

MINUTES

Temecula-Elsinore-Anza-Murrieta Resource Conservation District Regular Board Meeting

Thursday, September 14, 2023, at 4:00 PM

Truax Building
41923 Second Street, Fourth Floor
Temecula, CA 92590

I. Preliminary Functions

Call to Order, 4:00 p.m., meeting recorded by Rae Shirer

Flag Salute

Roll Call/Establish a Quorum

Directors Present: Teri Biancardi (President), Jeff McClenahan (Director), Pablo Bryant (Vice President), Rose Corona (Director)

Directors Absent: Newt Parkes (Secretary/Treasurer)

Office Manager: Rae Shirer

District Counsel: None

Public Guests: Randy Feeney, Sebastian Valente, Rick Neugebauer, Keir Thomas (NRCS) via Zoom, Brad Greenberg, Jameson Meyst (Mission RCD)

Approval of Agenda:

Director Corona requested that unpaid legal bills be pulled from the Consent calendar item "bills to be paid". Director Corona moved to approve the agenda, with the exception of the pulled item. Director Bryant seconded; the agenda was approved by unanimous voice vote.

II. Consent Calendar

Director McClenahan moved to approve the consent calendar, with the exception of the pulled item. Director Bryant seconded; the motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

The board then discussed the outstanding legal bills, which were reduced from their original amounts following discussion between President Biancardi and County Counsel's office. Director Corona stated her objection to payment of the revised bills as 1) The amounts originally billed (and now reduced) were for matters not brought before the board for approval of the legal fees before they were incurred; 2) The original and revised invoices were incorrect as they did not detail the contact with individual board members other than then-President Corona; 3) Any reduction in the amounts billed would be a gift of public funds by the County to TEAM RCD. Upon further discussion, the matter was tabled.

Public Comments:

Brad Greenberg, of the Tyler law firm, expressed concerns on behalf of his client that a transition of the existing Roundcube email platform to any other platform would result in

a loss of data that might be subject to the current litigation hold. Manager Shirer addressed this issue, stating that the plan was to archive all existing email to searchable, recoverable format that would satisfy any legal discovery requests now pending or in the future, as well as general public record requests. Manager Shirer pointed out that the only current storage of the email was on Roundcube itself which is far less stable than the proposed archiving plan. The board then moved on to the next agenda item.

III. Action Items:

1. The 2023-24 budget was re-presented by President Biancardi. During discussion, Director Corona questioned the \$10,000 identified as expenditures related to the NACD grant and the Cultivating Inclusion project. Director Corona asked if a budget for the project could be presented at a future meeting and whether the expenses could be less than \$10,000. President Biancardi stated that she was working with Cultivation Inclusion to develop the project plan and budget. Director Bryant moved to approve the 2023-24 budget, Director McClenahan seconded upon roll call vote, the budget was approved:

Bianardi: Yes

Bryant: Yes

Corona: No

McClenahan: Yes

2. The discussion regarding the email platform transition and archiving, having been discussed during public comment, was tabled for a future meeting.
3. Director Corona moved to approve the new Memorandum of Understanding with Santa Ana Watershed Association; Director Bryan seconded. Upon unanimous voice vote, the MOU was approved.
4. Director Bryant moved to approve the revised, proposed policy regarding TEAM RCD's representative on the SAWA board; Director McClenahan seconded. Director Corona expressed her concern that the policy was restrictive and unworkable, considering the timelines of SAWA activities and TEAM RCD's scheduled meetings. Upon voice vote, the policy was approved:

Bianardi: Yes

Bryant: Yes

Corona: No

McClenahan: Yes

5. The board then considered appointment of a new representative to SAWA. Both directors Biancardi and Corona nominated themselves. Upon voice vote, Director Biancardi was elected as the representative.

