

North Santa Clara Resource Conservation District

An independent special district of the State of California

ACTION MINUTES

Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

Thursday, December 5, 2024, at 5:30 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 by President Maitiski. Directors present for initial roll call: President Frank Maitiski, Vice President Gail Bautista, Director Jeannie Entin, and Director Matt Roben. Director Paula Quintero joined the meeting after approval of her just cause request to participate via Zoom pursuant to Government Code 54953. Executive staff present: Executive Director/District Clerk Stephanie Moreno and District Counsel Julie Gantenbein.

*Motion: Motion: Approve the request by Director Quintero to participate in the meeting virtually under the just cause provisions of the Brown Act.
(Entin/Bautista; 4-0-0; Quintero absent)*

- 2. Meeting Agenda:** Executive Director Moreno requested consent agenda Item 5.5 be moved to the regular agenda and agenda item 8.2 be continued until the January 2025 meeting to allow all new Directors to hear the report.

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

- 3. Introductions:** The Board welcomed new Director Matt Roben.

- 4. Public Comment:** None

- 5. Consent Agenda:**

Motion: Approve the consent agenda as amended. (Bautista/Entin; 5-0-0)

- 5.5 Santa Clara County LAFCO (moved from consent agenda):** Executive Director Moreno reported on the results of the LAFCO public hearing regarding out of area service agreements and indicated she would be sending a follow up letter to LAFCO on behalf of the District to ensure District-provided evidence appears in the public record rather than just the links to documents.

- 6. Presentation: *Healthy Playing Fields for Healthy Kids*:** The Board heard a presentation from Susan Hinton, Chair of the Plastic Pollution Prevention Committee for the Sierra Club Loma

Prieta Chapter, and Andrea Wald, member of the Community for Natural Play Surfaces on the environmental and health impacts of artificial turf.

7. Partner Reports:

- 7.1 *USDA-NRCS:* James Booth, District Conservationist, USDA-NRCS Hollister Service Center, provided a report on activities.
- 7.2 *Other Partners:* No reports.

8. Programs and Projects:

- 8.1 *Historic Sakauye House:* Individual Directors indicated their support of local efforts to preserve the historic Japanese farmhouse.
- 8.2 *Current Programs and Projects:* (continued until the January 2025 meeting).

9. Administration:

9.1 *Policies:*

Motion: Authorize District Council to execute an agreement with an employment law specialist in an amount not to exceed \$10,000 for personal policy review and handbook update. (Roben/Entin; 5-0-0)

9.2 *California Association of Resource Conservation Districts (CARCD):*

Motion: Appoint Board President Maitski as the CARCD delegate, with authority to vote on any of the needs of the District at meetings, and appoint all other Directors as alternate delegates as needed. (Roben/Entin; 5-0-0)

9.3 *Santa Clara County Special Districts Association (SCCSDA):* After discussion, the Board continued the item until the next meeting.

9.4 *District Name Change:*

Motion: Vice President Gail Bautista and Director Jeannie Entin will be the ad hoc committee on Naming and Branding. (Maitski/Bautista; 5-0-0)

9.5 *District Meetings:* After discussion, the Board continued the item until the next meeting to allow all new Directors to participate.

10. Board Member, Associate Director, Committee, and Executive Director Reports: Associate Director Lanman reported the Redwood Habitat Suitability Analysis has been accepted for publication; he requested that the District take a leadership role in the coordination of future activities and accepted the District's invitation to present the project at an upcoming meeting.

11. New Business/Items for Next Agenda: Program/project updates; SWOT analysis update, District meeting time/meals.

12. Meeting Adjourned

Consent Agenda

- 5.1 Approve minutes for the October 1, 2024 Regular Board meeting.
- 5.2 Accept financial statements for October 2024.
- 5.3 Approve the 2025 holiday schedule.

- 5.4 Authorize the Executive Director to implement the “Contracts Requiring Special Skills” section of the NSCRCD Bidding Policy and execute an agreement with Prometheus Fire Consulting in an amount not to exceed \$20,000 for completion of Section 1 of the San Antonio Valley Vegetation Treatment Project (Project ID 2024-31), as required by the scope of work for CAL FIRE Agreement 5GA21155.

Information Only:

- 5.5 ~~Public comments submitted by NSCRCD to Santa Clara County LAFCO; RE: *Comprehensive Review and Update of LAFCO Policies*; dated November 13, 2024. (moved to regular agenda)~~

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