



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

MINUTES

When: Thursday, September 11, 2025 at 8:00 A.M.

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

Bruce Barge President	Paul Asmuth Director	Allison Day Director	Jim Lincoln Director	Gretchen Stranzl McCann Director	Jennifer Putnam Director	Karen Turjanis Director
	Lucas Patzek Executive Director	Sabrina Wolfson 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, September 11, 2025 by President Bruce Barge.

A. Call to order and roll call.

Directors present included Bruce Barge, Paul Asmuth, Allison Day, Jennifer Putnam, and Karen Turjanis (at 8:03 am). Associate Director Patrick Gorman was present. Associate Directors Andrina Carlsen and Joseph Nordlinger were present online. District Counsel Sabrina Wolfson was present. Napa RCD staff present included Lucas Patzek, Frances Knapczyk, Alison Blodorn, Aaron Fairbrook, and Tatia Wieland. Evelyn Denzin from NRCS was present.

B. Approval of the agenda.

Approved the agenda for this meeting.

MOTION: Stranzl McCann; SECOND: Asmuth; AYES: Barge, Asmuth, Day, Putnam, Stranzl McCann. NOES: None; ABSENT: Turjanis, Lincoln; ABSTENSIONS: None. Motion carried.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Rainer Hoenicke provided complimentary comments regarding District staff presentations to the Master Gardeners.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

Director Stranzl McCann abstained from voting on item 3.A. due to absence from August 14, 2025 regular meeting.

Approved the consent agenda.

MOTION: Putnam; SECOND: Day; AYES: Barge, Asmuth, Day, Putnam, Stranzl McCann, Turjanis. NOES: None; ABSENT: Lincoln; ABSTENSIONS: None. Motion carried.

- A. Approve minutes from the August 14, 2025 regular meeting.**
- B. Ratify bills approved by the Executive Director.**
- C. Approve regular District bills from August 2025.**
- D. Authorization for Napa Valley CanDo to Serve as Fiscal Conduit for 2025 CanDo Give!Guide Donations.**
- E. Approval of Staff Travel to the International Fire Ecology and Management Congress.**

4. REGULAR AGENDA

A. Update on the Napa Regional Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (RCAAP).

Program Director Frances Knapczyk opened the item. She, joined by Jesse Gutierrez, of Napa County provided the informational report.

President Barge called for public comment.

Rainer Hoenicke shared concern that the project start date was 2026.

Jim Wilson shared concerns over implementation timeline.

Discussion was brought back to Council. Individual comments and questions ensued.

B. Appointment of a Board Vice President.

Director Asmuth appointed Vice President.

MOTION: Putnam; SECOND: Stranzl McCann; AYES: Barge, Asmuth, Day, Putnam, Stranzl McCann, Turjanis. NOES: None; ABSENT: Lincoln; ABSTENSIONS: None. Motion carried.

C. Introduction of New Staff Member.

Program Director Ali Blodorn introduced Aaron Fairbrook, Napa RCD's Forest Health & Restoration Program Manager.

D. Huichica Creek Preserve Advisory Committee report.

Executive Director Lucas Patzek provided a report on the Huichica Creek Advisory Committee.

E. Funding & Visibility Committee report.

Program Director Frances Knapczyk provided a report on the Funding and Visibility Committee.

F. USDA NRCS report.

District Conservationist Evelyn Denzin provided a report on the USDA NRCS.

G. Executive Director's report.

Executive Director Lucas Patzek provided a report and shared an invitation to the next CARCD Bay-Delta regional meeting.

H. Directors' reports.

Director Asmuth reported on the St. Helena community forest.

Director Day reported on the audit of the Napa RCDs digital presence.

President Barge reported on the Executive Director evaluation process.

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:29 A.M.

The next regularly scheduled meeting for the Board of Directors of the Napa County Resource Conservation District is October 8, 2025.