SUMMARY MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Monday, January 12, 2015
6:00 p.m.

1. **Call to Order:** President Castillo called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Directors Rick Lanman and Bill Leikam were present at roll call. Director Mondy Lariz arrived at approximately 6:45 p.m.

2. **Approval of Agenda:** There were no changes to the agenda.
   
   Motion: Approve the agenda as presented. (Lanman/Leikam; 4-0-0)

3. **Closed Session:** Pending Litigation (Government Code Section 54956.9(a))

   The Board met in closed session with Counsel regarding the Fish and Aquatic Habitat Collaborative Effort (FAHCE) Settlement Agreement regarding water rights of the Santa Clara Valley Water District on Coyote, Guadalupe, and Stevens Creeks. Direction was given to staff.

4. **Return to Open Session:** The Board returned to open session at 7:16 p.m.

5. **Public Comment Period:** ED Moreno reviewed an email from former Director Libby Lucas stating her belief that the “present US COE Shoreline Study is not entirely realistic as to flood integrity of our two major tributaries to South Bay, Guadalupe River and Coyote Creek. Would like to see SCVWD reflect on earlier commentary by their staff in regards benefits of flood retention basins in moderating peak stream flood flows with high, storm driven, bay tide level.”

6. **Approval of Minutes:** For the minutes of September 10, 2014, change “Urban Wildlife Restoration Project” to “Urban Wildlife Research Project” under 8a. For the minutes of December 8, 2014, eliminate the sentence that begins “Director Lanman …” from Item 7f, and add “by the Santa Cruz Sentinel” after the word interviewed in the second paragraph of Item 9.

   Motion: Approve the minutes for September 10, 2014 as amended. (Lanman/Lariz; 4-0-0)

   Motion: Approve the minutes for October 8, 2014, and November 10, 2014, as presented. (Lanman/Lariz; 4-0-0)

   Motion: Approve the minutes for December 8, 2014 as presented. (Lanman/Lariz; 4-0-0)

7. **Nancy Bernardi Memorial:** This item was continued to the next meeting.

8. **Agency Reports**
   b. Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD): Ryan Heacock, SCVWD, gave an update on the scheduling for the FAHCE workshop/scoping meeting and a review of the proposed environmental review process. He also stated that per the Board’s question at the last meeting, he checked SCVWD mapping, and Hicks Creek is not named, but Pheasant Creek is.
9. **GCRCD Projects and Programs**

a. Consideration of funding requests:
   
i. Committee for Green Foothills (CGF) for the *2015 Coyote Creek Watershed Tour* - Megan Medeiros, Executive Director, gave a presentation on their upcoming watershed tour and the options for providing some level of funding for the event. The Board asked if CGF would be videorecording the event, but she replied that they did not have that in the budget. The Board felt that recording the event would provide valuable footage for a future Coyote Valley video. Directors Lanman and Castillo expressed interest in attending the event, and ED Moreno said she would send in the RSVP.

   *Motion: Approve allocation of $1,000.00 to CGF to provide scholarships to students and others who do not have the financial ability to pay for attendance; approve up to $2,500.00 for Greg Kerekes to provide videographer services, and ask him if he has an assistant still photographer that can also take coordinated photos at the event, the latter at CGF cost.* *(Lanman/Lariz: 4-0-0)*

   ii. Coastal Habitat Education and Environmental Restoration (CHEER) to bring their mobile education unit to schools within GCRCD boundaries (continued from the December 8th meeting) - This item was continued until the organization completes roll-out of the unit and proposed program.

   iii. Dr. Jim Hobbs for an *Oncorhynchus Mykiss* PIT-tagging project on the Guadalupe River and Pond A8 (continued from the December 8th meeting), and b) an ongoing consulting agreement with GCRCD for fish/stream studies/surveys - ED Moreno explained the background on the draft agreement. Ryan Heacock, SCVWD, reviewed why installation of the antennae is key to getting Pond A8 work completed. After discussion, it was determined that the costs for equipment and labor could be amended without compromising the intent of providing funding to Dr. Hobbs.

   *Motion: Approve allocation of up to $5,000.00 for independent contract work for Dr. Hobbs for this and other projects, and authorize Executive Director to purchase up to $10,000 in equipment for use on this and other projects.* *(Lanman/Lariz: 4-0-0)*

b. Update on projects and programs approved for funding during Fiscal Year 2014-15:

   i. Approval of agreement with Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority for the *Coyote Valley Open Space Preserve Hedgerow Project* – ED Moreno said the SCVOSA has reviewed the draft agreement.

