



Resource Conservation District  
Ventura County

**MINUTES**  
**Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors**  
**Wednesday, September 21, 2011**

**CALL TO ORDER** The **September 21, 2011** Regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Ventura County Resource Conservation District (RCD) was called to order by President Mike Mobley at 9:06 a.m., at the Ventura County Public Works Agency Watershed Protection District – Conference Room, 11251- B Riverbank Drive, Ventura, CA 93004, with a quorum of Directors present.

**ROLL CALL & INTRODUCTIONS**

**DIVISION 1, (Ojai Division)**

Victor Contreras, Secretary  
Ron Asquith **Absent**  
Bud Sloan **Absent**

**DIVISION 2, (Santa Clara Division)**

Michael Mobley, President  
Doug Nelson

**DIVISION 3, (South Ventura County)**

Chris DeVan **Absent**  
Carol Kurtz  
Alyse Lazar

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Martin Melvin, Executive Officer  
Debra Gillis, Finance and Operations Director

**Agenda:** President Mobley presented the agenda for board approval. Director Lazar asked that item 5.2 Financial Reports for July and August 2011, be moved to Section 6. Action Calendar. President Mobley stated that we would discuss it with the Consent Calendar items. On motion by Director Kurtz, Seconded by Nelson, the Board approved the **September 21, 2011** Agenda. Motion carried 5-0.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 20, 2011 were presented for approval. On motion by Director Nelson, Seconded by Contreras, the board voted to approve the minutes of the July 20, 2011 regular meeting. Director Lazar abstained as she was not present at the July 20, 2011 regular meeting. Motion failed.

## REPORTS

**Debra Gillis, Finance and Operations Director** presented the financial reports for the period ended **August 31, 2011** for the Board to approve. Discussion on the financial reports included a request from Director **Kurtz** to see detail on credit card expenses exceeding \$500 in the financial reports and a question by Director **Lazar** regarding employee salaries and benefits for the month of July 2011. Debra Gillis stated that there was an error on the Employee Benefits line item account and it was overstated. This will be corrected. On motion by Director Contreras, Seconded by Nelson, the Board voted to approve the financial reports for the period ended **August 31, 2011**. Director **Lazar** voted no, based on her verbal statement that she could not approve the budget because the board did not sanction the expenditures in July and August 2011 for the Education program, and Director **Kurtz** abstained but did not provide an explanation for her abstention. Motion failed.

**Marty Melvin, Executive Officer** discussed with the Board the current projects and their status. The Mobile Lab Prop 84 agreement has been finalized. A TAC (kick-off) meeting was held in September to begin work on the grant. The summer education pilot program at Limoneira was well received and the donor was pleased. The RCD has been invited by the LA Regional Water Board to apply for a grant through EPA Clean Water Act to implement BMP's with matching funds for agricultural producers.

**Marty Melvin, Executive Officer** discussed with the Board the status of the current HECO projects and distributed a report with updated status. There was not a lot of activity on the HECO program recently as we attempt to close out the existing HECO's in anticipate of the new County grading ordinance.

**Dawn Afman, NRCS District Conservationist** reported on changes with the Farm Bill and how applicants will now be ranked by region rather than by office. She also reported that she attended a tour at Matilija Canyon. Dawn also spoke about an upcoming fire season meeting that will be held to inform individuals about the upcoming fire season, what to expect, and how to reduce risks of fire. A new soil conservationist has joined NRCS at the Somis office. Dawn also spoke about the new conservation plans that the Somis NRCS office is working on.

**Tom Wehri, CARCD Board President** spoke about the purpose of CARCD and the development of the long range plan, which will include developing a task force to identify priorities and how those priorities will be addressed. Tom also spoke about looking at Division 9 of the Public Resources Code when planning to bring RCD's back to what they were designed to do. Tom also reported on SB436 and the efforts of the Inland Empire RCD and the Riverside Corona RCD to insure that RCD's were included in that bill. Tom also advised that Special District Institute has employed a full time lobbyist to work with special districts on legislative efforts. And lastly, Tom reported that California Forward has stepped back and is looking at different ways to improve government rather than attempting to completely revamp it. California Forward's president is also on the board of directors of the Yolo County Resource Conservation District, which should help with California Forward's understanding of the importance of RCD's.

## Motions & Resolutions

6.1 On motion by Director Contreras, Seconded by Nelson, the Board approved the VCRCDD's updated fee schedule with some minor wording changes. Motion carried 5-0.

6.2 Discussion and possible action on accepting the 2010-2010 Annual Audit was tabled to the next regular meeting in the interest of time.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 21, 2011

Director Lazar requested a closed session at the beginning of the October 19, 2011 Regular Board Meeting to begin work on the performance evaluation of the Executive Officer.

**ADJOURNMENT:** President Mobley adjourned the meeting at 10:38 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Martin Melvin, Clerk of the Board (DG)

MINUTES APPROVED: October 19, 2011

PRESIDENT:   
MIKE MOBLEY

SECRETARY   
VICTOR CONTRERAS