



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, August 4, 2022, at 5:00 p.m.**

Gary Jahns, Ph.D.
President

Susan Hare
Vice-President

Gail Bautista
Director

Rick Lanman, M.D.
Director

Paula Quintero
Director

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

Roger Castillo
Watershed Project
Assistant

Julie Gantenbein
District Counsel

Richard Roos-Collins
Special Counsel

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Consistent with Government Code section 54953(e) and Guadalupe-Coyote RCD Resolution 21-07, and in light of the declared state of emergency related to COVID-19, this meeting was held via a virtual platform.

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 5:02 p.m. by President Jahns. Directors present: President Jahns, Vice President Hare, and Director Quintero. Directors Bautista and Lanman were absent (excused). Associate Directors present: Bill Leikam. Staff present: Executive Director/District Clerk Moreno.
- 2. Approval of Agenda:**
Motion: Approve the agenda as presented. (Hare/Quintero; 3-0-0).
- 3. Continuation of Local Emergency:**
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 July 7, 2022 through August 6, 2022 pursuant to Brown Act provision. (Jahns/Hare; 3-0-0)
- 4. Public Comment:** None
- 5. Consent Agenda:**
Motion: Approve the consent agenda as presented. (Jahns/Hare; 3-0-0).
- 6. Partner Reports**
 - 6.1 USDA-NRCS:** District Conservationist James Booth provided a report via email that the Hollister Service Center is finishing up contracts for the federal fiscal year, which ends September 30, 2022.
 - 6.2 Other Partners:** Seth Schalet, Chief Executive Officer for the Santa Clara County FireSafe Council, reported the Council has begun the update of the Santa Clara County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP); he will bring back additional information when it becomes available.

7. Administration:

- 7.1 *California Association of Resource Conservation Districts:* Executive Director Moreno reviewed the District's membership history with CARCD and reported that issues remain with the dues structure; leadership's lack of transparency; inadequate communication with its members and other resource conservation districts; its policy of denying access to State block grant funding for non-members, and that its efforts to build its own capacity appears to come at the expense of the RCDs it was created to represent. However, Ms. Moreno feels there is value in remaining a member because it provides the District with access to collaborative and funding opportunities not available to non-members, and will allow the District to continue to advocate internally for much-needed changes to the association.

Motion: Authorize the Executive Director to submit a request to CARCD for renewal of full membership at \$3,000, and further authorize her to negotiate up to \$5,000 in dues if the initial request is denied. (Hare/Jahns; 3-0-0).

- 7.2 *Board Member, Associate Director and Staff Reports:* The Board received updates and reports on topics and activities relevant to GCRC. Director Hare initiated a brief discussion as to how to become more engaged with legislative representatives and knowledgeable about the numbers and types of agricultural producers in the County. Executive Director Moreno suggested the Board invite the Agricultural Commissioner to present to the Board. Director Quintero inquired regarding the status of the Environmental Justice Data Fund grant opportunity; Ms. Moreno replied that the District is not eligible to apply, but she has provided the information to the community based organizations participating in the Community Grant Program Technical Assistance Program, and one has indicated they are interested. Associate Director Leikam reported on progress made with Director Lanman on the Tule elk habitat program. Ms. Moreno reminded the Board to send her any input they may have regarding funding for District programming and projects in anticipation of next month's budget hearing.

8. Adjourned meeting at 5:39 p.m. until September 1, 2022.

Consent Agenda

- 5.1 Approve minutes for the July 7, 2022, Board Meeting.
5.2 Accept financial reports through June 2022.
5.3 Authorize the President and Executive Director to sign revised letter of engagement with Harshwall & Company LLP for the FY 2021-2022 Biennial Audit.