

**PLACER COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
Regular Meeting  
October 21, 2008**

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Placer County Resource Conservation District (RCD) Board was called to order by RCD Board Chair Tom Wehri at 4:00 p.m.

MEMBERS AND OTHERS PRESENT

Directors Present: Thomas (Tom) Wehri  
Steven (Steve) Garcia  
Robert (Bob) Wiswell, Jr.  
Stanley (Stan) MacDonald  
Claudia Smith  
Andrew (Dave) Funk

Directors Absent: Scott Harvey

Others Present: Rich Gresham, RCD Manager  
Mark White, RCD Resource Management Planner  
Katie Maloney, RCD Programs Manager  
Ryan Bellanca, RCD/NRCS GIS Coordinator

APPROVE THE AGENDA

Stan MacDonald moved to approve the agenda as presented. Claudia Smith seconded; motion carried unanimously.

GUESTS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

APPROVE PREVIOUS MINUTES

Stan MacDonald moved to approve the minutes of the September 19, 2008 RCD Board Meeting as presented. Claudia Smith seconded; motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Katie Maloney presented the Financial Statements and the Grants and Programs Summaries for the month ending September 30, 2008

Stan MacDonald moved to approve the financial statements and reports as presented. Bob Wiswell seconded; motion carried unanimously.

BUSINESS

New Business:

- a) *Discussion to Consider and Possible Action Re: 2008-2009 RCD Budget:*  
Katie Maloney reviewed a revised RCD 2008-2009 Budget that reflects expected tax revenues as per the County of Placer's 2008-2009 allocations in light of the State Budget passed by the Legislature that did not reduce tax revenues to Special Districts by 8% as reflected in the RCD Budget passed by the Board last month. Expenses are reflected at the same levels approved by the Board. Bob Wiswell moved to approve the revised budget as presented. Stan MacDonald seconded; motion carried unanimously
- b) *Discussion to Consider and Possible Action Re: NRCS/RCD GIS Project Cost Sharing Partnership Agreements:*  
Rich reported the cost sharing agreement with Georgetown Divide RCD has been executed by the Georgetown Divide RCD Board and asked the Board to execute the \$5K agreement as presented. Steve Garcia moved to execute the Georgetown Divide RCD Agreement as presented. Claudia Smith seconded; motion carried unanimously.
- c) *Discussion to Consider and Possible Action Re: RCD Resolution #08-05:*  
Rich Gresham reviewed the proposed Sierra Nevada Conservancy Agreement Amendment #1 providing \$100,001 in additional funding support of the current SNC Services Request and extending the Agreement term to June 30 2009. After a short discussion, Rich requested the Board pass Resolution #08-05 approving the proposed amendment and authorizing Rich to execute the Agreement on behalf of the RCD. Stan MacDonald moved to pass Resolution #08-05 as presented. Bob Wiswell seconded; motion carried unanimously.
- d) *Discussion to Consider and Possible Action Re: RCD Watershed Coordinator Funding Proposal Submission on behalf of the American River Watershed Group (ARWG):*  
Rich reviewed the proposed submission of a funding proposal on behalf of the ARWG that if awarded funding would provide \$5K-\$20K in gap funding for a watershed coordinator while the ARWG continues to pursue additional funding for coordination. After a brief discussion, Dave Funk moved to approve the funding proposal submission as requested. Claudia Smith seconded; motion carried unanimously.
- e) *Discussion to Consider and Possible Action Re: RCD Funding Proposal to Develop Riparian Buffer Parameters:*  
Rich reported the State Regional Water Quality Control Board (SRWQCB) is interested in developing science-based parameters for determining appropriate riparian corridor buffers in CALFED Watersheds and indicated Dr. Richard Harris' interest in developing a proposal in response to the SRWQCB Request for Qualifications. Rich requested the Board consider approving submission of a funding proposal to develop a decision-making support tool to guide local land use planners in sizing riparian buffers, and provide training and outreach on use of the tool.

Dave Funk suggested the Board be kept abreast of proposal development and be provided an opportunity to comment on the draft proposal before taking action.

