



# 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, September 3, 2020  
5:00 p.m.

Rick Lanman, M.D.  
*President*

Gary Jahns, Ph.D.  
*Vice-President*

Tess Byler  
*Director*

Bill Leikam  
*Director*

John Vidovich  
*Director*

Roger Castillo  
*Director Emeritus*

Nathan Hale  
*Associate Director*

Larry Johmann  
*Associate Director*  
*Director Emeritus*

Stephanie Moreno  
*Executive Director*  
*District Clerk*

Richard Roos-Collins  
*District Counsel*

Julie Gantenbein  
*District Counsel*

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### NOTICE PERTAINING TO TELECONFERENCING AND PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE MEETING

*Due to the Shelter-in-Place Order issued by Governor Gavin Newsom and the Santa Clara County Health Officer in response to COVID-19, this meeting was held via Zoom teleconference only, as permitted by the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20, Section 3. Call-in information for the meeting was provided on the agenda.*

*Note: Though agenda items may be considered out of order to accommodate the schedules of guest speakers and/or members of the public in attendance for a specific item, 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**

Meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m. by Vice-President Gary Jahns. Directors present: President Rick Lanman (arrived at 5:18 p.m.), Vice-President Gary Jahns, Tess Byler, and Bill Leikam. Director John Vidovich was absent. Staff present: Stephanie Moreno, Executive Director/District Clerk.

#### **2. Approval of Agenda**

*Motion: Approve the agenda as presented. (Byler/Leikam; 3-0-0)*

#### **3. Public Comment**

None

#### **4. Consent Agenda**

Director Byler requested that the financial report and the Associate Director policy be pulled from the consent agenda for discussion. Executive Director Moreno explained that the Associate Director policy was already been approved at the last meeting, and the item on the agenda is simply approving a resolution confirming that the policy was adopted at the August meeting; this is being done to establish a paper trail, but in the future, resolutions will be placed on the regular agenda with the policy. Director Jahns requested clarification as to how votes are recorded on each resolution when they are on the consent agenda. Director Jahns also asked for an explanation of how much of the money in the County Fund is part of the operating funds for the year. Executive Director

Moreno explained that this fiscal year's property taxes have not yet been collected, so the County Fund balance does not yet include the operating funds for this year, with the exception of the Silver Creek Linear Park mitigation funds. She also clarified that under the last few years' of approved budgets, the County Fund has been used for cash flow purposes to manage operations in between property tax installments. Based on the adopted budget for this fiscal year, the County Fund should be approximately the same at year-end, less any funds spent on the Silver Creek Linear Park project. Director Leikam suggested the Board leave the consent agenda as presented.

*Motion: Approve the consent agenda as presented. (Leikam/Jahns; 3-0-1; Byler Abstain).*

## **5. Partner Reports**

- 5.1 *USDA-NRCS Reports:* James Booth, District Conservationist for the Hollister Service Center, gave a report on NRCS' fire response and potential available funding, and answered questions regarding assistance with outreach to impacted farmers and ranchers. Executive Director Moreno reported that she and LPRCD Executive Director Iden have requested that DC Booth inquire as to the possibility of getting the RCDs in the SCU Lightning Complex area getting NRCS funding to provide dedicated a post-fire technical assistance.
- 5.2 *Valley Water Report:* Domingo Candelas, Local Government Affairs, reported on follow up to the meeting between Chair Hsueh and President Lanman, and is continuing to work on the permit waiver for the Silver Creek Linear Park. President Lanman discussed the possible joint collaborative projects he suggested during his meeting. He also asked for clarification on CEO Rick Callender's comment during the meeting that environmental stewardship is only a part of Valley Water's mission as it relates to water supply and flood control because it could impact the types of collaborative projects they are able to engage in.
- 5.3 *Other Partner Reports:* President DeDe Smullen of the Santa Clara County FireSafe Council thanked Executive Director Moreno for attending their meeting, and thinks it's a good start towards collaboration between our organizations as there is mission overlap. Would like to partner with us as much as possible, both on post-fire response and on other initiatives. Executive Director Moreno mentioned past discussion of GCRCD helping develop a rangeland management module for the Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

