

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Richard C. Brody
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Laurie Price
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Beth Burnam
Director

Riki Clark
Director

District Manager
Tracy Lovric

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

EIGHT-HUNDRED SIXTY-FIRST MEETING

Monday February 24, 2025—6:00 P.M.

Location: RCD District Office, 4505 Las Virgenes Road, Suite 215, Calabasas

Minutes

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** this meeting was called to order by President R.C. Brody at 6:01 PM. A quorum was established with Directors Richard Brody, Nancy Helsey, Laurie Price and Riki Clark in attendance. Also in attendance were Associate Directors Dennis Washburn, District Manager Tracy Lovric, Administrative Operations Manager Lisa Rand and Controller Art Renzi.
2. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** Brooks Engelhardt (NRCS), Staff members Shelly Backlar and Marilyn Brody French and community member Bill Neill joined virtually
3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None
4. **USDA/NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE REPORT:** Brooks Engelhardt gave a report on recent NRCS activities. Mr. Engelhardt informed on NRCS and CALFIRE post fire programs as well as teams in place for post fire erosion control. Nancy Helsley asked about changes to NRCS national leadership, Mr. Engelhardt informed that there is an interim director in place for the Chief of the NRCS.
5. **MINUTES:** Approval of minutes for the Board meeting on January 27, 2025. The Board reviewed the minutes and voted to approve them as presented. President R.C. Brody motioned to approve. Ms. Price/Ms. Helsley approved 4-0
6. **FINANCIAL REPORTING:**
 - Controller Art Renzi informed \$75K was put back into reserves in February and projected 50K to go back in April pending receipt of April tax revenue.
 - The Board discussed exploring alternate resources for interest-bearing accounts in the future to build up reserves.

7. REGULAR CALENDAR

- Guest Bill Neill gave a presentation on post fire invasive arundo control in lower Topanga. Mr. Neill expressed the importance of implementing control now and informed of opportunities for herbicide use. Mr. Neill requests that RCDSMM help to educate on this matter.
- Board Member Nancy Helsey requested RCDSMM pay \$600 to support the continuation of the Envirothon website. President R.C. Brody motioned to approve. Ms. Clark/Ms. Price approved 4-0
- Regular item updating CALTRUST signatures postponed until the next meeting.
- Request for the districts signature seeking congressional support for USC Sea Grant programs. District Manager T. Lovric to sign. President R.C. Brody motioned to approve. Ms. Price/Ms. Clark 4-0

8. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS: Staff Reports for November 2024 were presented in a board packet.

- Administrative Operations Manager L. Rand requested a discussion on the Board's preference for information for staff reports. The board agreed on 1 page document that highlights the department's achievements. General fund/Billed time ratios to be presented outside of board packet.

9. DISTRICT MANAGER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- District Manager T. Lovric gave a slideshow presentation on 2024 in review.
- Informational on Santa Monica Bay Foundation Commission chairs and that RCDSMM still holds a chair.

10.DIRECTORS' COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Director R. Clark proposed the district go after prop W funding.
- Associate Director D. Washburn urged the district to speak on funding opportunities with the North Santa Monica Business Advising Committee.

11. ADJOURNMENT: This meeting was adjourned at 7:47 PM Ms. Price/Ms. Clark 4-0

12. CLOSED SESSION: Opened at 7:59 PM, closed at 8:47 PM. Ms. Clark/Ms. Helsey

- Personnel issues discussed

Submitted By: _____
Lisa Rand, Administrative Operations Manager

Date: _____

Approved By: _____
R.C. Brody, president, Board of Directors

Date: _____