



Napa County Resource Conservation District Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

MINUTES

When: Thursday, March 10, 2022 at 8:00 A.M.

Where: Tele/videoconference

Bruce Barge President	Rainer Hoenicke Vice President	Ashley Anderson Bennett Director	Jon Kanagy Director	Jim Lincoln Director	Bill Pramuk Director	Gretchen Stranzl McCann Director
	Lucas Patzek Executive Director	Anna Mattinson District Secretary	Shana Bagley District Counsel	Tracy Schulze Auditor-Controller		

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL

A regular meeting of the Napa County Resource Conservation District was called to order at 8:01 A.M. on Thursday, March 10, 2022 by President Bruce Barge. This meeting was conducted pursuant to California Government Code Section 54953 and Governor’s Executive Order N-25-20, in that directors participated only by electronic means, through either audio (i.e., teleconference) or video (videoconference), or both. All directors present indicated that they there were able to hear everything clearly over the tele/videoconference system.

A. Roll call

Directors present included Ashley Anderson Bennett, Bruce Barge, Jon Kanagy, Jim Lincoln, and Bill Pramuk. Associate Directors present included Bryan Avila and Matt Reid. RCD staff present included Anna Mattinson, Lucas Patzek, Danielle Ashton, Ali Blodorn, Frances Knapczyk, and District Counsel Shana Bagley was present. NRCS staff present included Evelyn Denzin.

B. Approval of the agenda

Approved the agenda for this meeting.
MOTION: Kanagy; SECOND: Anderson Bennett; AYES: Anderson Bennett, Barge, Kanagy, Lincoln, and Pramuk; NOES: None; ABSENT: Hoenicke, Stranzl McCann; ABSTENSIONS: None. Motion carried.

C. Approval of meeting minutes

Approved minutes from the February 10, 2022 regular meeting.

MOTION: Anderson Bennett; SECOND: Kanagy; AYES: Anderson Bennett, Barge, Kanagy, Lincoln, and Pramuk; NOES: None; ABSENT: Hoenicke, Stranzl McCann; ABSTENSIONS: None. Motion carried.

D. Ratification of District bills

There were no bills to ratify.

E. Approval of District bills

Approved the District bills for February 2022 in the amount of \$33,305.28 (\$25,171.41 regular bills and \$8,133.87 for Kaiser benefits).

MOTION: Lincoln; SECOND: Pramuk; AYES: Anderson Bennett, Barge, Kanagy, Lincoln, and Pramuk; NOES: None; ABSENT: Hoenicke, Stranzl McCann; ABSTENSIONS: None. Motion carried.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

Approved the consent calendar.

MOTION: Kanagy; SECOND: Anderson Bennett; AYES: Anderson Bennett, Barge, Kanagy, Lincoln, and Pramuk; NOES: None; ABSENT: Hoenicke, Stranzl McCann; ABSTENSIONS: None. Motion carried.

A. Authorize Executive Director to execute Amendment No. 2 to Agreements 2019-09 and 2019-10.

B. Authorize Executive Director to execute agreements with Rebuild North Bay Foundation (RNBF) and two landowners for the North Bay Forest Improvement Program (NBFIP).

4. OLD BUSINESS

A. Governance Committee update.

Bruce Barge provided an update on the associate director recruiting and engagement process, and requested feedback on the spring recruitment plan to on-board 3-4 new associate directors. He shared the plans for the Special Board Meeting to occur on April 28th at 4-6 P.M. which would recognize directors and associate directors who recently left the Napa RCD, provide key programmatic updates from staff, and provide for socializing. He also described the initial plan for creating advisory committees around four program areas, and how the Governance Committee will work with a strategic planning consultant to design the advisory committee process including outlining goals, describing how board-

staff interaction works, and exploring how we roll the input into useful planning processes (like our annual planning / workload projection process).

B. Huichica Creek Vineyard (HCV) update.

Napa RCD conducted a Request for Proposals (RFP) for “Professional Services for Removal of Vines and Related Infrastructure at Huichica Creek Vineyard” to remove approximately 9.6 acres of wine grape vines and related infrastructure. Two firms submitted proposals, and staff recommends that the Board approve entering into an agreement with Romero Vineyard Management LLC for these specialized services.

Approved entering into an agreement with Romero Vineyard Management LLC for “Professional Services for Removal of Vines and Related Infrastructure at Huichica Creek Vineyard.”

MOTION: Lincoln; SECOND: Pramuk; AYES: Anderson Bennett, Barge, Kanagy, Lincoln, and Pramuk; NOES: None; ABSENT: Hoenicke, Stranzl McCann; ABSTENSIONS: None. Motion carried.

