



# REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

## NAPA COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

1303 Jefferson Street, Suite 500B, Napa, CA 94559

Phone: 707-252-4189, Website: <http://naparc.org/>

Thursday, July 12, 2018 at 8:00 A.M.

**District President:** Gretchen Stranzl McCann      **District Vice President:** Jim Lincoln  
**District Directors:** Ashley Anderson Bennett, Rainer Hoenicke, Jon Kanagy, Beth Painter, Bill Pramuk

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**Executive Director:** Lucas Patzek      **District Secretary:** Anna Mattinson      **District Counsel:** Shana Bagley

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### 1. WELCOME, CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL

A regular meeting of the Napa County Resource Conservation District was called to order at 7:59 A.M. on Thursday, July 11, 2018, by Board President Gretchen Stranzl McCann.

#### A. Roll Call

Directors present included Gretchen Stranzl McCann, Jim Lincoln, Ashley Anderson Bennett, Beth Painter, and Jon Kanagy. Associate Directors present included Margaret Woodbury, Mayacamas Olds and Bob Zlomke. RCD staff present included Lucas Patzek, Frances Knapczyk, Anna Mattinson, and Jonathan Koehler. NRCS staff present included Emma Chow and Kelly Gin. Francie Winnen of Friends of the Napa River was in attendance.

#### B. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Approved June 14, 2018 meeting minutes.

MOTION: Anderson Bennett; SECOND: Kanagy; AYES: Stranzl McCann, Lincoln, Anderson Bennett, and Kanagy; NOES: None; ABSENT: Hoenicke and Pramuk; ABSTENSIONS: Painter. Motion carried.

#### C. Ratification of District Bills

There were no bills for ratification.

#### D. Approval of District Bills

Approved bills in the amount of \$100,704.82 (\$29,847.52 regular batch; \$51,338.53 regular batch FY2019; \$4,506.48 Kaiser FY2019; \$15,012.29 journals FY2019).

MOTION: Kanagy; SECOND: Painter; AYES: Stranzl McCann, Lincoln, Anderson Bennett, Painter, Kanagy; NOES: None; ABSENT: Hoenicke and Pramuk;

ABSTENSIONS: None. Motion carried.

## **2. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

## **3. EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION**

There was no educational presentation scheduled.

## **4. CONSENT CALENDAR**

Approved the consent calendar.

MOTION: Anderson Bennett; SECOND: Lincoln; AYES: Stranzl McCann, Lincoln, Anderson Bennett, Painter, Kanagy; NOES: None; ABSENT: Hoenicke and Pramuk; ABSTENSIONS: None. Motion carried.

**A. RCD Activity Report for June.**

**B. NRCS Activity Report for June.**

**C. Authorize the addition of Lucas Patzek to NRCS Vehicle Use Agreement.**

**D. Authorize Frances Knapczyk to attend the 11th annual WaterSmart Innovations Conference held Oct. 3-5 in Las Vegas, NV.**

## **5. SET ITEMS OR PUBLIC HEARINGS**

There were no set items.

## **6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**A. Schedule a Special Meeting of the Board in August.**

Approved the scheduling of a special meeting of the Board on Monday, August 20, 2018 at 5-8 P.M. with a preferred location of Veteran's Memorial Park in Yountville.

MOTION: Kanagy; SECOND: Anderson Bennett; AYES: Stranzl McCann, Lincoln, Anderson Bennett, Painter, Kanagy; NOES: None; ABSENT: Hoenicke and Pramuk; ABSTENSIONS: None. Motion carried.

## **7. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Review and Discuss District Financial Reports.**

Accounts Receivable and Cash Flow Reports were presented.

### **B. Authorize the Joint Powers Agreement with County of Napa Department of Planning, Building and Environmental Services (PBES) to support Erosion Control Plan (ECP) technical assistance, fire recovery related technical assistance, and Acorns to Oaks programming.**

Approved authorization pending an amendment to the agreement that clarifies that the RCD will not be part of the environmental review process.

