



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

MINUTES

When: Thursday, February 8, 2024 at 8:00 A.M.

Where: JoAnn Busenbark Board Room, Napa Valley Transit Authority (NVTA),
625 Burnell St, Napa, CA

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	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 8:01 A.M. on Thursday, February 8, 2024 by President Bruce Barge.

A. Call to order and roll call

Directors present included Paul Asmuth, Bruce Barge, Jim Lincoln (arrived at 8:04 A.M.), Rainer Hoenicke, Bill Pramuk, and Karen Turjanis. Associate Directors present included Joseph Nordlinger, Bryan Parker, Jennifer Putnam, and Pierre Washington. Napa RCD staff present included Lucas Patzek, Ali Blodorn, and Frances Knapczyk. Corey Utsurogi, District Counsel, was present. Evelyn Denzin and Ben Schutsky from NRCS were present.

B. Approval of the agenda

Approved the agenda for this meeting.

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

C. Approval of meeting minutes

Approved minutes from the January 18, 2024 regular meeting.

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

D. Ratification of District bills

Ratified bills approved by the Executive Director in the amount of \$129,236.84.
MOTION: Hoenicke; SECOND: Asmuth; AYES: Asmuth, Barge, Hoenicke, Pramuk, and Turjanis; NOES: None; ABSENT: Stranzl McCann; ABSTENSIONS: None. Motion carried.

E. Approval of District bills

Approved the District bills for January 2024 in the amount of \$59,525.09.
MOTION: Hoenicke; SECOND: Pramuk; AYES: Asmuth, Barge, Hoenicke, Pramuk, and Turjanis; NOES: None; ABSENT: Stranzl McCann; ABSTENSIONS: None. Motion carried.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments from the public.

3. SET ITEMS OR PUBLIC HEARINGS

8:15 A.M. – Presentation, Discussion and Authorization to Accept the 2022-2023 Audit Report. *Tracy Schulze, Napa County Auditor-Controller*

Authorized Acceptance of the 2022-2023 Audit Report.
MOTION: Hoenicke; SECOND: Lincoln; AYES: Asmuth, Barge, Hoenicke, Pramuk, and Turjanis; NOES: None; ABSENT: Stranzl McCann; ABSTENSIONS: None. Motion carried.

4. BUSINESS

A. Approve Amendment No. 1 to Napa RCD budget for fiscal year 2023-24.

Approved Amendment No. 1 to Napa RCD 2023-2024 Budget.
MOTION: Turjanis; SECOND: Lincoln; AYES: Asmuth, Barge, Hoenicke, Pramuk, and Turjanis; NOES: None; ABSENT: Stranzl McCann; ABSTENSIONS: None. Motion carried.

B. Presentation and discussion about the new annual report.

Program Director Frances Knapczyk presented on the content of the new annual report to be completed by March 2024, as well as the outreach plan. Frances invited board members to join staff in writing personalized messages for annual reports to be delivered to key partners, donors, political leaders, etc.

C. Presentation and discussion about the strategic planning process.

Executive Director Lucas Patzek presented on the progress of the four Program Advisory Committees, JEDI Committee, Finance Committee, and Fund Development Committee. He shared that the April regular board meeting will be replaced by a special board meeting for a strategic planning retreat.

D. Presentation and discussion about the Huichica Creek Vineyard property Request for Ideas process.

Executive Director Lucas Patzek presented on the current status of the Teaming Agreement with HANA Resources. Staff and the HCV Advisory Committee will work with HANA Resources on defining the roles and responsibilities for Napa RCD versus HANA Resources, and will continue to seek further community partnerships around the property. HANA Resources will then work with Napa RCD on grant development to support planning and implementation of a habitat restoration project on the property, as well as associated education and workforce development activities.

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

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

- Will send an updated list of events that Napa RCD is hosting, delivering, or participating in so that board members can learn how they can participate.
- Finance Manager hiring process is moving forward with second round interviews being scheduled.
- The new Community Engagement Project Manager Monique Byro is starting work on Feb 26th.

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

- Staff can provide a presentation on biochar at a future meeting.

Bill Pramuk mentioned that he was working with staff on a SOD-focused grant proposal.

Paul Asmuth announced an April 21 tree planting event at St Helena Community Forest.

Bruce Barge shared that he is open to hosting a spring social event at his house.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 9:29 A.M.