

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Richard C. Brody
President

Laurie Price
Vice President

Nancy Helsley
Treasurer

Beth Burnam
Director

Riki Clark
Director

District Manager
Tracy Lovric

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

EIGHT-HUNDRED SIXTY-FIRST MEETING

Monday March 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 6:03 PM. A quorum was established with Directors Richard Brody, Nancy Helsey and Laurie Price. Director Riki Clark and Beth Burnam joined virtually as well as Associate Directors Chris Doran and Deborah Klien Lopez. 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 Jelly Kahler, Marilyn Brody French and Rosi Dagit; Community members Steve Rosentweig Laura Dampf, Liz Herron, Roger Pugliese, Joseph Rosendo, Alisa Lard and Tigris Powers.
 - A. President R.C. Brody presented former RCDSMM Board Member Steve Rosentweig with a certificate of recognition for the Board of Supervisors on his years of service as a Director of the RCDSMM.
3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**
 - A. Community members from the Topanga Chamber of Commerce as well as the Topanga Association for a Scenic Community attended the meeting to express their concerns over the reopening of Topanga Canyon Blvd. post Palisades fire. Community members Roger Pugliese expressed his concerns for how rapidly Caltrans is working to open Topanga County Blvd. and fears of losing some of its scenic elements and requested RCDMM's support to help restore the scenic elements. Staff member Rosi Dagit shared photos of areas of the road that have been damaged. Ms. Dagit also informed us that many of the damage was on State Park's land so certain elements would need to be taken into consideration by Caltrans. Mr. Pugliese requested an agenda item for updates on this matter for the coming months.
 - B. Community members Alisa Lard and Tigris Powers addressed the board as members of Indivisible Topanga to request that the RCDSMM work with them to help advocate with elective officials on the recent executive orders potentially

affecting the environment in our communities. President R.C. Brody noted that we are not activists but asked District Manager T. Lovric to investigate our ability to write a formal letter of endorsement.

4. USDA/NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE REPORT:

A. Brooks Engelhardt gave a report on recent NRCS activities. Mr. Engelhardt informed us of a April 1 deadline for the conservation Stewardships Program.

5. MINUTES: Approval of minutes for the Board meeting on February 24, 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 3-0

6. FINANCIAL REPORTING:

A. Controller A. Renzi gave a presentation of the previous month's financials. President R.C Brody requested notes for any outstanding items over \$70k. A. Renzi informed of intent to replenish 50k in reserves in April bearing receipt of tax increment. President R.C. Bordy asked to increase to 75-100K if possible.

7. REGULAR CALENDAR

A. Approval of Resolution No 2025-03-24 A; Contract from the department of regional planning, Los Angeles County for "significant ecological areas study and CEQA analysis for conservation and natural resources element update (RFP-DRP-53825). Ms. Helsley/ Ms. Price approved 3-0

B. Approval of Resolution No. 2025-03-24 B; Approval of accepted funds from the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) through the California Department of Conservation's regional forest and fire capacity program. Ms. Helsley/ Ms. Price approved 3-0

C. Request for potential future contribution for CARCD's federal lobbyist was approved for future discussion if needed. President R.C. Brody asked for the amount that is paid in annual dues to CARCD. There was also a brief discussion on another call that was received by a lobbyist for changes to the brown act by R.C. Brody and T. Lovric. It was noted that we need to receive the fact sheet.

D. Updating board members and acquiring wet signatures for Cal TRUST accounts was completed prior to the bord meeting.

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

9. DISTRICT MANAGER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. The Director of education gave a presentation on the district’s Education program. Through this presentation a discussion was had on funding needs for the district’s education program. President R.C. Brody and Director R. Clark gave two potential upcoming resources for funding, Santa Monica Trails and a local film festival.

10. DIRECTORS’ COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Director Beth Burnam announced that the district was featured on KTLA for its home ignition zone evaluations on March 6, 2025.

11. ADJOURNMENT: This meeting was adjourned at 8:21 Ms. Price/Ms. Helsley approved 3-0

12. CLOSED SESSION: Opened at 8:27 PM, closed at 9:33 PM. Ms. Price/Ms. Helsley approved 3-0

- A. Personnel issues discussed

Submitted By: _____
Lisa Rand, Administrative Operations Manager

Date: _____

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

Date: _____