

**Contra Costa Resource Conservation District**  
**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

June 17, 2025

The regular meeting of the **Contra Costa Resource Conservation District** was held Tuesday, June 17, 2025 at Diablo Valley College, Pleasant Hill.

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:** Bethallyn Black, Igor Skaredoff, Walter Pease & Renee Fernandez-Lipp

**ASSOC. DIRECTORS PRESENT:** Derene Allen & Tracey Rogers Brandt  
Remote: Bob Peoples

**RCD STAFF PRESENT:** Chris Lim & Patty Pell  
Remote: Ben Weise

**NRCS STAFF PRESENT:** Allen Curry, Soil Conservationist

**DIRECTORS EXCUSED:** Lorena Castillo

**THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY: Renee Fernandez-Lipp at 8:36 A.M.**

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE:**  
Brent Bucknum & James Hansen, Hyphae Design Laboratory

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:** BROWN ACT, SECTION (54954.2(B) (2))  
DETERMINATION THAT A NEED IMMEDIATE ACTION EXISTS:  
No item added

**NRCS REPORT:** Allen Curry provided updates on leases, staffing and office accommodations. Ben Weise gave EQIP and updates on the Cockett Hills project along with welcoming of new staff members to the Clayton office.

**CONSENT CALENDAR:**

Item 7.1-May 20, 2025 Board Minutes  
Item 7.2-May 2025 Financial Report

Both Items were pulled from the consent calendar for further discussion.

**7.1-May 20, 2025.** Following clarification on Item 8.1, Bethallyn Black moved to approve the minutes with revision. Igor Skaredoff seconded the motion. Motion carried 3:0. Walter Pease abstained.

**7.2—May 2025 Financial Report.** Following discussion on tax receipt and expenses, Walther Pease moved to approve the report as presented. Seconded by Bethallyn Black. Motion carried 4:0.

**DETERMINATION ITEMS:**

**8.1** Consider approval Hyphae Design Lab subcontract. Brent Bucknum, Hyphae Design Laboratory, provided an overview of the project, background, next steps along and status. Following this presentation, Walter Pease moved to approve subcontract with Hyphae Design Labs. Bethallyn Black seconded the motion. Motion carried 4:0.

**8.2** Approve proposed FY 2025-2026 budget. Chris Lim presented the methodology used to arrive at the forecasted budget. Following a brief discussion on line item increases, the Board requested further information. Walter Pease moved to hold a special meeting on the following Tuesday, June 24<sup>th</sup> at 8:30, to allow for additional information and explanations on forecasted changes. Bethallyn Black seconded the motion. Item postponed until June 24, 2025.

**8.3** Consider approval of Voluntary Local Program Agreements 36 (Richfield) and 37 (Suncrest). Following Ben Weise summarizing the RCD's prior VLP work and description of these two projects, Walter Pease moved to approve Voluntary Local Program Agreement 36 & 37. Igor Skaredoff seconded the motion. Motion carried 4:0.

**8.4** Approve Travel Expense for Renee Fernandez-Lipp to attend CSDA Annual Conference. Renee Fernandez-Lipp shared insights from prior conferences she attended and encouraged Board engagement in partner agencies. Following this discussion, Walter Pease moved to approve the travel expense for Renee Fernandez-Lipp to attend the CSDA Conference. Bethallyn Black seconded the motion. Motion carried 3:0 with Renee Fernandez-Lipp abstaining.

### **DISCUSSION:**

**9.1** DVC Update: Bethallyn Black introduced her replacement at DVC, Lorenzo Washington, who confirmed continued access for Board meetings.

**9.2** The Board agreed that Patty Pell would compile and distribute a list of upcoming events to include on future Board agendas.

### **REPORTS:**

**10.1** President Reports— **Renee Fernandez-Lipp**—Renee Fernandez-Lipp reiterated the value of attending conferences.

**10.2** Directors' Reports –  
**Igor Skaredoff**—Igor Skaredoff reported on the Fish Migration Day

**Bob Peoples**- Bob Peoples noted a strong community turnout and interest at the Pinole Creek Fish Passage.

**Walter Pease**—Walter Pease reported on the Butterfly Festival.

**10.3** Staff Reports—Board members appreciated photos and found the abstracts helpful.

**10.4** Executive Director Reports—Chris Lim shared updates on Watershed Coordinator recruitment, the unhoused project's participants, and potential funding opportunities.

Adjournment Motion: Walter Pease moved to adjourn the meeting; Motion seconded by Bethallyn Black. Renee Fernandez-Lipp adjourned the meeting at 11:02 a.m.

**Respectfully submitted, Patty Pell, Board Clerk, CCRC**