

Contra Costa Resource Conservation District
BOARD MEETING MINUTES

July 15, 2025

The regular meeting of the **Contra Costa Resource Conservation District** was held Tuesday, July 15, 2025 at Diablo Valley College, Pleasant Hill.

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

ASSOC. DIRECTORS PRESENT: Tracey Rogers Brandt
Remote: Bob Peoples, Derene Allen & Chris Choate

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

NRCS STAFF PRESENT: Luis Rivera-Cruz, District Conservationist

DIRECTORS EXCUSED: All Present

THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY: Renee Fernandez-Lipp at 8:33 A.M.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE:
No public

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

NRCS REPORT: Luis Rivera-Cruz provided an update on fieldwork, noted ongoing review of pending applications for contract conversion and confirmed EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentives Program) contracts.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

- Item 7.1-June 17, 2025 Board Minutes
- Item 7.2-June 2025 Financial Report
- Item 7.3-June 24, 2025 Special Board Meeting Minutes

Igor Skaredoff made a motion to approve Items 7.1, 7.2 & 7.3 as presented. Bethallyn Black seconded the motion. Motion carried 5:0.

DETERMINATION ITEMS:

8.1 Consider approval of amended contract with Contra Costa Flood Control District. Following Chris Lim explaining the need for the revised contract along with the updated terms and scope, Walter Pease moved to approve amended contract with Contra Costa Flood Control District. Bethallyn Black seconded the motion. Motion carried 5:0.

8.2 Consider approval of contract amendment with Metropolitan Transportation Commission for additional funding for Ambrose Green Infrastructure Enhancement project. Chris Lim outlined the additional funding needed to support the expanded work on the Ambrose Green Infrastructure project, previously presented at a prior Board meeting. Following this discussion, Walter Pease moved

to approve the amended contract with Metropolitan Transportation Commission. Igor Skaredoff seconded the motion. Motion carried 5:0.

8.3 Consider approval of contract with Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) for facilitation support for Contra Costa Shoreline Leadership Academy. Chris Lim introduced the leadership academy, described the initiatives, the target population, and the projected training. Following this discussion, Walter Pease moved to approve the contract with Bay Conservation and Development Commission. Bethallyn Black seconded the motion. Motion carried 5:0.

8.4 Consider approval of Access Agreement with EcoServices to allow access to the Peyton Slough Supplemental Environmental Project Site. Heidi Petty provided the background on the Peyton Slough Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) project, described the monitoring equipment and the related training, and explained that this agreement allows for the training described. Following this discussion, Lorena Castillo moved to approve the access agreement with EcoServices. Igor Skaredoff seconded the motion. Motion carried 5:0.

8.5 Consider approval of Memorandum of Understanding with Carquinez Regional Environmental Education Center (CREEC) to continue environmental education partnership. Heidi Petty shared updates on CREEC's growth resulting in an evolving partnership with the RCD with an updated Memorandum of Understanding. Following this discussion, Bethallyn Black moved to approve the MOU with CREEC. Lorena Castillo seconded the motion. Motion carried 5:0.

8.6 Consider approval of contract with Apex Civil Engineering and Land Surveying for the Crockett Waterfront Drainage SEP. Following Heidi Petty explanation why a site survey was necessary and clarifying the funding source, Igor Skaredoff moved to approve the contract with Apex Civil Engineering. Lorena Castillo seconded the motion. Motion carried 5:0.

8.7 Consider approval of Voluntary Local Program (VLP) agreements VLP-35 & VLP-38. Following Ben Weise updates on the ponds' restoration efforts, Igor Skaredoff moved to approve VLP 35 & VLP 38 agreements. Bethallyn Black seconded the motion. Motion carried 5:0

DISCUSSION:

9.1 CSDA Seat B Recommendation. Walter Pease moved to recommend Ryan Clausnitzer. Igor Skaredoff seconded the motion. Motion carried 5:0. Patty Pell to submit CSDA ballot.

9.2 SDRMA Board of Directors Recommendations. Walter Pease moved to recommend Tom Wright, Mike Scheafer, Robert Housley & Virginia Kiraly. Bethallyn Black seconded the motion. Motion carried 5:0. Patty Pell to submit SDRMA ballot.

REPORTS:

10.1 President Reports— **Renee Fernandez-Lipp**—Renee Fernandez-Lipp informed the Board that she will be excused from the next meeting due to scheduled work-related travel.

10.2 Directors' Reports –

Igor Skaredoff—Igor Skaredoff announced his retirement from the CCRCD Board and expressed interest in continuing to serve as an Associate Director.

Tracey Rogers Brandt- shared information about several upcoming community events.

10.3 Staff Reports—The Board briefly discussed the status of AI implementation, including its existing applications and potential future uses.

10.4 Executive Director Reports—Chris Lim provided updates on potential funding opportunities and described associated projects. Chris Lim also shared staffing updates and responded to questions regarding current staff workload and capacity.

Adjournment Motion: Bethallyn Black moved to adjourn the meeting; Motion seconded by Walter Pease. Renee Fernandez-Lipp adjourned the meeting at 10:12 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Patty Pell, Board Clerk, CCRC