

Upper Salinas – Las Tablas Resource Conservation District

Board of Directors Emergency Meeting Minutes

July 8, 2019

- I. Chair Susan Cochrane called the meeting to order at 9:05 am and determined a quorum was present. Directors present: Mike Bonnheim, Mary Bianchi, Chuck Pritchard, Susan Cochrane, George Kendall. Staff present: Executive Director Devin Best, Erin White. Members of the public present: none.
- II. Additions/Changes to the Agenda: none.
- III. Public Comment: none.
- IV. Consent Agenda. Minutes of the May 23, 2019 board of directors meeting were briefly reviewed. Erin White reviewed the May Treasurer's report, which had been prepared by Eric Kaltenbach prior to his resignation. Mary Bianchi moved approval of the May meeting minutes and May Treasurer's report (as corrected with corrected date). Chuck Pritchard seconded. Accepted unanimously.
- V. Board Action Items.
 - a. Treasurer Election. Devin Best discussed the Treasurer opening created by Eric Kaltenbach's resignation from the board. Mary Bianchi expressed interest in filling the position. Chuck Pritchard moved and Mike Bonnheim seconded that Mary Bianchi be nominated for Treasurer. Unanimous approval. Brief discussion of Treasurer responsibilities and coordination of upcoming year-end financial review.
 - b. R-RAW. Devin Best discussed the R-RAW (Restoration and Regenerative Agriculture Workspace) Phase I Implementation Plan and the conceptual budget that has been developed by the Justin property subcommittee and staff with intermittent board discussion. (Director Randy Heinz arrived at this point in the discussion) Devin discussed the proposed budget (included in the meeting packet). There was Board discussion about: explicit annual costs for proposed staff; amount of RCD staff involvement in the project's early years; status of on-site infrastructure; site access and security; and the general layout and potential uses of the +/- 360 acre property (wildlife area, flat potential agricultural area, and denuded hillside). There was discussion about a less expensive/more passive land management approach for the property as opposed to the more visionary or goal-oriented approach proposed by R-RAW. A land use attorney will advise the RCD about future legal status issues of the property, including the right to sell and potential liability issues. Chuck Pritchard moved that the proposal (conceptual budget including a \$10,000,000.00 endowment and totaling \$14,345,222.87 over 5 years) be presented to Justin. Seconded by Mike Bonnheim. Motion passed with one abstention. Devin Best indicated he would take the proposal to Maria Kelly of Justin in July.
 - c. Fiscal Year 2019/2020 Budget. Susan Cochrane introduced the FY 2019/2020 budget (included in the meeting packet). Devin Best discussed the year's firm grant and other funding sources (grant income \$361,952.98). Not yet approved grant applications are

listed, but no amounts are included in the budget. Estimated Fee for Service (\$25,000) is based on prior years' amounts. Other income \$670.00. Total estimated income \$387,622.98. Devin discussed estimated expenses by category. Total estimated expenses \$336,239.47. Estimated income/surplus \$51,383.51. Randy Heinzen moved to approve the FY 2019/2020 budget as proposed. Chuck Pritchard second. Approved unanimously.

VI. Adjournment. Susan Cochrane adjourned the meeting at 9:55 am.