



BOARD MEETING MINUTES
December 16, 2025

The regular meeting of the **Contra Costa Resource Conservation District** was held Tuesday, December 16, 2025 at Industrious, Concord, CA.

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

ASSOC. DIRECTORS PRESENT: Bob Peoples, Martin Steinpress, Derene Allen, Soumya Suresh & Chris Choate

RCD STAFF PRESENT: Chris Lim
Remote: Ben Weise & Genna Fudin

NRCS STAFF PRESENT: Luis Rivera-Cruz, District Conservationist, CCC NRCS

DIRECTORS EXCUSED: Bethallyn Black

Call to Order: Renee Fernandez-Lipp called the meeting to order at 10:31 A.M.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE:

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: (Gov. Code 54954.2 (B)): None added

NRCS REPORT: Luis Rivera-Cruz learned yesterday both EQIP and CSP are now due Jan 15. From national - narrow funding pools to 5. NRCS has lost employees (50% of engineers). Have to lose 4 employees to add 1. Contribution agreements need to be “boots on the ground” - outreach isn’t the essential part of the agreements.

PRESENTATIONS: None

CONSENT CALENDAR:

Item 7.1-October 21, 2025 Board Minutes
Item 7.2-October 2025 Financial Report

Motion to approve: Walter Pease, Lorena Castillo seconded the motion. Motion carried 4:0.

Ayes: Pease, Lipp, Skaredoff, Castillo

Nays: None

DETERMINATION ITEMS:

8.1 Consider approval of grant award with the Contra Costa Fish and Wildlife Committee for the Tracking Western Pond Turtle Upland Traversal with GPS Loggers project. Following an explanation on tracking

Western Pond Turtle and funding for staff time through grant with Abby. Started taking blood samples to see how species are mixing.

Motion to Approve: Lorena Castillo; Walter Pease seconded the motion. Motion carried 4:0.

Ayes: Pease, Lipp, Skaredoff, Castillo

Nays: None

- 8.2** Consider approval of Independent Contractor Agreement between the CCRCD and Habitat Potential for work on Pinole Library Contra Costa County Flood Control District-funded Mitigation Project

Motion to Approve: Walter Pease; Igor Skaredoff seconded the motion. Motion carried 4:0.

Ayes: Pease, Lipp, Skaredoff, Castillo

Nays: None

- 8.3** Consider Executive Director signing Letter of Commitment for Operations and Maintenance for the mak-warép Ohlone Land Conservancy's Ohlone Cultural Gardens Restoration and Mitigation Project at Russell Reserve Research Station

Motion to Approve: Walter Pease; Lorena Castillo seconded the motion. Motion carried 4:0.

Ayes: Pease, Lipp, Skaredoff, Castillo

Nays: None

DISCUSSION:

A brief discussion followed on whether it was worth considering - insurance bond (ask funder - it's in their interest)?

Involve DVC/CCC for student outreach in friends' group?

Demonstrate long term social investment (Miller Center for entrepreneurship - Derene)

REPORTS:

- 10.1** President Reports— Attended Giving Natives a Chance

- 10.2** Directors' Reports –

Lorena Castillo reported that she will no longer be able to serve on the Board.

Igor Skaredoff-NPS heavily impacted with government closure

Chris Choate- Brentwood bought truck load equivalents of compost - will meet with City of Brentwood folks to then distribute - only way to make it work is to give to farms.

- 10.3** Staff Reports—There were no questions

- 10.4** Executive Director Reports—Chris Lim reported that he will be on vacation from 12/26/25-1/15/26

Renee Fernandez-Lip adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Chris Lim via Patty Pell, Board Clerk, CCRCD