After Board discussion regarding the desire to review the proposal before the November 14<sup>th</sup> submission deadline, the Board decided to move their regular meeting date up to November 10<sup>th</sup>. The earlier meeting date will provide an opportunity for the full Board to review and consider approving submission of the Riparian Buffer proposal for funding consideration.

f) *Discussion to Consider and Possible Action Re: CARCD Annual Meeting Delegate Selection:*

The Board reviewed who would be attending the CARCD Annual Meeting in selecting their Delegate and Alternate representatives to the CARCD Annual Meeting. Tom Wehri planning to attend, volunteered to serve as the Board's Delegate and suggested Dave Funk, also attending, serve as Alternate.

Dave agreed to serve as Alternate with Tom's offer to mentor him through the process as a first time attendee.

Stan MacDonald moved to select Tom Wehri as Delegate and Dave Funk as Alternate to the CARCD Annual Meeting. Bob Wiswell seconded; motion carried unanimously.

g) *Discussion to Consider and Possible Action Re: CARCD Resolutions:*

The Board reviewed draft proposed CARCD Resolutions and provided feedback to Tom and Dave in preparation for the CARCD Annual Meeting. The Board provided the following feedback:

- Inheritance Tax Resolution: Board feels language too vague; needs more development before support can be given
- Conservation Reserve Program/Local Decision Making: Board supports unanimously
- Sierra Fractured Rock Water Capacity Study: Board feels local issue not statewide issue; more appropriate to provide a letter of support for study
- CA Rangeland Conservation Coalition/Reduction of Permitting Barriers to Conservation: Board supports unanimously
- Statewide Water Program/Incorporation of Specific Requirements of Local Governments & Practices: Board supports unanimously

It is expected that all draft resolutions will be revised as they move through the subcommittee structure at the annual meeting and gave their representatives Tom Wehri and Dave Funk the authority to exercise their judgment regarding final resolutions in terms of casting a vote on behalf of the Board.

*h) Discussion to Consider and Possible Action Re: Sierra Coordinated Resources Management Council 2<sup>nd</sup> Alternate Selection:*

The Board considered the selection of their 2<sup>nd</sup> Alternate to the Sierra Coordinated Resources Management Council. Claudia Smith volunteered to serve as 2nd Alternate; the Board unanimously accepted her offer to serve on their behalf.

RCD COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

DIRECTORS' REPORTS

*Stan MacDonald:*

- Stan attended the CARCD Fall Regional Meeting in Mariposa and reported on the activities that took place there including the Speak-off Contest where the District's student representative, Clarise Bankus, placed third. It was reported State Conservationist Ed Burton will be visiting each RCD in the near future to confer and determine local needs. The Georgetown Divide RCD will be hosting the CARCD Spring Regional Meeting the date to be determined.

*Steve Garcia:*

- Steve reported attending meetings related to the Placer County Conservation Plan (PCCP) with CalFire Unit Chief and County Office of Emergency Services personnel. Steve indicated he sees future opportunities for the District related to the PCCP, but expressed concerns about governance issues, adaptive management capabilities, and funding mechanisms as relates to the PCCP.

*Bob Wiswell:*

- Bob reported attending the Farm & Barn event.
- The High Sierra Resource Conservation & Development Council (HSRC&D) met and Bob passed on his RC&D Presidential duties on to another.
- Bob reminded the Board that the CARCD Annual Meeting & Conference is being held jointly with state RC&Ds and requested representation from his Alternate, Tom Wehri.

Tom acknowledged his intention to attend some of the meetings pertaining to RC&Ds in Bob's stead, on behalf of the Board.

*Dave Funk:*

- Dave reported Placer County Planner Loren Clark has offered to meet with the District to discuss mitigation easement opportunities.
- Dave reported continued meetings with the Placer Land Trust (PLT) pertaining to potential collaboration related to conservation easement/mitigation efforts and requested Board permission to conduct site

visits related to PLT priority projects properties. The Board fully supported Dave's efforts.

*Tom Wehri:*

- Tom reported he has submitted the District for the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) award for the collaboration on behalf of the Board with the assistance of Rich and Katie in drafting the submittal language.
- Tom reported he will assisting with preparations for the CARCD Annual Meeting and Conference.

*Claudia Smith:*

- Claudia reported being busy planting lettuces and herbs as well as participating in a marathon.

