



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

MINUTES

When: Thursday, July 14, 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	Wendy Dau 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, July 14, 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, Bill Pramuk, and Gretchen Stranzl McCann. Associate Director Bryan Avila and Joseph Nordlinger was present. RCD staff present included Lucas Patzek, Anna Mattinson, Frances Knapczyk, and Ali Blodorn. NRCS staff present included Evelyn Denzin and Erika Valek.

B. Approval of the agenda

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

C. Approval of meeting minutes

The Board will never be able to reach a quorum to approve the minutes from the April 14, 2022 regular meeting because that meeting was attended by four directors, one of whom has stepped down from the Board.

Approved the June 9, 2022 regular meeting.

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

D. Ratification of District bills

Ratified bills approved by the Executive Director in the amount of \$135,566.20 (\$29,558.62 in June 2022 bills, and \$106,007.58 in July 2022 bills).

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

E. Approval of District bills

Approved District bills in the amount of \$106,998.68 (\$95,333.84 regular June 2022 bills, \$8,589.96 regular July 2022 bills, \$808.50 employee reimbursement, and \$2,266.38 journals).

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

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jim Wilson thanks the Board for taking on the development of a climate emergency resolution. He suggested that Napa RCD consider getting this resolution shared with its statewide and national associations. He recommended a change in the title of the resolution such that it specifies a climate emergency.

Linda Brown supported Jim Wilson's comments. Suggested that Napa County has an opportunity to be a leader in this space. Mentions that Napa RCD should lean on partners like Napa Climate Now and Sierra Club to support its education and outreach efforts. Hopes Napa RCD will assist the countywide climate action committee with identifying the low hanging fruit actions and develop longer-term goals.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

Approved the consent calendar.

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

A. Ratify Agreement No. 2022016 with City of Napa.

B. Ratify Agreement with Drew Consulting, Inc.

C. Ratify Agreement No. 2022019 with the Napa County Groundwater Sustainability Agency (NCGSA).

- D. Ratify On-Call Contractor Agreement with Napa Communities Firewise Foundation (NCFF).**
- E. Ratify Amendment to Agreement with WSI Next Gen Marketing.**
- F. Ratify Agreement No. 2022018 with Tuleyome, Inc.**
- G. Authorize Board President to execute Napa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (FCD) Agreement No. 230007B.**
- H. Authorize Board President to finalize and execute Agreement No. 2022017 with Napa County.**

4. OLD BUSINESS

A. Governance Committee items.

- a. Bruce Barge shared a summary of the outcomes of the Governance Committee to date. Shared that the Governance Committee will discuss how much longer to exist since it is an ad hoc committee, and will get back to the Board soon with a discussion of next steps. Shared that all four Program Advisory Committees have scheduled their launch meetings.
- b. Lucas Patzek provided an update about the Board of Directors appointment process for the current vacancy, as well as about the recruitment and appointment of Associate Directors.
- c. Rainer Hoenicke presented Resolution No. 2022-03 expressing a commitment to address climate change. The direction was provided that we allow for more time for the Board to suggest revisions to Resolution 2022-03, and that it should be placed on the August meeting agenda for possible approval.

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

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

- NRCS is moving forward with an office remodel and updated lease agreement, and will work with Napa RCD on this.
- Intend to have another community meeting in Sept or Oct to seek community input on NRCS priorities and goals. Intend to hold this community meeting virtually, and seeks Napa RCD support in designing an effective meeting.
- NRCS is supporting staff training in prescribed burning.

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

- Million Trees program updates:
 - Writing the scope of work and budget for a 3-year NVV grant. Have a draft produced, and will work with NVV staff to put the content into the NVV grant format over the next month or so. NVV’s fundraiser will occur in November, and they estimate the money would be made available to us in Jan-Feb 2023. They will work with us to develop educational and promotional materials to support the fundraising effort, and there will be ways for Board members to help us get the work out.
 - Working with the advisory committee on developing a website and press release to also stir up interest and support in the program outside of the NVV and the viticulture sector. Aim to go public with the website and press release in early August. Bill Pramuk has been the RCD director working with the advisory committee.
- Fish passage barriers assessment and remediation:
 - We’re working to bring together a coalition of state and federal agency as well as academic advisors to develop a vision and some specific goals for remediating manmade fish passage barriers in the Napa River watershed.
 - Over the last year we have collaborated with Water Audit California to assess 6 “low-hanging fruit” barriers in tributaries that are either currently known to have salmonids, and were in the past. Most of these tributaries have perennial flow. We’ve engaged the landowners who are willing to explore the removal of the barriers.
 - We want to work with Water Audit and this agency and academic advisory group to explore what the design and permit/regulatory compliance pathways can be for removing these 6 barriers. We also want to work with this group to develop an updated methodology and process for assessing the remaining manmade barriers in the Napa River system. Lastly, we want to explore with them ideas for how to better monitor and study aspects of the watershed that aren’t well understood, like when salmonids are present in the upper watershed, what their populations are like, and explore ways to monitor low flows or to enhance our wet-dry mapping.
 - We hope to submit one or more grants coming out of this pre-planning process to address the 6 barriers we have been working to characterize, to be able to assess the remaining manmade barriers in the watershed, and to enhance our monitoring capacity. RCD will likely partner with others in these endeavors.
- Soil Hub update:
 - I provided an update on the Soil Hub in the board packet.

6. CLOSED SESSION

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION (Government Code Section 54957).

Title: Napa County Resource Conservation District Executive Director.

No reportable action was taken in closed session regarding this agenda item.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Bruce Barge adjourned this meeting at 9:49 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Anna Mattinson, District Secretary
(Zoom Recording)