MOTION: Painter; SECOND: Lincoln; AYES: Stranzl McCann, Lincoln, Anderson Bennett, Painter, Kanagy; NOES: None; ABSENT: Hoenicke and Pramuk; ABSTENSIONS: None. Motion carried.

### **C. Authorize President to sign agreement Soil Health Coordinator Contract with California Association of Resource Conservation Districts (CARCD).**

Approved authorization.

MOTION: Kanagy; SECOND: Anderson Bennett; AYES: Stranzl McCann, Lincoln, Anderson Bennett, Painter, Kanagy; NOES: None; ABSENT: Hoenicke and Pramuk; ABSTENSIONS: None. Motion carried.

### **D. Authorize President to sign agreement with the City of Napa for RCD to provide water-wise landscaping education and on-call biologist services.**

Approved authorization.

MOTION: Lincoln; SECOND: Anderson Bennett; AYES: Stranzl McCann, Lincoln, Anderson Bennett, Painter, Kanagy; NOES: None; ABSENT: Hoenicke and Pramuk; ABSTENSIONS: None. Motion carried.

### **E. Annual review of NRCS and RCD Operational Agreement, and authorize the President to sign the agreement.**

Chow provided an overview of the three types of agreements between the NRCS and RCD: the Tier 1 mutual agreement last updated in 1998, the Tier 2 cooperative working agreement also last updated in 1998, and the operational agreement which is updated annually. Patzek provided an overview of the NRCS and RCD roles and activities listed in the updated operational agreement which is before the Board for approval. He pointed out that most roles and activities are the same as last year, except for the addition of sections for a Fire Response, Recovery and Resiliency Program and for Shared Equipment.

Approved authorization.

MOTION: Kanagy; SECOND: Painter; AYES: Stranzl McCann, Lincoln, Anderson Bennett, Painter, Kanagy; NOES: None; ABSENT: Hoenicke and Pramuk; ABSTENSIONS: None. Motion carried.

**F. Nomination of an RCD Director representative to the Watershed Information & Conservation Council (WICC).**

Approved Pramuk to be the RCD Director representative to the Watershed Information & Conservation Council (WICC), and for Patzek to submit a letter to WICC as an application confirming Pramuk's nomination.

MOTION: Lincoln; SECOND: Anderson Bennett; AYES: Stranzl McCann, Lincoln, Anderson Bennett, Painter, Kanagy; NOES: None; ABSENT: Hoenicke and Pramuk; ABSTENSIONS: None. Motion carried.

**G. Update on the discussions between the Friends of the Napa River (FONR) and RCD about a potential merger.**

Knapczyk and Painter summarized the conversations that have occurred between representatives of the RCD and FONR concerning the potential for a different type of cooperative partnership between the two organizations, and described what other RCDs in the state have done with forming 501(c)3 non-profit arms to support their activities. Winnen related the FONR Board's interest in remaining intact as a governing board of the organization while getting out of the business of fundraising to hire and retain professional administrative and program staff. She mentioned that the FONR Board is not interested in a merger with the RCD, but would like to explore opportunities for deeper partnerships with the RCD, particularly with respect

to watershed related education programs. RCD and FONR have a history of collaborating on education programs, including the WILD Napa series and the Acorns to Oaks program. It was recommended that RCD and FONR representatives meet again soon to refine the language of the MOU defining the exploratory relationship between the two organizations, and that the RCD Board be kept updated on developments.

#### **H. Discussion of RCD's role in community dialogues post Measure C.**

Lincoln described his perspective on the current state of the watershed protection debate following the narrow defeat of Measure C. There was discussion of what the RCD's role could be in bringing the community together in a conversation about next steps. It was agreed that the RCD should not play the primary facilitator role, an expert facilitation process consultant should be used for this role. However, the RCD could have an important role in providing data, engaging community stakeholders, and engaging in other neutral activities to support the community dialogue process. It was determined that Lincoln and Patzek should schedule a meeting with County Executive Officer Minh Tran to discuss a potential RCD role, as the County has expressed interest in hiring a third-party facilitator to conduct community meetings.