## **6. Programs and Projects**

- 6.1 *Post-Fire Recovery:* Ed Orre, Unit Forester for the Cal Fire Santa Clara Unit (SCU), gave an in-depth report on the recent fires in the Bay Area, including the SCU Lightning Complex fires; discussion regarding impacts to watershed health, including issues related to agricultural lands, wildlife habitat, and rural roads; potential action regarding provision of post-fire natural resource restoration technical assistance and participation in stakeholder programs and initiatives.

## **7. Administration**

- 7.1 *Annual Work Plan:* Executive Director Moreno presented the status of the FY19-20 Annual Work Plan and the proposed FY20-21 District Annual Work Plan. Director Jahns made comments about impacts on some activities due to COVID-19, and Director Jahns and Byler commented on the large number of activities included in the plan. Executive Director Moreno reminded the Board that the plan is a living document that is amended during the year to reflect changing priorities and/or new grants and programs. Board asked that the plan be amended to show priorities for planned activities; the Executive Director will incorporate that and bring the revised plan back to the Board for approval.

Motion: Approve the FY20-21 Annual Work Plan and have the Executive Director come back with priorities for activities to be incorporated in the plan. (Byler/Jahns; 4-0-0).

7.2 Associate Directors:

- 7.2.1 Term Renewal: Approve additional four-year term for Associate Director Larry Johmann, with term extended until September 30, 2024.

Motion: Approve an additional four-year term for Associate Director Larry Johmann, with term extended until September 30, 2024. (Lanman/Leikam; 4-0-0).

- 7.2.2 Term Renewal: Approve additional four-year term for Associate Director Nathan Hale, with term extended until September 30, 2024.

Motion: Approve an additional four-year term for Associate Director Nathan Hale, with term extended until September 30, 2024. (Lanman/Byler; 4-0-0).

8. **Director/Associate Director/Staff Updates:** Directors, Associate Directors and the Executive Director gave individual updates on topics and activities relevant to GCRCD.
9. **Meeting Adjourned (at 6:56 p.m.) until October 1, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.**

**Consent Agenda**

- 4.1 Approve minutes for the March 5, 2020 regular Board meeting.
- 4.2 Accept financial reports for August 2020.
- 4.3 Authorize the Executive Director and Board President to sign the FY19 and FY20 Biennial Audit engagement letter with Harshwall and Company LLP in the amount of \$8,652.00.
- 4.4 Approve Resolution 2020-01 authorizing an interim change to the Board's regular meeting time to 5:00 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month to accommodate the District's transition to online meetings in response to COVID-19.
- 4.5 Approve Resolution 2020-02 confirming adoption of the amended Public Records Act Policy.
- 4.6 Approve Resolution 2020-03 confirming adoption of the amended Vehicle Use Policy.
- 4.7 Approve Resolution 2020-04 confirming adoption of the amended Associated Director Policy.
- 4.8 Approve Resolution 2020-05 confirming adoption of the Records Retention Policy.

**Information Only:**

- 4.9 County of Santa Clara; *FY20 Year End Investment Information*; August 4, 2020.
- 4.10 County of Santa Clara; *County of Santa Clara Treasury Investment Portfolio Status*; August 12, 2020.
- 4.11 Carbon Cycle Institute (CCI); Agreement to provide services for the Carbon Farming Regional Hubs Fund Development Work Group; August 27, 2020.

- 4.12 USDA-NRCS; *After the Fire Do's and Don'ts Fact Sheet*, August 27, 2020.
- 4.13 California Water Quality Monitoring Council; *Water Resilience Portfolio Initiative Announcement*; August 27, 2020.
- 4.14 *GCRC D 2020 Local Agency Biennial Notice*; August 31, 2020.