

CCRCD BOARD MEETING MINUTES

January 17, 2023

The regular meeting of the **Contra Costa Resource Conservation District** was held Tuesday, January 17, 2023 by teleconference.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Walter Pease, Igor Skaredoff, Renee Fernandez-Lipp, Lorena Castillo & Bethallyn Black

ASSOC. DIRECTORS PRESENT: Bob Peoples

RCD STAFF PRESENT: Chris Lim, Patty Pell, Ben Weise, Heidi Petty & Lydia Lapporte

NRCS STAFF PRESENT: Brenda Phrankonekham

DIRECTORS EXCUSED: All present

THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY CHAIR, Walter Pease at 8:36 A.M.

INTRODUCTION/PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

No public in attendance

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: BROWN ACT, SECTION (54954.2(B) (2))

DETERMINATION THAT A NEED IMMEDIATE ACTION EXISTS:

No items added.

NRCS REPORT: Following an update on the office conditions due to weather damage, Brenda Phrankonekham noted the revised deadlines for the EQIP program and introduced a new EQIP program: EQIP Conservation Incentive Contract (CIC). CIC offers financial assistance to adopt conservation management practices on working landscapes. Brenda Phrankonekham ended her report by mentioning she attended the recent CARCD conference and enjoyed meeting many RCD members.

PRESENTATION: Heidi Petty, Watershed Program Manager, CCRCD and Lydia Lapporte, Watershed Conservation Coordinator, CCRCD are working together to host the Shoreline Festival scheduled for May 20th at the Crockett Waterfront. Heidi Petty started the presentation by stating the goals and her current vision for the Festival. Heidi Petty and Lydia Lapporte finished by expressing their desire for the Board to solicit items for the planned silence auction. Examples of several items were given, and a spreadsheet shared for signups.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

Item 1- November 15, 2022 Board Minutes

Item 2- November 2022 Financials

Item 3- December 2022 Financials

Item 4- Resolution 2023-01: 30-day extension of AB361

Bob Peoples mentioned that inherent in the CCRCD's business model, cash balances will fluctuate. These fluctuations increase the risk that situations will occur where the RCD can not meet obligations to pay staff, vendors and other bills in a timely fashion. Bob Peoples suggested the RCD research and implement methods to manage the fluctuations and establish optimum minimum financial reserve requirements. Following this discussion, Igor Skaredoff made a motion to approve Items #1, 2, 3 & 4 of the consent calendar as presented. Lorena Castillo seconded the motion. Motion passes 5:0.

DETERMINATION ITEMS:

8.1 Consider Approving CA Urban Streams Partnership (CUSP) Change Order #3. Chris Lim described and current project and explained that this agreement would increase funding to expand the work and extend the length of the current contract. Renee Fernandez-Lipp made a motion to approve the CUSP Change Order #3. Bethallyn Black seconded the motion. Motion passes 5:0

8.2 Consider Approving Resolution 2023-02 adopting the 2019 San Francisco Bay Area IRWM Plan. Following Chris Lim's description of the project, the application process and funding sources, Bethallyn Black made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-02. Igor Skaredoff seconded the motion. Motion passes 5:0

8.3 Consider Approving Resolution 2023-03 authorizing submission of a grant application to Department of Water Resources for Urban Community Drought Relief Program. Ben Weise described the project of lawn turf conversion, his vision, and the partners in the project. Chris Lim finished by mentioning that the focus of the project will be on underserved communities. Following the Board stating their full support for the project, Bethallyn Black made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-03. Lorena Castillo seconded the motion. Motion passes 5:0

DISCUSSION ITEM:

9.1 Justice, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion: Chris Lim updated the Board on the most recent JEDI meeting and noted that the committee was down to one section to be revised. Chris Lim finished by noting a new CARCD Executive Director was hired and this new Executive Director noted that the term BIPOC (black, indigenous and people of color) is being reconsidered to be "people of color"

9.2 COVID Update: Chris Lim mentioned the Governor's emergency proclamation allowing for remote meetings will end February 28, 2023. Chris Lim briefly mentioned the new Assembly Bill (AB 2449) passed amending the Brown Act to allow Board members to participate in Board meetings remotely under certain circumstances. More details to follow.

REPORTS:

10.1 President Reports—Walter Pease reminded the Board of compliance requirements and asked Patty Pell to send out current status for members.

10.2 Directors' Reports –Renee Fernandez-Lipp inquired about policies regarding Board attendance at various conferences. Following the discussion, it was agreed that a share document would mention opportunities and list Board members who have previously attended that conference listing the budget status.

Igor Skaredoff mentioned that the Giving Natives a Chance Planting Event was rescheduled for Saturday, January 21, 2023 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

10.3 Staff Reports—There were no questions on the staff activity reports

10.4 Executive Director Reports –Chris Lim gave the following updates:

- IRWM - \$1.5 million to do Green infrastructure projects (bioretention, vegetated bioswale, permeable pavers) at Ambrose Recreation and Park District Building in Bay Point.
- WCB block grant through CARCD - \$500,000 to fund East Bay Pollinator Working group, Marsh Creek planning with Flood Control District (related to DOC grant)

Grants to apply:

- DWR Urban Community Drought Program - \$3 million, turf replacement, planting native plants. Establishing greywater systems. Demonstration gardens: whether at schools, fire stations, community colleges, etc

Program:

- MLK Day - native planting with volunteers. Cal students, community volunteers. Planted about 40-50 plants. Have installed irrigation.
- US Forestry Climate Seminar: in May
Environmental professionals from all over the world coming to Sacramento and Emeryville to learn about how to do the work. Heidi and I will be leading a 90 min session focused on the Crockett Waterfront Project and how we built stakeholder support. We'll have an activity for them to do. Learning opportunity for cohort to take back to their own countries and work.

Walter Pease Adjourned the Meeting at 10:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Patty Pell, Clerk of the Board, CCRC