

North Santa Clara Resource Conservation District (NSCRCD)

An independent special district of the State of California

ACTION MINUTES

Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors Thursday, February 6, 2025, at 5:45 p.m.

Meeting held at 888 N. 1st Street, Suite 204, San Jose, CA 95112

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.

- 1. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 5:45 p.m. by President Maitiski. Directors present: President Frank Maitiski, Vice President Gail Bautista, Director Jeannie Entin, Director Gerardo Ixteyo Loera, and Director Matt Roben. Executive staff present: Executive Director/District Clerk Stephanie Moreno.
- 2. Meeting Agenda:** No changes to the agenda.
- 3. Public Comment – Matters Not on the Agenda:** None.
- 4. Consent Agenda:**

Motion: Approve the consent agenda as presented. (Entin/Bautista; 5-0-0)
- 5. Partner Reports:** Updates received from Seth Schalet, Santa Clara County FireSafe Council, and Genevieve Yip, Valley Water.
- 6. Presentation:** Megan Fluke, Consultant, presented the completed SWOT Analysis. Executive Director Moreno presented her staff report and options for next steps. Doug Muirhead, member of the public, suggested an April 2018 2-page article entitled “San Francisco Bay Multi-Benefit Wetlands Restoration Common Challenges in Permitting: “Sand in the Gears” regarding the opportunities section and indicated he was troubled by the comment in the threats section that the District was perceived by some agencies as adversarial because he has sat through District meetings, and never had any sense of that.

*Motion: Adopt the SWOT Analysis as presented, pending legal review.
(Entin/Roben; 5-0-0)*

Motion: Direct the Executive Director to draft a plan to address operational recommendations that fall outside the scope of a long range plan as defined by Division

9, specifically recommendations 1, 3- 5, and 8-9 for Board consideration at the March 5, 2025 meeting. (Entin/Bautista; 5-0-0)

7. Programs and Projects:

7.1 *Federal Executive Orders:*

7.1.1 and 7.1.2: Executive Director Moreno reviewed her staff report and recommendations regarding federal executive orders.

Motion: 1) Dissolve the Ad Hoc Environmental Justice Committee and create a new ad hoc committee to review District policies, programs and initiatives for compliance with Federal executive orders and policies, and include Directors Entin and Loera on that committee. 2) Establish the District's initial commitment to continue to offer services and incur expenditures for the Year 2 grant for the Farm and Ranch Resilience Program through at least April 1, 2025, and request the Executive Director to provide a financial report, including a cash flow analysis, for the March 6, 2025 Board Meeting to inform board action regarding continued commitment to fund the FRRP beyond April 1, 2025. (Maitski/Bautista; 5-0-0)

8. Administration:

8.1 *Strategic Planning:* Executive Director Moreno reviewed the staff report regarding next steps for the development of the District's long range plan.

Motion to initiate the development of a long range plan as defined by Division 9 by directing the Executive Director to work with consultant Megan Fluke to develop and present a more detailed scope of work and budget for Board consideration at the March 2025 meeting. (Entin/Loera; 5-0-0)

8.2 *Board Meetings:* Consensus of the Board was to continue providing meals and temporarily continue with a 5:45 p.m. start time for the monthly meetings.

9. Board Member, Associate Director, Committee, and Executive Director Reports: Board members and Executive Director gave updates and reports on topics and activities relevant to the District.

10. New Business/Items for Next Agenda: Director Roben will give a report regarding his participation in the 2025 annual conference hosted by the Ecological Farming Association (EcoFarm).

11. Meeting Adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Consent Agenda

Action Items:

- 4.1. Approve minutes for the December 5, 2024 Regular Board meeting.
- 4.2. Accept financial statements for December 2024.
- 4.3. Authorize the Executive Director to approve an expense reimbursement claim in the amount of \$902.07 for Director Roben (2025 EcoFarm Conference in Asilomar).

- 4.4. Authorize the Executive Director to proceed with FY 2026 H-1B lottery registration and filing of a petition (if selected in the lottery) for FY 2026 on behalf of Nuoxian (Teddy) Peng; registration cost of \$790 and petition cost of \$5,610 (latter applies only if selected in the lottery).
- 4.5. Authorize the Executive Director to execute an amendment to the agreement with Megan Fluke to allow for additional hours needed for presentation and final completion of the SWOT analysis in the amount of \$1,250 (5 hours @ \$250).
- 4.6. Authorize the Board President or their designee to sign a no-cost Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), as authorized by Public Resources Code §9408(a) and subject to final review by District Council, with the Alameda County, Contra Costa, Loma Prieta, Solano and Suisun RCDs to formalize their mutual initiative to collaborate on agricultural programs, watershed restoration and enhancement projects, community outreach, and public education.
- 4.7. Authorize the Executive Director to execute a no-cost amendment to the agreement with Prometheus Fire Consulting for a change to the scope of work for the San Antonio Valley Vegetation Treatment Project (Project ID 2024-31), as required for the scope of work for CAL FIRE Agreement 5GA2155.

