



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

MINUTES

When: Thursday, April 13, 2023 at 8:00 A.M.

Where: NVTA Board Room at 625 Burnell St, Napa, CA, or
La Cuesta Inn, 2074 Monterey St, San Luis Obispo, 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 8:03 A.M. on Thursday, April 13, 2023 by President Bruce Barge.

- A. Roll call**
Directors present included Paul Asmuth, Bruce Barge, Rainer Hoenicke, Jim Lincoln, Bill Pramuk, Gretchen Stranzl McCann, Karen Turjanis. Associate Directors present included Bryan Avila, Bryan Parker, Cio Perez, and Lauren Winczewski. RCD staff present included Lucas Patzek, Ali Blodorn and Frances Knapczyk, District Counsel Corey Utsurogi was present, and Evelyn Denzin and Erika Valek from NRCS were present.
- B. Approval of the agenda**
Approved the agenda.
MOTION: Pramuk; SECOND: Stranzl McCann; AYES: Asmuth, Barge, Hoenicke, Lincoln, Pramuk, Stranzl McCann, and Turjanis; NOES: None; ABSENT: None; ABSTENSIONS: None. Motion carried.
- C. Approval of meeting minutes**
Approved minutes from the March 9, 2023 regular meeting.

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

D. Ratification of District bills

Office Manager Anna Mattinson was unable to prepare District bills for the March regular meeting, so there were two months' worth of ratified bills for consideration. Ratified February 2023 bills in the amount of \$35,846.02, and March 2023 bills in the amount of \$533,472.67

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

E. Approval of District bills

Approved March 2023 District bills in the amount of \$158,894.37.

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

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

Approved the consent calendar.

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

A. Ratify agreement with California Sustainable Winegrowing Alliance (CSWA).

B. Ratify Napa RCD Agreement No. 2023007 with Napa Communities Firewise Foundation (NCFE).

C. Authorize Board President and Executive Director to finalize and execute agreement with Napa Valley Vintners Healthy Community Fund (NVVHCF).

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

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

- Lucas Patzek shared that Earth Day 2023 will be held on April 23rd, with opportunities for board participation in Napa RCD-led activities on the day of. Board can also learn about Napa RCD events and opportunities for participation in regular monthly update of upcoming events, and should reach out to Ashley with any questions (ashley@naparcd.org).
- With the ongoing remodel in 500B, Patzek confirmed that Napa RCD staff are now working out of 100B during normal business hours.
- Patzek provided overview of a new Grants Log that has been developed to keep board up to speed on fund development activities.
- Patzek shared that fiscal management improvements are ongoing, and we are exploring deepening our engagement with the County to provide a higher level of support.

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

- Evelyn Denzin thanked Bruce Barge for participation in NRCS Civil Rights review.
- Denzin provided an update on remodel in progress for 500B, and confirmed that NRCS employees are now teleworking.
- Denzin provided an update on progress with Regional Conservation Partnership Program, which Napa RCD staff is also supporting.
- NRCS staff and Napa RCD staff participated in Fire Resources Fair on April 11th.

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

- Rainer Hoenicke shared that the CARCD Regional Meeting will be hosted by Solano/Dixon RCD next Tuesday April 18th, where Patzek will be participating on Hoenicke's behalf and participation of board members is welcome. Hoenicke participated in CARCD board meeting yesterday, and shared funding available through Department of Conservation focused on long-term capacity building. CARCD approved their Justice Equity Diversity and Inclusion (JEDI) Charter.

Comments from board members included:

- Bruce Barge explained the re-arrangement of this agenda item.
- Bruce Barge shared that he and Bryan Parker attended a Napa RISE session.
- Bill Pramuk highlighted the Sudden Oak Death Blitz, happening April 15-17. Board participation in the Blitz is welcome.
- Stranzl McCann shared she will be supporting Ashley at Skyline this weekend, tabling for RCD and helping people think about the right plants in the right place. Stranzl McCann also asked for update on RFP for Huichica Creek Vineyard.
- Rainer Hoenicke shared upcoming Garden Tours in collaboration with City Parks and Rec, specifically tour at Los Flores Park.
- Paul Asmuth shared April 29th planting day at St. Helena Community Forest.
- Jim Lincoln provided update on Water Forum.

- Bruce Barge provided reminder about upcoming special board meeting on May 3rd.

5. BUSINESS

A. Approve Amendment No. 1 to Napa RCD budget for fiscal year 2022-23.

Executive Director Patzek presented an amendment for the District's fiscal year 2022-23 budget. The budget amendment includes several line adjustments in revenues and expenses. The budget amendment reflects revenues increasing by \$565,040 from \$4,585,298 to \$5,150,338, and expenses increasing by \$487,875 from \$4,165,992 to \$4,653,867. This budget amendment reflects an addition of \$77,165 to available fund balance for a total of \$496,471 increase during the fiscal year.

Approved Amendment No. 1 to Napa RCD budget for fiscal year 2022-23.

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

B. Strategic plan brainstorming.

President Barge provided an update about Napa RCD's future priorities: program areas, finances, staffing, JEDI goals and principles.

Lucas Patzek provided an update regarding work the Napa RCD staff-led JEDI Committee are doing to explore training opportunities for board and staff.

Legal Counsel clarified parameters regarding Brown Act and retreats.

C. Possible action to appoint a new Associate Director. *Bryan Avila*

Appoint Colby Smith as an Associate Director.

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

D. Presentation and discussion about the North Coast Soil Hub.

Emilie Winfield, Regional Coordinator of the North Coast Soil Hub, presented

E. Presentation and discussion about the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD). *Caleb Griffin, NACD Pacific Region Representative*

6. ADJOURNMENT

Director Barge adjourned this meeting at 9:33 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,



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