



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

MINUTES

When: Thursday, March 9, 2023 at 8:00 A.M.

Where: NVTA Board Room at 625 Burnell St, Napa, CA, or
Tele/videoconference

Bruce Barge President	Rainer Hoenicke Vice President	Paul Asmuth Director	Jim Lincoln Director	Bill Pramuk Director	Gretchen Stranzl McCann Director	Karen Turjanis Director
	Lucas Patzek Executive Director	Anna Mattinson District Secretary	Corey Utsurogi 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 8:09 A.M. on Thursday, March 9, 2023 by President Bruce Barge.

A. Roll call

Directors present included Paul Asmuth, Bruce Barge, Rainer Hoenicke, Jim Lincoln, Karen Turjanis. Associate Directors present included Bryan Avila, Chris Carpenter, Joseph Nordlinger, Bryan Parker, Cio Perez, Matt Reid, and Lauren Winczewski. RCD staff present included Lucas Patzek and Ali Blodorn, interim District Counsel Doug was present, and Evelyn Denzin from NRCS was present.

B. Welcoming statements

Welcomed newly appointed Director Turjanis, and discussed the return to in-person meetings.

C. Approval of the agenda

Approved the agenda.

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

D. Approval of meeting minutes

Approved minutes from the February 9, 2023 regular meeting.

MOTION: Asmuth; SECOND: Lincoln; AYES: Asmuth, Barge, Hoenicke, and Lincoln;

NOES: None; ABSENT: Pramuk and Stranzl McCann; ABSTENSIONS: Turjanis. Motion carried.

E. Ratification of District bills

There were no bills to ratify.

F. Approval of District bills

There were no bills to approve.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jim Wilson provided a comment that American Canyon High School will have an event with the City's ad hoc Climate Action Committee and the USDA. He also wants to recognize the new members of the County's CAC for their commitment to the 2030 net zero goal.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

Approved the consent calendar.

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

A. Adopt Resolution No. 2023-02 related to an application to the California Climate Investments Wildfire Prevention Grants Program.

B. Authorize Board President and/or Executive Director to execute agreements related California Association of Resource Conservation's (CARCD's) grant agreement with the Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB).

C. Authorize Board President and/or Executive Director to execute agreements related 2022 CDFA CAPGP Grant Award CAPGP-23-065.

D. Authorize Board President and/or Executive Director to execute Amendment No. 2 to California Trout Agreement No. 21-107NCR.

E. Ratify Napa RCD Agreement No. 2023005 with California Reforestation Inc.

F. Appoint members of the Huichica Creek Sustainable Vineyard & Orchard Advisory Committee pursuant to Resolution 2016-07.

4. BUSINESS

A. Overview about the LAFCO Municipal Service Review (MSR) process.

Brendon Freeman, Executive Officer of the Local Agency Formation Commission of Napa County, presented to process for developing MSRs and Sphere of Influence reviews for local government agencies.

B. Presentation and discussion about USDA-NRCS programs and partnership in Napa County.

Evelyn Denzin, District Conservationist of the USDA-NRCS Napa Office, presented on the EQIP, CSP, and RCPP programs of the agency, how it partners with Napa RCD, and the process for the upcoming Civil Rights Review. President Bruce Barge has offered to be interviewed as part of the Civil Rights Review. Board members present agreed to sign the Civil Rights Responsibilities for Partners Checklist following the meeting.

C. Updates from the Governance Committee.

President Bruce Barge provided updates including that invitations have been issued to the Board to join the ad hoc Fund Development Committee, the Governance Committee plans to sunset by Fall, and work has begun on the next strategic planning process.

D. Presentation and discussion about the recommendations from the Fiscal Infrastructure Review.

Executive Director Lucas Patzek presented on the Fiscal Infrastructure Review recently completed by consultant BDO FMA which assessed the roles and responsibilities, technology, and workflow of Napa RCD's finance functions and made recommendations for improvements to help sustain operations and enable future growth. He shared that Napa RCD is moving forward with hiring consultant support to oversee transactional accounting and systems improvements, and will work more closely with Napa County's Finance Department to support regular transactional processes.

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

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

- Remodel updates: NRCS is moving forward with their remodel of 500B and it's impacting the logistics of our remodel, and we'll just have to work through it. We'll be completely moved out of 500B by March 30th, and the remodel of 500B should take 3-4 months. During this interim period we will have staff working out of 100B. We will revisit our remodel of 100B and 700B once NRCS' remodel is complete, and have been working with the interior designer to finalize design plans and budgets. I will include the cost of our remodel in our next budget.
- NVV Million Trees funding request: On the recommendation of the Vintners staff we partnered with NCFE to submit a joint grant proposal for a total of \$1.6M. Napa RCD's budget in this proposal is \$550,000 for wildfire resilient habitat enhancement planning,

implementation and community engagement. The remainder goes to NCCFF to design and implement strategic fire roads along the top of a slope (ridgetop), or along the base of a slope (valley). Napa RCD staff will advise on the erosion control aspects of these dozer line projects. Our proposal was approved by the NVV Grant Review Committee with some requested minor changes, and has been sent to the full NVV Board for their review and approval.

- Napa County Climate Action Plan: Napa RCD is working with the County, City of Napa, and a consultant to submit a grant application to the state through the ICARP grant program to support the development of a countywide, multi-jurisdictional Climate Action and Adaptation Plan. This grant can also support comprehensive education and community engagement related to this topic, and we've been exploring ideas with a range of community partners.
- Water Audit Forum: We've been invited to present at the Water Audit Forum on March 24th, and we've been coordinating a presentation to focus on fish passage barrier remediation and biological and environmental monitoring. Bruce, Martin, and Lucas will be in attendance from the RCD.

President Bruce Barge shared the desire to convene a Special Board Meeting in May to recognize accomplishments and strengthen board-staff relationships. A scheduling poll will be sent out following the meeting.

6. ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted,



Lucas Patzek, Executive Director (serving as interim District Secretary)

(Zoom recording)