Vote #1 re Corona:

Bianardi: No

Bryant: No

Vote #2 re Biancardi

Biancardi: Yes

Bryant: Yes

Corona: Yes
McClenahan: No

Corona: No
McClenahan: Yes

6. Director Bryant volunteered to be the point person reporting on cannabis issues to CDFW. Director McClenahan moved that Director Bryant be appointed; Director Bryant seconded. Upon voice vote, Director Bryant was appointed:

Bianardi: Yes
Bryant: Yes
Corona: No
McClenahan: Yes

7. The board next discussed the status of the NACD and WETA grant applications. President Biancardi reported that the first \$2500 of the NACD grant had been direct deposited into the TEAM RCD bank account. She then introduced Jameson Meyst, a technical consultant from Mission RCD. President Biancardi reported that Jameson would be looking at the Cultivating Inclusion site to make an assessment of irrigation needs. Cultivating Inclusion members are responsible for outreach and community needs assessment for the project. Mission RCD will be working on establishing workshops and educational components. President Biancardi is still seeking a consultant to prepare a business plan. Director Corona asked if a budget was available for board review. President Biancardi stated it was a collaborative effort to put together and would put together as we move forward.

The board then discussed the status of the WETA grant, in light of the loss of Rancho California Water District business. In particular, the board discussed the possibility of revising the grant to increase water pump efficiency for constituents in the TEAM RCD service area. Jameson noted that there was a "sweep grant" available to fund those who might not qualify for services under the WETA grant. Director Corona noted that all Temecula property owners were under RCWD contract and would not be customers for new water pump service under the WETA grant. President Biancardi stated that there were property owners outside of Temecula but within TEAM RCD borders that may qualify. President Biancardi stated that Jason with San Diego RCD would also be able to research possible customers together with Jameson. She reported that Keir of NCRS and she had been working on establishing the Jameson as the "one stop shop" for qualifying potential customers (initial irrigation efficiency assessment and qualifying for Etip funding) and were developing outreach materials for Jameson to use in making these assessments. The board further discussed whether the WETA grant could be revised to change/expand services. President Biancardi stated that she was still attempting to reach WETA regarding this issue.

8. President Biancardi then reported on her contact with the Riverside County Records Management Agency, which provides assistance with planning for the archiving and storage of physical records of governmental/quasi-governmental agencies. President Biancardi called for a motion authorizing her and Manager Shirer to work with RMA to inventory and store TEAM RCD's physical records.

Director Bryant moved; Director McClenahan seconded. The motion was passed by unanimous voice vote.

9. The board next considered whether to have county counsel attend TEAM RCD regular meetings. President Biancardi moved, and Director Bryant seconded, to not have counsel present at every meeting, but only for special meetings. Director Corona proposed an amendment to the motion "to not have counsel present at regular meetings of the board, unless the President or the Board deems it potentially necessary and notifies counsel to be available by telephone or video call at an appointed time. Counsel may attend by telephone and the meeting agenda may be structured to deal with items requiring legal consultation at the beginning of the meeting." President Biancardi seconded. The motion, as amended, passed by unanimous voice vote.

IV. Management Report

None.

V. Directors' Reports

Director Bryant discussed two items. First was his experience with "geocell", which is a technology to protect dirt roads from erosion during storms. He was very pleased with the results. He also shared his experience with "water bars" to battle flooding. Director Bryant reported on the Intertribal Conference at Pechange and learned more about food and farming issues in the tribal community.

President Biancardi also attended the conference. She reported that she had made connections which Director Bryant will pursue with the tribes. President Biancardi also attended a fire resiliency conference and is building a relationship to work with Forestry in the Elsinore area. Finally, she spoke with Anza Electric regarding partnership with farmers and landowners in the area of a planned solar array.

President Biancardi of the October 30th RCD conference which directors are encouraged to attend.


VI. Future Agenda Items

VII. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the meeting, it was moved (Biancardi) and seconded (Bryant) to adjourn. The motion was passed by unanimous voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 5:34.

Next Regular Meeting: October 12, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.

Dated: 11/9/23



T. Biancardi, President