



# North Santa Clara Resource Conservation District

(formerly the Guadalupe-Coyote RCD)

An independent special district of the State of California

## SUMMARY MINUTES

Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors  
Thursday, February 1, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.



*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.*

Susan Hare  
President

Gail Bautista  
Vice-President

Frank Maitiski  
Director

Cynthia McColl  
Director

Paula Quintero  
Director

Larry Johmann  
Associate Director  
Director Emeritus

Rick Lanman, MD  
Associate Director  
Director Emeritus

Bill Leikam  
Associate Director  
Director Emeritus

Brian Schmidt  
Associate Director

Mel Sarmiento  
Associate Director

Kat Wilson  
Associate Director

Stephanie Moreno  
Executive Director &  
District Clerk

Julie Gantenbein  
District Counsel

1560 Berger Dr., Rm 211  
San Jose, CA 95112  
408-288-5888

gcrd@gcrd.org  
www.rcdsantaclara.org

- 1. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 5:01 p.m. Directors present: President Hare, Vice President Bautista, and Directors Maitiski and Quintero (arrived at 5:10 p.m.) Director McColl was absent (excused). Associate Directors present: Associate Director Leikam. Executive staff present: Executive Director/District Clerk Moreno and District Counsel Gantenbein.
- 2. Approval of Agenda**  
*Motion: Approve the agenda as presented. (Hare/Maitiski; 3-0-0; McColl and Quintero absent)*
- 3. Public Comment:** Jeannie Entin, resident of San Jose, introduced herself and said she was there to listen to the meeting as she has an interest in the potential open position on the Board of Directors.
- 4. Consent Agenda**  
*Motion: Approve the consent agenda as presented. (Maitiski/Bautista; 3-0-0; McColl and Quintero absent)*
- 5. Partner Reports**
  - 5.1 *USDA-NRCS:* No report.
  - 5.2 *Other Partners:* Seth Schalet, Santa Clara County FireSafe Council, gave an update on next steps for implementation of the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). President Hare asked if SCCFSC was engaged with the Tamien Nation on prescribed fire activities, and Executive Director Moreno suggested he invite them to make a presentation to their Board. Genevieve Yip, Valley Water, and the Directors discussed scheduling for the Anderson Dam tour.
- 6. Administration**
  - 6.1 *Director Appointment (item continued from 01/04/24):* The Board discussed the anticipated resignation of Director McColl and the recruitment process for her successor, and reviewed the draft letter to send to the Board of Supervisors.

*Motion: Authorize the President to send a letter to the President of the Board of Supervisors requesting the establishment of a process to fill vacancies, after review by District Counsel. (Maitski/Bautista; 4-0-0; McColl absent)*

- 6.2 *California Association of Resource Conservation Districts (CARCD):* District Counsel Gantenbein reviewed the background for the request and the recommendation to authorize District signature on a member petition to hold a CARCD special membership meeting and on a letter requesting association reports and documents. Director Maitski asked that a sentence be added to the petition requesting that all legislative activities be suspended until after the special meeting.

*Motion: Approve signing on to a petition to convene a special meeting of the CARCD membership to discuss issues related to bylaws compliance, to be submitted if signed by the requisite 5% of CARCD membership. (Maitski/Bautista; 4-0-0; McColl absent)*

*Motion: Request documents as listed in the letter and that any other RCDs who wish to join the District are welcome to do so. (Hare/Maitski; 4-0-0; McColl absent)*

- 6.3 *Strategic Planning Update:* Executive Director Moreno gave background and recommended the item be continued to the next meeting so that there is adequate time for discussion.
- 6.4 *Board Reports:* The Board received individual updates and reports on topics and activities relevant to GCRCD.
- 6.5 *Executive Director Report:* Executive Director gave a brief report on activities.

The Board took a five-minute recess, then reconvened in closed session.

**Closed Session:**

*Conference with District Counsel—Potential Litigation (Government Code §54956.9(d)(4); 1 item).*

**1. Return from Closed Session:**

The Board left closed session at 7:26 p.m., at which time it was reported that no reportable action was taken during closed session.

**2. Meeting was adjourned at 7:29 p.m.**

**Consent Agenda**

- 4.1 Approve minutes for the December 7, 2023 Board Meeting.
- 4.2 Accept financial reports through December 2023.
- 4.3 Accept the biennial audit for FY19 & FY20.
- 4.4 Authorization for the Executive Director to submit a proposal and required documents to CSU-Water for consideration as a subrecipient on their statewide grant application to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's *Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grants Program*, in order to expand environmental and climate justice programming and activities aligned with the District's Environmental and Social Justice Policy.

**Information Only:**

- 4.5 County of Santa Clara Finance Agency; *Los Gatos RDA SA RPTTF Distribution Notice and Summary*; dated January 2, 2024.
- 4.6 County of Santa Clara Finance Agency; *San Jose RDA SA RPTTF Distribution Notice and Summary*; dated January 2, 2024.
- 4.7 County of Santa Clara Finance Agency, *RE: Excess ERAF Distribution Update*; dated January 25, 2024.
- 4.8 RCD Project Tracker; *NSCRCD Los Gatos Creek Watershed Restoration Project Fact Sheet*.
- 4.9 NSCRCD Press Release; *Habitat suitability assessment finds over 2,000 square miles of historically roamed habitat in the San Francisco and Monterey Bay Counties still suitable for Tule elk*; January 2024.