RCD STAFF REPORTS

In addition to the written activity reports for the month of September, submitted in the Board Package, the following points were discussed:

- Rich Gresham handed our RCD website statistics provided by the RCD Webmaster, Dorene Matney.
- Rich reported he has requested the Placer County Board of Supervisors recommend new terms for Directors Claudia, Bob, and Tom. He indicated the county has begun the process to replace Stan's position on the Board by posting the vacancy and collecting applications from those interested in serving on the Board.
- Mark White reported conducting erosion control workshops in preparation for the busy winter season. Three workshops have already been conducted with three additional workshops are planned.
- Mark has been accompanying Placer County Community Development Resource Agency (CDRA) and Regional Water Quality Control Board personnel to on-site inspections.
- Katie confirmed the headcount for the CARCD Annual Meeting and Conference.
- Katie Maloney reported Robert W. Johnson CPA has been selected in response to the Request for Proposals for CPA services for the 2007-2008 Audit after the unsatisfactory performance of Blomberg and Griffin in connection with the 2006-2007 Audit. She continues to pursue the completion of the 2006-2007 Financial Statements. She reported Robert W. Johnson has Special District experience and has conducted audits for several local entities that have given great references for Mr. Johnson's firm.

- Ryan reported he has been working with Colfax Middle School students and participated in Wildfire on the Divide public outreach effort at Rich's request. He also participated in the 3-day Annual Watershed Education Summit at Mark Egbert's request.

#### AGENCY REPORTS

No report given other than the written activity report for September/October, submitted in the Board Package.

#### COMMUNICATIONS

- Letters of Support to the Sierra Nevada Conservancy for the CARCD funding proposal, *Quantifying Sediment Delivery from Native Roads, Diversion Ditches, and Mines within the Yuba, Bear, American, and Cosumnes River Watersheds to Identify and Prioritize Future Restoration Projects*, from the Placer County, Nevada County, Georgetown Divide, and El Dorado County RCDs.
- RCD letter dated September 15<sup>th</sup> to the Placer County Clerk of the Board Administrative Secretary, Megan Ciafardoni, requesting the Board of Supervisors renew the terms of Directors Bob Wiswell, Claudia Smith, and Tom Wehri. The letter also requests a list of qualified candidates to fill the vacancy resulting from the retirement of Director Stan MacDonald.
- RCD cover letter dated September 17<sup>th</sup> for the RCD/NRCS GIS Contribution Agreement dated September 16<sup>th</sup>.
- RCD letter of support dated September 18<sup>th</sup> to City of Rocklin Director of Public Works, Kent Foster for their grant application to improve the water quality in the Dry Creek Watershed.
- RCD Letter dated October 3<sup>rd</sup> informing the CPA firm of Blomberg & Griffin that they were not selected to perform the District's 2007-2008 Audit and requesting 2006-2007 Audit Report.
- RCD Letter dated October 3<sup>rd</sup> informing the CPA firm of Robert W. Johnson that they were selected to perform the District's 2007-2008 Audit.
- Placer County Clerk-Recorder-Elections letter regarding new Fair Political Practices Commission rules regarding the reporting of gifts to public agencies.
- US Fish & Wildlife Services Releases New Proposal to Designate Critical Habitat for CA Red-Legged Frog;
- CDRA letter dated September 26<sup>th</sup> regarding public hearing on acquiring a conservation easement on 40 acres of farmland located at 5841 Fruitvale Rd.

- Pacific Gas & Electric cover letter dated September 24<sup>th</sup> for a \$500 stipend to support the Wildfire on the Divide public outreach efforts.
- Placer County Flood Control & Water Conservation District meeting cancellation notice
- Placer County Flood Control & Water Conservation District Technical Advisory Committee October 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting agenda and minutes of August 7<sup>th</sup> meeting
- Western Forestry and Conservation Association *Managing Climate Change Risk in Forests* Conference registration materials
- Resource Conservation & Development Councils in the Sierra Nevada publication, *A Great American Success Story*
- Winter 2008 PNSSNS Subwatershed Group Newsletter
- Fall 2008 NACD publication, *The Resource*
- NACD newsletter, *Forestry Notes*, for October 2008
- CalFire's *Smokey's 2009 Forest Fire Prevention and Conservation Project Catalog*
- CA Special District Association publication, *CA Special District*, for September/October 2008
- Fall 2008 *Special Edition CA Forests*

#### FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The November RCD Board Meeting Agenda will include the following items:

- CALFED Riparian Buffer Proposal Consideration
- RCD Technical Assistance Options

#### ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to conduct, Claudia Smith moved for adjournment. Stan MacDonald seconded; motion carried unanimously. Tom Wehri adjourned the meeting at 5:50 p.m.