Information Only:

- 4.8. USDA Forest Service; *Aerial Detection Survey: 2024 Summary Report* (Tree Mortality and Damage); undated.
- 4.9. County of Santa Clara, Controller-Treasurer; *Los Gatos Notice of January 2025 RPTTF Distribution*; received January 2, 2025.
- 4.10. County of Santa Clara, Controller-Treasurer; *San Jose Notice of January 2025 RPTTF Distribution*; received January 2, 2025.
- 4.11. Santa Clara County Farm Bureau; *AG SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE: Santa Clara County Farm Bureau's Linda L. Lester Scholarship Application - DUE 3/7/2025* (outreach to students); received January 13, 2025
- 4.12. State Water Resources Control Board; *Department of Water Resources' Proposed Alternative to Modular Alternative 6a for New or Expanded Diversion Projects*; received January 16, 2025.
- 4.13. State Water Resources Control Board; *Opportunity to comment on a draft NPDES permit for groundwater treatment facilities in the San Francisco Bay region*; received January 17, 2025.
- 4.14. State Water Resources Control Board; *Second Amended Hearing Notice and Procedural Ruling (DCP)*; received January 17, 2025.
- 4.15. Santa Clara County Climate Collaborative; *ATTN: SC4 Resilience Fund Advisory Committee Member Position Application - OPEN NOW!*; received January 23, 2025.
- 4.16. Valley Water; *Working to protect Coyote Creek from flooding*; received January 27, 2025.
- 4.17. The Mercury News; *California farms fail as land values plunge amid groundwater crisis*; published January 28, 2025.
- 4.18. US Bureau of Land Management; *Bureau of Land Management – California* (outreach to students); received January 29, 2025.

- 4.19. State Water Resources Control Board; *Opportunity to Provide Public Comment - Draft 2026 California 303(d) List of Impaired Waters*; received January 30, 2025.
- 4.20. Together Bay Area; *Urban Communities, Thriving Ecosystems*; received January 30, 2025.
- 4.21. County of Santa Clara, Department of Planning and Development; *Lehigh 2023 Major RPA has been deemed complete*; received January 30, 2025.
- 4.22. The Mercury News; *Santa Clara County opts not to ban artificial turf on county-owned properties*; published January 30, 2025.
- 4.23. CAL FIRE; *\$5 Million Available to Promote Tribal Wildfire Resilience*; received January 30, 2025
- 4.24. San Francisco Bay Regional Water Board; *Notice of proposed settlement with Advanced Micro Devices, Inc. in Santa Clara County*; received January 31, 2025.
- 4.25. Santa Clara Valley Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program (SCVURPPP); *SCVURPPP Muni Ops AHTG - Rural Roads Workshop March 6th*; received January 31, 2025.
- 4.26. UC Davis; *How Urban Streams, Climate Change and Unhoused People Intertwine*; January 27, 2025 (District is a partner on the *Resilient and Equitable Urban Stream Corridors Project*).
- 4.27. LAFCO of Santa Clara County; *LAFCO Agenda Packet Now Available*; scheduled for February 5, 2025.
- 4.28. San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission; *BCDC Rising Sea Level Commissioner Working Group Meeting February 6th*; received January 24, 2025.
- 4.29. Santa Clara County Superior Court, Civil Grand Jury; *Webinar Opportunity: Demystifying the Santa Clara County Civil Grand Jury*; scheduled for February 10, 2025.
- 4.30. Coastal Conservancy; *Coastal Conservancy Hybrid Board Meeting*; scheduled for February 13, 2025 (*Se proporciona interpretación en español en vivo durante nuestras reuniones de la Junta en la teleconferencia de Zoom.)
- 4.31. Fresh Approach Bay Area; *Garden Workshop: "Soil Biology 101 / Biología de la Tierra 101"*; scheduled for March 1, 2025 (registration required).
- 4.32. NSCRCD/LPRCD; *亚洲种植者土壤健康教育与交流活动/Asian Grower Soil Health Education and Networking Event*; scheduled for March 13, 2025
- 4.33. Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors President Otto Lee; *Save The Date March 14th - Special Invitation State Of The County Address - El Estado del Condado - Bài Phát Biểu của Quận Hạt - 縣情報告會*, scheduled for March 14, 2025.
- 4.34. Alameda County RCD; *Save the Date 2025 State of the Alameda Creek Watershed Conference*; scheduled for May 1, 2025.