#### **I. Discuss Upcoming Events and Possible Director Participation.**

- a. Wild American Canyon. July 25. Coyotes
- b. Wild St Helena. July 26. Snakes
- c. Wild Napa. August 8. Otters
- d. North Bay Watershed Association meeting on July 13 in Corte Madera
- e. Bay Area IRWM Coordinating Committee Meeting in Oakland on July 23
- f. Napa County Local Food Advisory Council meeting on July 23
- g. Napa Valley Grapegrowers' 2018 Organic Winegrowing Conference on July 26
- h. CARCD Conference on Nov 14-17 in San Diego

#### **J. Identify possible agenda/discussion items for future meeting(s).**

There was interest in scheduling the following three public presentations in the near future:

- a. Youth Natural Resource Education Programming in Napa County – Eric McKee
- b. Re-oaking Initiative – Robin Grossinger
- c. Conversation with the new Region 3 Director of California Fish & Wildlife – Gregg Erickson
- d. Next steps post Measure C – Various speakers as needed

These are other potential agenda/discussion items for future meetings:

- a. Cannabis Industry Growth and Impact in Napa County
- b. Napa Valley Community Foundation activities
- c. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (Early 2018)
- d. How SGMA accounts for property's potential for groundwater recharge
- e. Climate Action Plan
- f. Garrett Allen, CDFW
- g. Waste Discharge Requirements for Vineyards (Periodic updates on program)
- h. Sonoma RCD Partnership and Programs
- i. Forest Management – cost of tree removal – Possible NRCS Assistance
- j. Backyard Pet Waste Composting – Eric McKee
- k. Land Trust of Napa County – Stewardship Program – Mike Palladini

#### **K. Correspondence.**

- a. The Crush magazine of the California Association of Winegrape Growers, Volume 45, Issue 6.
- b. Save-the-Date for 2018 CDFA FREP-WPHA Conference on Oct. 23-24 in Seaside, CA.
- c. CalPERS Employer News Spring 2018.
- d. Invitation for the 50<sup>th</sup> Napa County Farm Bureau Foundation's Love of the Land event on July 21 at Oak Knoll Ranch.
- e. Thank You card for RCD's involvement in 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Napa Volunteer Fair.

## **8. REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST, AND DIRECTORS' COMMENTS**

Lucas Patzek presented on the following:

- Streamflow and Fisheries:
  - Jonathan and Paul completed an extensive topographic survey of Bale Slough and Bear Creek, which included 22 individual channel cross-sections and a 7,570-foot survey. These data will be used to develop restoration plans for high priority areas identified during earlier phases of this project.
  - Paul, Jonathan, and Bill completed the last round of gravel permeability and streambed scour monitoring for the 2017-18 water year. In total, scour was measured at 30 locations in the mainstem Napa River and permeability was measured at 60 mainstem and 100 tributary sites. The results are being analyzed and compiled into a report to be prepared in the next month or so. A similar monitoring effort is planned for the 2018-19 water year.
- Events and LSK:
  - WILD Lectures continue. The WILD Napa presentation on June 13 on Beavers was attended by about 90 people and it included a field tour before the lecture. City of Napa Water Div partnering with RCD to host Wild Napa Trivia Night last night.
  - Eric is working with a County Intern to develop the 2019 Watershed Calendar by developing the design and format, coordinating volunteer photographers, and cataloging images.
  - Eric coordinated summer volunteers to continue maintenance and monitoring of oak plantings. Student volunteers completed all maintenance and monitoring of plantings at Alston and Skyline Parks. Further organization and maintenance of files, photos, and materials pertaining to the A2O program.
  - Eric has been packaging curricular content developed for the Youth Stewards program and aligning curricula to California Next Generation Science Standards. Compiling student assessment results from LSK and NYSC programs for program feedback, evaluation, and reporting.

