



INLAND EMPIRE

RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Minutes of the Inland Empire Resource Conservation District Board Meeting

In-Person

Thursday, August 10th, 2023 at 12 PM
25864 Business Center Drive, Suite K
Redlands, CA 92374

Virtual: <https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/84256383138?pwd=MUpTM3pnT3dBaXpBZopkcStPO2lydzog>

Meeting ID: 837 3314 9062

Passcode: 914797

Phone: 1-669-444-9171

Directors Present: President Rick Gomez; Vice-President Nancy Sappington; Director Brad Buller; Director David Friedman; Associate Director Jim Earsom

Directors Absent: Secretary-Treasurer Rod LeMond; Director Lorien Sander; Associate Director Terrie Andrews

Staff Present: District Manager Mandy Parkes; Administrative Programs Lead Jennifer Castillo; Administrative Assistant Valerie Velazquez; Sustainable Ag Lead Nancy Noriega; Ed Programs Lead Gaby Preciado; Conservation Educator Alma Eichman; Mitigation Programs Lead Jose Mora; Forester II Adrian Poloni; Community Engagement Specialist Crystal Valenzuela; Conservation Programs Manager Susie Kirschner; Project Assistant Xochitl Hidalgo; Forestry Programs Lead Melanie Garcia

Members of the Public: NRCS District Conservationist Phuong Woolery

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Rick Gomez called the meeting to order at 12:08 PM

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

III. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. August 10th, 2023 Board Meeting Agenda
2. Minutes of the June 8th, 2023 Regular Board Meeting
3. July/August 2023 Checks and Agreements Report
4. NOE Post-Fire Recovery at Bear Pawn Reserve

Director Brad Buller provided the motion to approve the consent calendar. Director David Friedman provided the second. The consent calendar was approved unanimously, 4-0.

Buller	Aye	Reed	Absent
Friedman	Aye	Sanders	Absent
Gomez	Aye	Sappington	Aye
LeMond	Absent		

IV. REPORTS

1. Department Report

New Forestry Programs Lead Melanie Garcia gave introduction.

2. LRPPG Report

District Manager Mandy Parkes provided updates on LRPPG activities and progress, including an updated calendar of activities in 2023-24.

3. NRCS Report

Redlands Field Office District Conservationist Phuong Woolery updated Board Members on NRCS deadlines and program activities over the last month.

V. GRANTS

1. Quarterly Grants Snapshot through 6-30-23

There was no discussion on the Quarterly Grants Snapshot

VI. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion and Possible Approval of the Grant Agreement with the California Department of Food and Agriculture. **Director Buller provided the motion to approve the Grant Agreement with the California Department of Food and Agriculture. Vice-President Sappington provided the second. The motion was approved unanimously, 4-0.**

Buller	Aye	Reed	Absent
Friedman	Aye	Sanders	Absent
Gomez	Aye	Sappington	Aye
LeMond	Absent		

2. Discussion and Possible Approval of the Implementation Agreement with the California Association of Resource Conservation Districts. **Director Buller provided the motion to approve the Implementation Agreement with the California Association of Resource Conservation Districts . Director David Friedman provided the second. The motion was approved unanimously, 4-0.**

Buller	Aye	Reed	Absent
Friedman	Aye	Sanders	Absent
Gomez	Aye	Sappington	Aye
LeMond	Absent		

3. Discussion and Possible Approval of the 7th Amendment to IERCD’s Lease. **Vice-President Sappington provided the motion to approve the 7th Amendment to IERCD’s Lease. Director Buller provided the second. The motion was approved unanimously, 4-0.**

Buller	Aye	Reed	Absent
Friedman	Aye	Sanders	Absent
Gomez	Aye	Sappington	Aye
LeMond	Absent		

4. Discussion and Possible Approval of the Funding Agreement with the Southern California Mountains Foundation. **Vice-President Sappington provided the motion to approve the Funding Agreement with the Southern California Mountains Foundation. Director Buller provided the second. The motion was approved unanimously, 4-0.**

Buller	Aye	Reed	Absent
Friedman	Aye	Sanders	Absent
Gomez	Aye	Sappington	Aye
LeMond	Absent		

5. Discussion and Possible Approval of the Funding Agreement with the Wildlands Conservancy. **Director Buller provided the motion to approve the Funding Agreement with the Wildlands Conservancy. Vice-President Sappington provided the second. The motion was approved unanimously, 4-0.**

Buller	Aye	Reed	Absent
Friedman	Aye	Sanders	Absent
Gomez	Aye	Sappington	Aye
LeMond	Absent		

6. Discussion and Possible Approval of the Grant Services Agreement with the Resource Conservation District of Greater San Diego County. **Vice-President Sappington provided the motion to approve the Grant Services Agreement with the Resource Conservation District of Greater San Diego County. President Gomez provided the second. The motion was approved unanimously, 4-0.**

Buller	Aye	Reed	Absent
Friedman	Aye	Sanders	Absent
Gomez	Aye	Sappington	Aye
LeMond	Absent		

7. Discussion and Receive/File IERCD Quarterly Financials, 2022-2023⁴th Quarter Ending 6-30-23. **No action was taken on this item.**

8. Discussion and Possible Action on the Phase II ESA and Funding Agreement for the Holmes Property. **Director Buller provided the motion to approve the Phase II ESA and Funding Agreement for the Holmes Property. Director Friedman provided the second. The motion was approved unanimously, 4-0.**

Buller	Aye	Reed	Absent
Friedman	Aye	Sanders	Absent

Gomez	Aye	Sappington	Aye
LeMond	Absent		

VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Strategic Plan Update

Staff provided proposed updates to the IERCD’s Strategic Plan. Board Members requested tabling changes and instead adding a quarterly Strategic Plan progress update to Meeting discussion. Staff committed to Strategic Plan Quarterly follow up beginning at the October 2023 Board Meeting.

VIII. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

1. Director Friedman requested an update on research into investing with green firms as discussed at a previous meeting. Staff will provide follow up at the next Board Meeting.

IX. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- 1. Annual Meeting Action Items
- 2. MOA with City of Ontario
- 3. Quarterly Strategic Plan Report

X. ADJOURN MEETING

President Rick Gomez adjourned this meeting at 1:18 PM

Approved this 12th Day of October, 2023

DocuSigned by:
Rick Gomez
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Rick Gomez, President

DocuSigned by:
NANCY SAPPINGTON
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Nancy Sappington, Vice-President