



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, July 7, 2022, at 5:00 p.m.**

Gary Jahns, Ph.D.
President

Susan Hare
Vice-President

Gail Bautista
Director

Rick Lanman, M.D.
Director

Paula Quintero
Director

Larry Johmann
Associate Director
Director Emeritus

Bill Leikam
Associate Director
Director Emeritus

Mel Sarmiento
Associate Director

Kat Wilson
Associate Director

Stephanie Moreno
Executive Director
District Clerk

Nathan Hale
Program Manager

Roger Castillo
Watershed Project
Assistant

Julie Gantenbein
District Counsel

Richard Roos-Collins
Special Counsel

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Consistent with Government Code section 54953(e) and Guadalupe-Coyote RCD Resolution 21-07, and in light of the declared state of emergency related to COVID-19, this meeting was held via a virtual platform.

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 at 5:03 p.m. by President Jahns. Directors present: President Jahns, and Directors Bautista, Lanman and Quintero. Vice-President Hare was absent (excused). Staff present: Executive Director/District Clerk Moreno.
- 2. Approval of Agenda:**
Motion: Approve the agenda as presented. (Quintero/Lanman; 4-0-0).
- 3. Continuation of Local Emergency:** Executive Director Moreno presented the information regarding the requirements of AB 361, which allows the Board of Directors to continue remote teleconferencing because in-person meetings would continue to cause imminent risk to attendees due to the continued threat of COVID-19.
Motion: Adopt a resolution proclaiming a local emergency, ratifying the proclamation of a State of Emergency by Governor Newsom's State of Emergency by Governor Newsom's on March 4, 2020, and authorizing remote teleconference meetings of the legislative bodies of GCRCD for the period of July 7, 2022 through August 6, 2022 pursuant to Brown Act provision. (Lanman/Quintero; 4-0-0)
- 4. Public Comment:** Linden Shea, City of San Jose, presented information regarding an ad hoc group she participates in that is in the conceptual phases of establishing pollinator corridors. They are looking for partner agencies to participate in funding and implementation.
- 5. Consent Agenda:**
Motion: Approve the consent agenda as presented. (Jahns/Lanman; 4-0-0).

6. Partner Reports:

- 6.1 *USDA-NRCS:* District Conservationist James Booth introduced Soil Conservationist Katie White to the Board and proposed that the Hollister Service Center and the District work together to develop a project to build better wildlife and pollinator connectivity within the region. The Board indicated their interest in engaging in this effort. He also indicated that NRCS will be opening an Urban Agriculture office in Oakland.
- 6.2 *Other Partners:* Genevieve Yip, Valley Water Office of Government Relations, provided answers to the questions posed by the Directors at the last meeting.

7. Programs and Projects

- 7.1 *Tule Elk Habitat Suitability Analysis Project:* Director Lanman and Executive Director Moreno presented background information regarding the proposal to conduct a Tule elk habitat suitability analysis, which will be required by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for any translocation project proposed in the future. Ms. Moreno indicated Mr. Connor has the specific academic education and experience needed for this type of study and recommended a finding that a sole source agreement was warranted.

Motion: Authorize the Executive Director to execute a research agreement with Thomas Connor in an amount not to exceed \$14,400, with the finding that it qualifies as a sole source agreement. (Lanman/Bautista; 3-0-0).

Note: Director Bautista experienced technical difficulties at this time; she was available to make the motion, but lost internet connection prior to the vote.

8. Administration:

- 8.1 *Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget:* Executive Director Moreno presented year-end financial reports and the Board discussed funding priorities for new fiscal year. She will bring back the draft FY 22-23 budget for final review and approval at the next meeting.
- 8.2 *District Name Change:* Executive Director Moreno reviewed her staff report and the Board discussed proceeding with a name change for the District.

Motion: Officially initiate the process to change the legal name of the District, subject to subsequent approval of the selected name by resolution of the Board of Directors. (Lanman/Quintero; 4-0-0).

Motion: Officially create the Ad Hoc District Naming and Branding Committee; designate the committee as subject to the Brown Act in order to provide greater transparency and public participation in the process; officially appoint Vice-President Hare, Director Lanman, and Associate Director Wilson to the committee; delegate outreach and engagement responsibilities to the committee; and assign the Executive Director and District Counsel to work with the committee on documents and recommendations for final consideration by the Board of Directors by its October 2022 Board meeting. (Lanman/Jahns; 4-0-0).

- 8.3 *Board Member, Associate Director and Staff Reports:* Directors and Associate Directors shared individual updates and reports on topics and activities relevant to GCRCD.

9. Adjourned meeting at 6:26 p.m. until August meeting.

Consent Agenda

- 5.1 Approve minutes for the June 2, 2022, Board Meeting.
- 5.2 Accept financial reports through May 2022.
- 5.3 Authorize the President and Executive Director to sign letter of engagement with Harshwall & Company LLP for the FY 2020 & FY 2021 Biennial Audit.

- 5.4 Authorize the Executive Director to execute an agreement with ReScape, a nonprofit organization, to partner on implementation of its successful Valley Water grant award for the *ReScape/Earth Foundries Bioswale Biochar Installation & Training Project*; project partnership approved by the District on March 3, 2022.
- 5.5 Authorize the Executive Director to execute an agreement with the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy, a nonprofit organization, to partner on implementation of its successful Valley Water grant award for the *Environmental Stewardship through Education & Program Scaffolding Project*; project partnership approved by the District on March 3, 2022.

Information Only

- 5.6 Report released by Clean Water Action, Community Alliance with Family Farmers, CivicWell, University of California Agriculture & Natural Resources, and Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability; *SGMA and Underrepresented Farmers - Impact of Groundwater Sustainability Plans on Underrepresented Farmers*; dated May 2022.
- 5.7 Correspondence from the County of Santa Clara Finance Agency; *Redevelopment Property Tax Trust Fund (RPTTF) Distribution*; dated June 1, 2022.
- 5.8 Correspondence from Santa Clara County Local Area Formation Commission (LAFCO); *LAFCO Budget for Fiscal Year 2022-2023*; dated June 6, 2022.
- 5.9 News Release from California High-Speed Rail Authority; *California High-Speed Rail Releases Final Environmental Studies to Finalize Project Alignment into San Francisco*; dated June 10, 2022.
- 5.10 Correspondence from Santa Clara Valley Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program (SCVURPPP); *FY 22-23 Watershed Watch Campaign Work Plan*; dated June 29, 2022.