



# Guadalupe-Coyote Resource Conservation District (GCRCD)

*An independent special district of the State of California*

## SUMMARY MINUTES

**Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors  
Thursday, October 7, 2021, at 5:00 p.m.**

Rick Lanman, M.D.  
*President*

Gary Jahns, Ph.D.  
*Vice-President*

Gail Bautista  
*Director*

Susan Hare  
*Director*

Paula Quintero  
*Director*

Roger Castillo  
*Associate Director  
Director Emeritus*

Larry Johmann  
*Associate Director  
Director Emeritus*

Bill Leikam  
*Associate Director  
Director Emeritus*

Mel Sarmiento  
*Associate Director*

Kat Wilson  
*Associate Director*

Stephanie Moreno  
*Executive Director  
District Clerk*

Nathan Hale  
*Program Manager*

Julie Gantenbein  
*District Counsel*

Richard Roos-Collins  
*Special Counsel*

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Due to the Shelter-in-Place Order issued by Governor Gavin Newsom and the Santa Clara County Health Officer in response to COVID-19, this meeting was held via Zoom teleconference only, as permitted by the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20, Section 3. Call-in information for the meeting was provided on the agenda.

*Note: Though agenda items may be considered out of order (for example, to accommodate the schedules of guest speakers and/or members of the public in attendance for a specific item, or when items are removed from the consent agenda), the official minutes remain recorded in the same order as originally published in the official agenda. Number of votes are reflected in the following order: Aye-Nay-Abstention, with nays and abstentions called out by Director name.*

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- 1. Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 5:02 p.m. by President Lanman. Directors present: President Lanman, Vice-President Jahns, and Directors Bautista and Hare. Director Quintero arrived at 5:04 p.m. Associate Directors present: Leikam and Wilson. Staff present: District Counsel Gantenbein and Executive Director/District Clerk Moreno.
  - 2. Approval of Agenda:**  
*Motion: Approve the agenda as presented. (Hare/Bautista; 4-0-0; Quintero absent)*
  - 3. Proclamation of Local Emergency:** Executive Director Moreno presented the information regarding the requirements of AB 361, which allows the Board of Directors to continue remote teleconferencing because in-person meetings would cause imminent risk to attendees due to the continued threat of COVID-19.  
*Motion: Adopt a resolution proclaiming a local emergency, ratifying the proclamation of a State of Emergency by Governor Newsom's State of Emergency by Governor Newsom's on March 4, 2020, and authorizing remote teleconference meetings of the legislative bodies of GCRCD for the period of October 7, 2021 through November 6, 2021 pursuant to Brown Act provision. (Jahns/Hare; 5-0-0)*
  - 4. Public Comment:** Seth Schalet, Santa Clara County FireSafe Council, indicated that he looks forward to continuing the dialog held over the last week or two with Executive Director Moreno regarding potential joint initiatives. He also reported that he had an opportunity to review a bulletin from CalFire regarding the latest live fuel moisture reading, which is at an all-time low for this time of year.

**5. Consent Agenda:**

*Motion: Approve the consent agenda as presented. (Bautista/Quintero; 5-0-0)*

**6. Presentation**

*National Audubon Society:* Dr. Pelayo Alvarez, California Program Director, gave a presentation and answered questions regarding the Audubon Conservation Ranching Program. He indicated there may be future opportunities to collaborate on initiatives.

**7. Partner Reports**

7.1 *USDA-NRCS:* District Conservationist James Booth, Hollister Service Center, reported to the Board on NRCS activities and accomplishments, including a recap of the amount of conservation funding contributed to the service area the past year. He also mentioned that NRCS will be starting a new practice called "Carbon Management Plans", which will allow them to pay for development of plans focused on practices benefiting carbon sequestration. Executive Director Moreno announced that the District had been awarded a USDA-NRCS Community Composting grant, which will be implemented in collaboration with the San Jose Conservation Corps and Valley Verde.

7.2 *City of San Jose:* Kat Wilson, Policy Advisor for the Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo at City of San José (and GCRCO Associate Director), gave a presentation on San Jose's application to participate in the Cool City Challenge, a grant program designed to help residents (Cool Block Leaders) organize their neighbors to work together on climate change.

7.3 *Other Partners:* Domingo Candelas introduced Roseryn Bhudsabourg, Supervising Program Manager, who will be representing Valley Water's Office of Government Relations at future District meetings. He relayed information regarding the current actions being taken by Valley Water in response to the drought and indicated a new grant cycle will be opening soon. President Lanman asked for an update on the removal of the Singleton fish passage barrier.

**8. Administration:**

8.1 *Policy Review:*

8.1.1 *Community Grant Program Policy:* The Board reviewed the draft revision of the Community Grant Program policy and requested additional edits.

*Motion: Adopt a resolution approving the amended Community Grant Program Policy, effective October 7, 2021. (Jahns/Quintero; 5-0-0)*

8.2 *Office Space:* Executive Director Moreno gave an update on the site visits Directors Bautista, Quintero, and she made to the San Jose Conservation Corps (SJCC) building and reviewed the floorplan showing available office space. The Board discussed options and indicated they would like to enter into an agreement with SJCC effective May 1, 2022.

*Motion: Authorize the Executive Director to: 1) give notice that the District will be exiting the existing lease agreement; and 2) execute a new lease agreement with SJCC, with details to be provided at the next meeting. (Hare/Jahns; 5-0-0)*

8.3 *Board Members, Associate Director and Staff Reports:* The Board heard updates regarding activities/topics relevant to the District.

**9. Adjourn Meeting:** Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m. to the November meeting.

**Consent Agenda**

5.1 Approve minutes for the September 15, 2021, Board Meeting.

Information Only

- 5.2 Correspondence from the City of San Jose; *Notice of Determination (NOD) for the Almaden Office Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIT)*; received September 16, 2021.
- 5.3 Correspondence from the Santa Clara Valley Urban Runoff Program; *FY 21-22 Watershed Watch Campaign Media Plan*; received September 20, 2021.
- 5.4 Correspondence from County of Santa Clara; *Redevelopment Property Tax Trust Fund (RPTTF) January 1, 2022, Distribution Estimate*; received October 1, 2021.
- 5.5 Educational article; *Interactive map demonstrating value of prescribed fire usage in Caldor Fire suppression efforts*; <https://www.sfchronicle.com/projects/2021/caldor-fire-prescribed-burn/?fbclid=IwAR2zISjBzMvCbQOKX6MBjqOfrzDuRp404vTP4mIFvyRkug8dm6ZhBPcdtKo>