Because we have completed the RFP for vine removal services and we know how much it will cost, it is recommended that the Board take action at the next regular Board meeting to “Release the commitment to available fund balance of the \$100,000 committed to HCV improvements.” Because a Board motion made this commitment to HCV, a Board motion will need to uncommit this money.

We currently have a contract with Oak Knoll Farming Corporation for vineyard management services which rolls over each year unless we provide 30 days written notice before the end of the calendar year. We intend launch a new RFP process this fall for vineyard management services to manage our remaining chardonnay block, cider apples, and maybe some minimal other management over the remaining property, like cover crop seeding and mowing.

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion about California Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) compliance for board members and staff.

Every elected official and public employee who makes or influences governmental decisions is required to submit a [Statement of Economic Interest](#), also known as the Form 700. The Form 700 provides transparency and ensures accountability. Shana Bagley will provide a review of FPPC compliance requirements. She is available to assist directors navigate this process should there be any questions.

6. EDUCATION PRESENTATION

Executive Director Janelle Sellick and Board President Raffi Boloyan of the American Canyon Community & Parks Foundation (ACCPF) shared the mission and programs of ACCPF,

upcoming ACCPF-RCD partnership activities and how they fit into ACCPF's overall goals, as well as plans for the Wetland Education Center.

7. REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST, AND DIRECTORS' COMMENTS

Lucas Patzek (Napa RCD Executive Director) gave the following updates on current Napa RCD and CARCD projects and activities:

- Upcoming events that might be of interest to board members:
 - [Soil Regen Summit](#) – a free, 4-day virtual summit on March 15-18 with world-renowned experts in regenerative ag and ecosystem restoration are working towards a better future for our planet.
 - OVOK Project Completion Celebration on Thursday April 7th 1-3pm celebrating the completion of the Napa River Restoration Project. Napa RCD has been involved all along and continues to provide monitoring support. Please write to Anna (Anna@NapaRCD.org) if you would like to attend.
 - [North Bay Watershed Association \(NBWA\) Virtual Conference](#) on Friday, April 8th at 9am-3pm. The theme is Weathering Extremes of Climate Change Together. The agenda and registration will be released shortly. Frances on staff has been helping NBWA organize the conference.
 - [NapaTHRIVES](#) will be a series of six half-day, tightly focused events organized around the Six Pillars of Sustainable Winegrowing Leadership: water, energy, waste, pest management, JEDI, climate action. To occur June 7-25. Napa RCD is a community partner.
- CARCD updates:
 - The Draft CARCD JEDI Charter was discussed at the CARCD February 28 meeting and is slated to be officially approved today. The JEDI (Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion) Committee provides support to CARCD and RCDs which strive to prevent, interrupt, and confront injustices, inequities, and discrimination, as well as identify and provide recommendations, tools, actions, protocols, policies and interventions to break down systemic barriers and uplift historically disenfranchised voices in the resource conservation community.
 - The Bay-Delta region meeting occurred on February 24th and was chaired by Rainer Hoenicke.
 - The North Coast CARCD region is having its regional meeting via zoom on April 27th at 12:30-2pm. Our Board is welcome to participate, just tell me.
- Two pieces of legislation to follow:
 - [AB-1902 Resource conservation: resource conservation districts](#)
 - [AB-1640 Office of Planning and Research: regional climate networks: regional climate adaptation and resilience action plans](#)

Evelyn Denzin (NRCS District Conservationist) gave the following updates on current NRCS projects and activities:

- Prescribed Grazing for Fuels Management workshop occurred yesterday in Calistoga and was a great success.
- NRCS is promoting Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) and looking for applicants. Next deadline is April 1, 2022. Through CSP, producers earn payments for actively managing, maintaining, and expanding conservation activities integrated within their agricultural operations. CSP enhancements like cover crops, grazing management, ecologically based pest management and buffer strips help producers improve soil health while protecting water quality. Other CSP activities help sustain and increase pollinator and beneficial insect habitat in harmony with agriculture production on their land. CSP also encourages the adoption of cutting-edge technologies such as advanced irrigation water management techniques and precision nutrient application. CSP helps increase plant community diversity on range and forestland and improves water quality on all agricultural land uses.
- Evelyn is serving as Acting District Conservationist for Sonoma County.

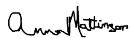
Additional Director reports:

- Director Bill Pramuk shared that the Sudden Oak Death Blitz in Napa will either be April 2-3 or 9-10. Request that RCD share through newsletter and social media. Next year let's explore having an up valley pick up/drop off site.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Bruce Barge adjourned this meeting at 9:36 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Anna Mattinson, District Secretary

(Zoom Recording)