- We've been closing out the EPA grant funding LSK, and seeking new funding. Eric worked with Frances to complete a grant proposal to fund the 4th year of the Napa Youth Stewardship Council for the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission (WCC).
- Water & Soil Health:
  - RCD staff conducted a LandSmart Vineyard Planning workshop on June 16th with about 20 attendees participating. This is part of the continuing outreach effort on how LandSmart can help vineyards achieve General Waste Discharge Requirements compliance.
  - Charles has been continuing his LS plan development work with Viader and Silenus, and provided assistance and partial review of Verhey Vineyard LS Plan. Bill continued to work with Kitchen Table and Inglenook on their Farm Plans.
  - Bill conducted 3 verification site visits with Charles and Sonoma RCD in Sonoma County. The 3 plans verified are Newton-Carneros, Riboli and Moore.
  - There has been a lot of activity concerning Carbon Farm Planning this month:
  - Frances, Charles and Lucas attended a project coordinator meeting at the Riverfront Regional Park, Healdsburg, June 7th to prioritize activities for the remainder of the grant period.
  - Charles presented on Napa's Carbon Farm Planning work at the Carbon Farm Planning meeting at TomKat Ranch. Pescadero on June 27th, 2018
  - Charles and I provided feedback to the USDA NRCS on their carbon farm planning guidance at a meeting in Petaluma on June 22nd.
- Vineyard
  - Charles has been training Lupe, as the seasonal irrigation intern, on the irrigation scheduling program at HCV, including management of soil moisture probe data, vine water status data, and CIMIS station data management. This irrigation scheduling program related tasks will be funded under this grant for the next 2 years.



- Charles and I are preparing for the HCV Advisory Committee meeting to occur on Thursday, July 19th at 8am at the vineyard.
- LandSmart Conservation Planning, WDR, Roads
  - Out of the 26 miles of roads that need to be storm-proofed for the SWRCB/EPA grant project, 7.5miles have been implemented. Bill is keeping in touch with Constellation and Treasury Estates about the status of the Right of Entry agreements. Bill revisited the Treasury property with Vineyard Manager and Contractor to reassess the cost post-fire. Bill is also continuing to work with City of American Canyon on permits and CEQA.
  - Bill is also assisting the Land Trust with road improvements on their Sutro and Foote Preserves, and exploring how EQIP might be utilized on some of their sites.
- PRA request from Peter Kiel
  - Attorney Peter Kiel of Dickenson, Peatman & Fogarty submitted a Public Records Act request on behalf of some unnamed vineyard industry clients on June 12, 2018 seeking records relating to the LandSmart program.
  - I worked with our County Counsel to clarify the request in order to narrow its scope, and to request a 14-day extension for our response.
  - In reviewing our USDA cooperator agreement with the Counsel we determined that all information relating to individual landowners and farm plans is confidential and protected under Section 1619 of the Farm Bill. Thus all we disclosed was the number of total plans we completed during the period of interest.
- Napa County meeting of the CARCD Bay-Delta Region group
  - I attended the Bay-Delta Region Meeting of the CARCD on June 28th, and volunteered then to host the next quarterly meeting in Napa County, to be held in September.
  - This is a unique meeting in that it is the regional competition for the Speak Off competition. The topic is "How can RCD's programs help landowners reduce the threat of fires?" The Bay Delta Region will award \$300, \$200 and \$100 to the top three speakers that attend our fall meeting. The top

student will advance to the State Competition in mid-November and compete for more prizes. The Bay Delta will also pay the expenses for the student to travel to the competition in San Diego. Must be a high school student, grades 9-12, at the time of state conference in November.

- CARCD would love for 1-2 Napa RCD Board Members to attend, so I'd like to see who here would be interested.

Emma Chow described recent updates from USDA NRCS:

## **9. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to end the meeting at 9:35 A.M.

MOTION: Anderson Bennett; SECOND: Kanagy; AYES: Stranzl McCann, Lincoln, Anderson Bennett, Painter, Kanagy; NOES: None; ABSENT: Hoenicke and Pramuk; ABSTENSIONS: None. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Anna Mattinson, District Secretary

(Recording #83)