



# 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 29, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

Rick Lanman, M.D.  
*President*

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

Tess Byler  
*Director*

Bill Leikam  
*Director*

John Vidovich  
*Director*

Roger Castillo  
*Director Emeritus*

Nathan Hale  
*Associate Director*

Larry Johmann  
*Associate Director*  
*Director Emeritus*

Stephanie Moreno  
*Executive Director*  
*District Clerk*

Richard Roos-Collins  
*District Counsel*

Julie Gantenbein  
*District Counsel*

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### NOTICE PERTAINING TO TELECONFERENCING AND PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE MEETING

*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 to accommodate the schedules of guest speakers and/or members of the public in attendance for a specific item, 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**

Meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by President Lanman. Directors present: Vice-President Gary Jahns, Tess Byler (arrived at 6:06 p.m.), and Bill Leikam. Director John Vidovich was absent. Staff present: Stephanie Moreno, Executive Director/District Clerk.

#### **2. Approval of Agenda**

*Motion: Approve the agenda as presented. (Leikam/Jahns; 3-0-0; 2 absent)*

#### **3. Public Comment**

President Lanman announced that the aDNA sequencing manuscript has been completed and will be submitted for publication in a few days. Director Emeritus Roger Castillo shared his observations of Chinook salmon in-migration on Coyote Creek, which seems to have been triggered by the early flows created by releases from Anderson Dam due to the FERC dewatering order. ED Moreno asked if Valley Water is collecting data on this unique situation.

#### **4. Programs and Projects**

*Post-Fire Technical Assistance Program:* Executive Director Moreno gave a report to the Board regarding a Mount Hamilton landowner referral by CDFW regarding fire impacts to a stock pond. District Conservationist James Booth and Associate Director Hale conducted the initial site visit

and staff from McBain Associates will perform a subsequent site visit to develop erosion control recommendations. GCRCD is paying for water testing and consultant site visits; if ED Moreno determines this would be a good site for a demonstration project/example for post-fire erosion control practices, she will come back to the Board for approval to cost-share on mitigations needed that are not funded by the USDA Farm Service Agency. She mentioned there may be additional private landowners in the area who need assistance. The team also made a site visit to the Lick Observatory, but NRCS indicated they did not have any financial programs available to them to address post-fire impacts. ED Moreno will be reaching back out to them to see if they need technical assistance. The Board had no objections to the actions being taken nor the path forward indicated by the ED.

## 5. Administration

*Director Appointment Process:* ED Moreno gave background on the biennial appointment process by the Board of Supervisors (BOS) and stated she has had conversations with a number of people interested in either Director positions or Associate Director positions. President Lanman stated that Directors Leikam and Vidovich have indicated they are seeking reappointment and that Director Byler will not be seeking reappointment. He gave a summary of his meeting with President Chavez of the BOS, and indicated it was a very positive meeting, and that she is interested in getting our input on appointments. President Lanman also reviewed the alternate option of going back to elections. Director Leikam expressed concern that Director Vidovich is seeking reappointment when he is not attending meetings and appears to be in violation of District policy and State law; the Board discussed potential options to address that concern.

*Motion: Have the Executive Director share the names of interested candidates for Director and Associate Director positions with the BOS President; include the District policy on attendance and the attendance record for Directors who are candidates. (Leikam/Byler; 4-0-0; 1 absent).*

ED Moreno advised the Board that if the candidates have not yet submitted formal applications, she will need their permission to forward their names. She also recommended the Board of Directors consider opening discussions with the BOS in a non-appointment year to discuss adoption of a joint policy on RCD Director appointments, such as the one they have in San Diego County, so that the process is clearly defined.

## 6. Meeting Adjourned (at 7:18 p.m.) until November 5, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.