

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
Of the San Benito Resource Conservation District**

February 26, 2015 at 5:00pm

The SBRCD typically meets the 4th Thursday of the month at the NRCS Field Office at 2337 Technology Parkway, Suite C in Hollister, CA at 5pm.

1. Meeting Called to Order by Paul Hain at 5:15pm
Present (alphabetical order): Camille Abreu-Woida (CAW), Paul Hain (PH), Athena Pratt (AP),
2. Orders of the Day – None taken
3. Public Comments – Devii Rao: University of California Extension, San Benito County: Area Livestock & Natural Resources Advisor. Conducts extension, education, and applied research program focused on livestock production and marketing, food safety, herd health and management, forage production, invasive species, grazing management, water quality, soil quality, and wildlife habitat and management. Devii will do research the first six months to determine the needs and issues in SBC and will spend the next year addressing those concerns. www.cesanbenito.ucanr.edu 831-637-5346
4. Approval of Minutes April, September, October 2014; Jan, Feb (Special Call in Conference Meeting) 2015 – None taken
5. Treasurer’s Report/Pay Bills (discussion and action)
 - a. Approve of Revenue and Expenditure Transaction Detail Summary – None taken
6. New Business (discussion and action)
 - a. Area RCD meeting- last Wednesday in April, Ventura county- letter from Karen Buhr
 - b. San Benito County Weed Management Area MOU
 - c. Ranchers’ Toolbox- directory of local resources
 - d. CHEER- Arundo removal in Pacheco Creek
 - e. Gifts for Stacie Ruffoni, John Gregg and Rani Douglas - (PT) stated that we should give them a thank you gift.
 - f. Pajaro Restoration with children and youth (CAW) talked about the upcoming restoration planting days coming up on March 12 & 13 with students from Gilroy. She also stated that some of the teachers at Spring Grove School in Hollister are interested in participating in the next planting session next winter.
 - g. RCD short and long range plan
 - h. SBRCD activation at SAM.gov – plans to re-activate the SAM account
 - i. Drought tolerant landscaping at Brigantino Irrigation (AP) & (PH) talked about the planter boxes outside of Brigantino Irrigation and the need to plant drought tolerant plants in the boxes.
7. Old Business (discussion and possible action)

- a. CAL WORKS contract, assisting with Water Quality plans? Grant writing? (AP) mentioned a couple of options for the CAL Works contract, hiring someone to write grants for the RCD, hiring someone to perform outreach and/or working on the Water Quality Plan.
 - b. Mitigation Funds for In-Stream Restoration – Funds held (\$20,000) at Santa Cruz Co RCD, SBRCD would need to develop a scope of work to present to SCCRCD before funds are moved over to the SBRCD.
8. Ongoing Reports (discussion. Limit 10 minutes per partner.)
 - a. NRCS
 - b. Pajaro Watershed Coordinator
 - c. Projects and Program Updates- 2014 PIR annual report: (PH) asked a copy to be emailed to all board members along with the 2015 Business Plan.
 - d. Director's Reports
9. Incoming Correspondence (Correspondence folder is available for review at each board meeting, but is not included in the formalized agenda)
 - a. Ag in the Classroom videos of SBC farmers (Napa County)
 - b. \$18M Beginning Farmer/ Rancher and \$9 for Veteran/ Socially Disadvantaged Farmers grants
 - c. San Benito Slow Food Chapter newsletter
 - d. Farm Bureau Farm Day
 - e. Santa Cruz County report on the value of natural resources
10. Outgoing Correspondence
11. Upcoming Meetings and workshops
 - a. Workshop on Brown's Act, Feb 26, 6-8 pm, hosted by SBC Office of Education
 - b. Rustici Range Symposium, March 3, 4
 - c. TNC Pajaro Restoration planting days with Rucker Elementary, March 12 and 13
 - d. Soil Health at Paicines Ranch, March 4-6
 - e. San Benito Working Landscape Group, March 11
 - f. CA Climate and Agricultural Summit, March 24-25, Phil Foster and Paul Hain will be presenters.
 - g. Santa Clara County Weed Symposium, March 25
 - h. Hummingbird Workshop (Earth Day) April 22, 2015, Sobrato HS
12. Adjournment by Paul Hain, **6:30pm**