



INLAND EMPIRE

RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Minutes of the Inland Empire Resource Conservation District Board Meeting

In-Person

Thursday, October 12th, 2023 at 12 PM
2024 Orange Tree Lane,
Redlands, CA 92374

Virtual Meeting Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85698834679?pwd=eG9vRHZYSU9iT1JnTnYwaTdhcHB3UT09>

Meeting ID: 856 9883 4679

Passcode: 302537

Phone: 1-669-900-6833

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

Directors Absent: Secretary-Treasurer Rod LeMond; Director Tricia Reed; Associate Director Terrie Andrews

Staff Present: District Manager Mandy Parkes; Administrative Programs Lead Jennifer Castillo; Administrative Assistant Valerie Velazquez; Ed Programs Lead Gaby Preciado; Conservation Educator Alma Eichman; Community Engagement Specialist Crystal Valenzuela; Conservation Programs Manager Susie Kirschner; Forestry Programs Lead Melanie Garcia; Mitigation Programs Lead Jose Mora

Members of the Public: Brad Buller (attending as public from non-agendized location); NRCS - Redlands Field Office District Conservationist Katy Lam; Soil Hub Coordinator Rachel Pettit

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Rick Gomez called the meeting to order at 12:17 PM

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

III. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. October 12th, 2023 Board Meeting Agenda
2. Minutes of the August 10th, 2023 Regular Board Meeting

3. September 2023 Checks and Agreements Report

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

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

IV. REPORTS

1. Department Report

Staff introduced Rachel Petitt, Regional Soil Hub coordinator for Southern California. Ms. Petitt will be working with a group of RCDs on elevating facilitation of soil health planning and completion in individual districts and through multi-district collaboration.

2. LRPPG Report

District Manager Mandy Parkes and Community Engagement Specialist Crystal Valenzuela provided brief updates on Master Planning and upcoming events at Louis Robidoux Parkland and Pecan Grove.

3. NRCS Report

Acting District Conservationist Katy Lam provided an introduction and brief update on NRCS programs and timelines out of the Redlands Field Office.

4. NACD Report

President Rick Gomez and Vice-President Nancy Sappington provided an update on the Pacific/Southwest Joint Region Meeting held in September in Lake Tahoe.

5. CARCD Report

Ms. Parkes provided information on the SoCal Inland Region meeting, scheduled for October 30th. Three members of the IERCD Board and three staffers are scheduled to attend.

V. GRANTS

1. Presentation - IERCD CUSP Grant

Conservation Programs Manager Susie Kirschner gave an overview of the rollout of recently approved California UnderServed Producer (CUSP) Grant

2. Quarterly Grants Report - 2023-2024 Q1 Ending 9-30-23

3. Pending Grants

Ms. Parkes and Ms. Kirschner provided brief updates on pending grants.

VI. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion and Possible Approval of the Memorandum of Agreement with the City of Ontario. **Director Lorien Sanders provided the motion to approve the Memorandum of Agreement with the City of Ontario. Vice-President Nancy Sappington provided the second. The motion was approved unanimously, 4-0.**

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

2. Discussion and Possible Approval of the Funding Agreement with the City of Yucaipa. **Vice-President Nancy Sappington provided the motion to approve the Funding Agreement with the City of Yucaipa. President Rick Gomez provided the second. The motion was approved unanimously, 4-0.**

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

3. Discussion and Possible Approval of the Amendment to the Conservation Services Agreement with the City of Yucaipa. **Director Lorien Sanders provided the motion to approve the Amendment to the Conservation Services Agreement with the City of Yucaipa. President Rick Gomez provided the second. The motion was approved unanimously, 4-0.**

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

- 4. Receive and File - 2023-20 Q1 Financial Statements.
No Action taken on this item.

5. Discussion and Possible Approval of the Cancellation of the Regular December IERCD Board Meeting and Scheduling of a Special Meeting for the Month of December. **Vice-President Nancy Sappington provided the motion to approve the Cancellation of the Regular December IERCD Board Meeting and Scheduling of a Special Meeting for the Month of December. Director David Friedman provided the second. The motion was approved unanimously, 4-0.**

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

VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 1. IERCD Investments Update -

Ms. Parkes provided updates to a green investing discussion from an earlier 2023 meeting. Directors thanked Ms. Parkes for the update and requested the same research be done on the institution holding the District’s checking account, to be provided at the next Board Meeting.

- 2. EV Charging Station

Staff provided brief updates, focused on ongoing discussions with the owner of IERCD HQ at Business Center Drive in Redlands. Additional updates will be provided as quickly as possible, to enable continued movement towards installation of stations in Redlands or at LRPPG.

- 3. November Board Tour

Board members expressed unanimous interest at facilitation of a Special November Board Meeting at RCPOSD Crestmore Manor HQ, followed by an LRPPG Tour.

VIII. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Board Members requested development of “green” policies focused on sustainable vehicles and investment options, in addition to development of a land acknowledgement for use at future IERCD Board Meetings and agendas.

IX. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- 1. 3rd Amendment to the Conservation Services Agreement with the San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District
- 2. 2022-23 Audited Financial Statements - ready for next meeting

X. CALENDAR

Board members reviewed upcoming events and meetings pertinent to IERCD business.

XI. NATIVE GARDEN TOUR

XII. ADJOURN MEETING

President Rick Gomez adjourned this meeting at 1:37 PM

Approved this 9th Day of November, 2023

DocuSigned by:
Rick Gomez
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Rick Gomez, President

Signed by:
Nancy Humenik Sappington
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Nancy Sappington, Vice-President