



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

MINUTES

When: Thursday, May 12, 2022 at 8:00 A.M.

Where: Tele/videoconference

Bruce Barge President	Rainer Hoenicke Vice President	Jon Kanagy Director	Jim Lincoln Director	Bill Pramuk Director	Gretchen Stranzl McCann Director	Vacant 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 8:03 A.M. on Thursday, May 12, 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 Bruce Barge, Rainer Hoenicke, Jon Kanagy, Jim Lincoln, and Bill Pramuk. Associate Directors present included Bryan Avila, Joe Nordlinger, Matt Reid, and Pierre Washington. RCD staff present included Lucas Patzek, Anna Mattinson, Frances Knapczyk, and Ali Blodorn, and District Counsel Shana Bagley was present. NRCS staff present included Evelyn Denzin and Erika Valek.
- B. Approval of the agenda**
Approved the agenda for this meeting.
MOTION: Kanagy; SECOND: Hoenicke; AYES: Barge, Hoenicke, Kanagy, Lincoln, and Pramuk; NOES: None; ABSENT: Stranzl McCann; ABSTENSIONS: None. Motion carried.
- C. Approval of meeting minutes**
Approved minutes from the April 28, 2022 special meeting.
MOTION: Kanagy; SECOND: Hoenicke; AYES: Barge, Hoenicke, Kanagy, and Lincoln; NOES: None; ABSENT: Stranzl McCann; ABSTENSIONS: Pramuk. Motion carried.

Need to consider approval of minutes from the April 14, 2022 regular meeting at the June meeting because a quorum wasn't present.

D. Ratification of District bills

Ratified bills approved by the Executive Director in the amount of \$342,575.55.

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

E. Approval of District bills

Approved District bills for April 2022 in the amount of \$67,691.38 (\$59,755.26 regular bills, \$7,617.88 Kaiser benefits, and \$318.24 employee reimbursement).

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

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jim Wilson shared that the Students for Climate Action were successful in getting climate emergency declarations from all cities, and now they're working to get a similar declaration from the County Board of Supervisors (BOS). Request to Napa RCD's Board of Directors to reach out to County BOS and City Councils to support climate action goals. Jim will share an example resolution from Yolo County. Director Hoenicke and Associate Director Avila asked follow up questions, and it was suggested that we add discussion on this topic at a future Board meeting.

3. EDUCATION PRESENTATION

Napa RCD staff members Frances Knapczyk and Lucas Patzek presented how the organization's regenerative agriculture program currently operates and described key projects. Director Kanagy shared that RCD's current program is addressing the major issues: carbon as it relates to climate, water conservation, and habitat, but there may be more opportunities to expand the connection between farm management and forest restoration and habitat restoration more broadly. Director Lincoln commented that the RCD can play a key role as broker between the GSA and growers around groundwater sustainability. Associate Director Avila suggested that there are opportunities to think even more broadly about conservation opportunities in the ag sector, perhaps by focusing on things like packaging and transportation.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

Approved the consent calendar.

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

A. Ratify California Coastal Commission Agreement No. GF-WT-21-78.

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. Governance Committee items.

- a. Advance the Governance Committee's recommendation for recruiting nine new associate directors.
MOTION: Pramuk; SECOND: Lincoln; AYES: Barge, Hoenicke, Kanagy, Lincoln, and Pramuk; NOES: None; ABSENT: Stranzl McCann; ABSTENSIONS: None. Motion carried.
- b. President Barge provided an update on the development of the Program Advisory Committee structure and process. Next step will be to request that consultant Amy Stork review our process materials and we plan to agendaize authorization of the Program Advisory Committees at the June Board meeting.
- c. Executive Director Patzek described the Board of Directors appointment process. President Barge and Director Kanagy volunteered to serve on an ad hoc committee to interview legally-vetted director applicants. An interview guide will be shared with them by Director Hoenicke and Pramuk.

B. Huichica Creek Vineyard (HCV) items.

Approved Resolution No. 2022-02 removing the committed fund balance in the general fund in the amount of \$47,874 in accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement 54.

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

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Review and discuss District statement of revenues and expenses.

Lucas Patzek presented the statement of revenues and expenses through the third quarter.

B. Discussion about the need for the Board of Directors to set direction on organizational change and growth.

President Barge shared about the purpose of a draft survey intended to gather the Board of Director's thoughts on how Napa RCD responds to future opportunities and manages change. The survey will be sent to the Board following this meeting.

C. Watershed Information Conservation Council (WICC) update.

Director Pramuk serves as a Napa RCD representative on the Board of Directors of the [WICC](#) of Napa County. He provided an update on the recent activities and future direction of the WICC. He shared that the WICC is now also serving as a mandated Drought and Water Shortage Task Force (DWSTF), which will also need a few additional citizen members. DWSTF will be focused on domestic wells that have been going dry. Whereas

the WICC meets quarterly, the DWSTF will meet every other month. Director Pramuk is open to another Director representing RCD on the WICC going forward, and invited interested parties to discuss this with him.

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

Erika Valek (NRCS Soil Conservationist) gave the following update on current NRCS projects and activities:

- NRCS staff have been very busy with both managing applications and contracts for our NRCS Farm Bill Programs and being out there in the community at several outreach and education events.
- NRCS teamed with RCD staff to host a table at the Fire Resources Fair in St Helena 2 weeks ago. Evelyn joined Petaluma Field Office staff at a field tour in Sonoma County last Friday as part of the Governor's Wildfire and Forest Resilience Taskforce meeting. Evelyn presented at the Sonoma County Farm Bureau's Water Summit on Tuesday, and Erika and Evelyn will be part of the Coping with Drought workshop later today. Frank and Evelyn will have a table at a job fair mid-day today at Pacific Union College. NRCS Napa doesn't have any vacancies in their office right now, but will be talking with students about potential careers with NRCS in general. Will have a summer intern this year from Napa Valley College for 6 weeks this summer.
- NRCS is in the planning stage for a forest health workshop and field day at the end of the month. The Napa Ag Commissioner's office is organizing this with collaboration from UCCE, CALFIRE, NRCS, and RCD.
- NRCS will work with RCD on a remodel plan for the office tied to their lease.

Rainer Hoenicke (RCD Director) gave the following update on current CARCD projects and activities:

- It's Napa RCD's turn to host an in-person meeting of the CARCD Bay-Delta region, and Rainer will work with Lucas on the planning.
- CARCD Annual Conference will be held in the Sacramento area in person. The Conference will also include some technical trainings for staff.

Bruce Barge (RCD President) thanked everyone for an excellent special Board meeting in April.

Jim Lincoln (RCD Director) shared that free compost is available from both Napa Waste Management and Upper Valley Disposal, and they provide delivery for a fee.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Bruce Barge adjourned this meeting at 9:40 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Anna Mattinson, District Secretary
(Zoom Recording)