

Upper Salinas – Las Tablas Resource Conservation District

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

February 23, 2022

Templeton, CA

- I. Call to Order. Chair Susan Cochrane called the meeting to order at 4:06 pm and determined a quorum was present. Directors attending: Susan Cochrane, Margy Lindquist, Mary Bianchi, Tom Mora, Randy Heinzen, and Mike Broadhurst (by phone) and George Kendall. Staff present: Devin Best.
- II. Additions/Changes to the Agenda. None.
- III. Public Comment. None.
- IV. RCD Reports.
  - a. Board Updates. George Kendall reported on his recent discussion with Creeklands regarding the Santa Rosa Creek Stream Flow Enhancement project and the difficulty in finding projects acceptable by some of the property owners despite the various technical studies done. There was board discussion about aligning property owner and funding agency objectives and incentives.
  - b. Executive Director's Report. Devin Best reported on the ED's report included in the meeting packet. Highlights included plans for the RCD's participation as a subcontractor to Kellen in the Gerhardt project repair. RCD will do instream work. There was discussion about the data for the various Santa Rosa Stream Flow project studies. There was discussion about the Sustainable Farming Initiative, which is related to carbon farming. Topics included consultant cBrain's role, cost to the RCD (\$20,000 not yet invoiced), how the program could be established and funded (Zero Food Print may provide some funding), whether other RCDs might participate, etc.
  - c. 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Budget Review. Devin Best presented a midterm review of the RCD's budget, including monthly summaries (July 2021 through January 2022 of net income, grant income, total expenses, professional fees, wages, and income remaining. A Financial Summary graph shows that net income has been slightly positive to slightly negative during the period with September being the most negative (due to truck purchase). D. Best discussed the status of all on-going and recently closed income-generating projects, including explanation and discussion of the spending histories and expectations of the various projects. The Sustainable Farming Initiative costs will be paid out of the General Fund. It was agreed to do a similar review next quarter.
  - d. Covell Ranch. D. Best provided a handout summarizing forest treatment work and demonstration projects completed since the PWP approval; site visits; and anticipated future work. There was discussion of the progress and acknowledgment that the work

is being well received by the various agencies and groups involved/overseeing the project.

V. Consent.

- a. Minutes. S. Cochrane asked for comments/changes to the January meeting minutes. There were none.
- b. Treasurer's Report. M. Bianchi discussed the January Treasurer's report. She noted there were several recent months with negative or only slightly positive net income. Minor typographical error. Randy Heinzen moved approval of the Consent Agenda. Tom Mora seconded. Directors approved the motion 7-0-1 with M. Bianchi abstaining

VI. Other Agency, Director and Association Reports. None.

VII. Board Action Item.

- a. RCD Policy Packet. D. Best provided a hand out that summarized recently reworked policies on Reimbursement, Reserves, Personnel Handbook, Harassment, Telework, Fee for Service, Purchasing, and Procurement. He discussed the major policy changes and thanked Margy Lindquist, Mary Bianchi and Erin White for assisting in the updates. The goal is to update policies annually in the Spring (May). Mary Bianchi moved to approve the policy updateschanges. Margy Lindquist seconded. Directors unanimously approved.

VIII. Agenda Setting.

- a. Site visit – probably Jada Vineyard. Next meeting is March 24.

IX. Closed Session. The board and D. Best entered closed session at 5:36 pm. Closed session ended at 7:10 pm.

- a. Legal matters – property discussion. The board gave approval to proceed with a potential property donation.
- b. Personnel matters. The board reviewed personnel matters and provided guidance.

X. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 pm.