic resources by changing when and how they take water from creek.
- Water conservation practices that include farm audits to provide site specific recommendations to improve water use efficiency will be implemented under this program.
- There are a number of sites where we have already begun moving forward because our partners stepped up to pay.
- We will also be working with community water suppliers to ensure their infrastructure is functioning efficiently, and will coordinate emergency drought response to improve drought response in the future.
- The County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved a \$100,000 allocation to the RCD in this fiscal year. This nearly triples our current operating base.
- On Tuesday July 1 Nelson will make her annual presentation to the County Board of Supervisors about the RCD.
- Supervisor Horsely's office wants to identify and secure federal support for solutions to Pescadero Road flooding and associated issues. His office coordinated a meeting of the offices of federal representatives, and asked RCD staff to give them a tour of the area and the nexus to federal issues.
- On Monday June 30 at 6:00 pm we are having a public meeting to talk about solutions developed to address flooding of Butano creek on Pescadero Road. The meeting is to get community input so that we can move forward with completing designs by the fall.
- The Harbor District Commission unanimously approved over \$50,000 for the RCD to be their clean water partner, which expands upon our existing \$4,000 agreement to help with water quality monitoring, spill response planning, etc.
- Nelson participated in and RCD staff helped coordinate a tour for Sustainable Conservation (SusCon) donors. SusCon previously spearheaded a San Mateo County ponds project. They are also the entity that designed the permit coordination program through RCDs, though we were not able to participate at the time the program was developed. SusCon wanted to take their donors on a tour to show them the types of projects that their work supports, and they chose to highlight our RCD. We took them to Pescadero marsh and the Frenchman's Creek fish passage project to demonstrate how the SusCon's work helps us deliver our mission.

### 7 Action Items

## 7.1 Consider Approval of Exemption to Procurement Policy for Construction of Best Management Practices to Protect Water Quality Entering the Fitzgerald Marine Reserve Area of Special Biological Significance

- O Nelson stated that she has spoken at nearly every Board meeting lately about the delays we have experienced in this program because of the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). The window of time to get the work done is getting slim, and we need to move quickly to get good contractors lined up to do the work. If we wait until all the delays are resolved, most contractors will no longer be available. We have a very limited window to get the work done before construction and grading season is over.
- Nelson proposes to have staff call contractors and ask them questions about whether they
  are available, whether they can do labor compliance, whether they can do the proposed
  work, etc.
- Glauthier asked how long the exemption will apply. Would it be project by project, or a list of contractors that can be used for a given period of time?
- O Nelson told the Board that there are 9 projects lined up. We are proposing to identify contractors that are qualified to do the work, and complete construction by the fall. What we need right now is flexibility to put together the different combination of contractors needed at each site on a restricted timeline. If we wait for all of these projects to get final approval we will not have time to hire contractors. Nelson anticipates that by the time we hire contractors that we will get final approval from the SWRCB.
- Technically work at the individual sites does not generally exceed \$50,000, but since the total for all projects is over \$50,000 Nelson wanted to make sure we had Board approval to move forward.
- Holland moved to approve the exemption, and Kossy seconded. The Exemption to Procurement Policy for Construction of Best Management Practices to Protect Water Quality Entering the Fitzgerald Marine Reserve Area of Special Biological Significance was approved unanimously.

### 7.2 Consider Approval of FY 2015 Continuation Budget

- O Glauthier explained that since we are in the process of implementing new project management software we decided to delay development of a complete budget, but that he requested a continuation budget that would outline our expenses for the first quarter of the new fiscal year. This was reviewed at the last Board meeting, and the minutes of that meeting go into detail about where these numbers came from.
- O Sturgeon asked why personnel expenses for this period are so much more than what has been spent in previous months. Nelson explained that since summer is construction season we have higher personnel demands during these months. In addition, this budget is meant to be conservative and outlines the maximum expenses that we anticipate.
- Kossy moved to approve the continuation budget, and Holland seconded. The FY 2015 Continuation Budget was approved unanimously.

### 7.3 Consider Adoption of the 2014 Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) Update

7.4 Consider Approval of Memorandum of Understanding with the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG)/San Francisco Estuary Partnership (SFEP)

- In order to receive funds through IRWMP we have to formally approve the Plan (Item 7.3). For us to apply for these funds, we also need to enter into a memorandum of understanding with ABAG/SFEP (Item 7.4). This is similar to the last IRWMP grant we got for solutions to Pescadero Road flooding.
- Reynolds moved to adopt the Plan and to approve the MOU, and Kossy second. Adoption
  of the 2014 Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) Update and the
  Memorandum of Understanding with the Association of Bay Area Governments
  (ABAG)/San Francisco Estuary Partnership (SFEP) was approved unanimously.

### 8 Adjourn

• Glauthier adjourned the meeting at 8:12 pm.

# Water for Agriculture and Fish in San Gregorio



Presented to San Mateo County RCD Board of Directors
June 26, 2014





