   *Motion: Approve agreement with the Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority in the amount of $3,000.00 for its Coyote Valley Open Space Preserve Hedgerow Project* *(Lariz/Lanman: 4-0-0)*

   ii. Approval of agreement with Friends of Los Gatos Creek/Friends of Guadalupe River for their *Stream Cleanup Program* – ED Moreno said FLGC/FGR had requested a revision to their budget, so that $2,000.00 instead of $1,000.00 would be allocated to a grant writer. After discussion, the Board decided to leave the agreement as originally proposed.

   *Motion: Approve agreement with the Friends of Los Gatos Creek/Friends of Guadalupe River in the amount of $5,325.00 for their stream cleanup program, with the added provision that the group would not perform trash removal work in the areas already provided for by the Guadalupe Conservancy.* *(Lanman/Leikam: 4-0-0)*
iii. Approval of agreement with Veggielution Community Farm for the Veggielution Community Farm Irrigation Project – ED Moreno reported that this agreement is not yet ready as a result of staff changes at Veggielution, but they are continuing to work on it.

iv. Withdrawal of funding request from Santa Clara County Parks for the Hellyer County Park Live Wildlife Educational Display Improvement Project – ED Moreno reported that County Parks had to withdraw their funding request because it did not meet their grant guidelines, but she hopes to find a resolution in order to provide the needed funding to the agency.

v. Update on Metcalf Ponds Aerial Survey and Partnership Project application to the SCVWD – ED Moreno gave an update on the status of this application, which was denied by SCVWD after GCRCD expended their share of the cost in reliance upon the results of a meeting between Directors Lariz and Castillo, SCVWD staff and an independent consultant. The Board directed ED Moreno to pursue the possibility of reimbursement of the $8,900.00 from SCVWD.

c. Other items for discussion/consideration:

i. Estimate from Greg Kerekes on development of a butterfly atlas for GCRCD website – ED Moreno presented Mr. Kerekes’ cost estimate for the development of a butterfly atlas. It was agreed that she would talk with Mr. Kerekes about reducing the scope of project and making it online only, and that she would contact other agencies to see if they would be interested in a cost-share.

ii. Update on the DWR Urban Streams Restoration Grant Program – ED Moreno said she was unable to find a project/partner who was ready to participate in an application.

iii. Update on the State Water Resources Control Board Proposed Trash Amendment – ED Moreno reported that this information had been previously sent out to the Board members in case they wanted to submit comments.

iv. Use of herbicides on or adjacent to waterways within GCRCD boundaries – ED Moreno said she has not received a response on this from SCVWD, and would be bringing it to Chief Operations Officer Norma Camacho’s attention.

v. Pheasant and Hicks Creeks potential projects - No new information.

vi. Wildlife crossings development/enhancement in the Coyote Valley – Directors are concerned with how the fencing along Highway 85/101 interchange is impacting safe wildlife movement. ED Moreno will contact Pathways for Wildlife regarding the possibility of facilitating a discussion with Cal Trans regarding this issue.

vii. Information on the California Conservation Corps Watershed Stewards Program – This item was continued to the next meeting.

10. Administrative

a. Approval of resolutions to reappoint Roger Castillo and Rick Lanman to the GCRCD Board for terms expiring in November 2018 – ED Moreno indicated that the Director vacancies are being noticed as required.  

Motion: Approve Resolutions 2015-01 and 2015-02 requesting re-appointment of Roger Castillo and Rick Lanman to the GCRCD Board for terms expiring in November 2018. (Lariz/Leikam; 4-0-0)

b. Approval of agreement with Vargas and Company to perform FY13 and FY14 audits – ED Moreno reviewed the proposed agreement with Vargas and Company, who had completed past audits for GCRCD. The audits need to be completed as soon as possible in order to remain in compliance with state regulations.

Motion: Approve the agreement in the amount of $8,400.00 with Vargas and Company to perform the required FY13 and FY14 audits. (Lariz/Lanman)
c. Discussion regarding GCRCD website hosting – This item was continued to the next meeting.

d. Decision as to whether to remain in the Central Coast RCD region or request transfer to the Bay Delta RCD region – This item was continued to the next meeting.

e. Budget and expense reports – This item was continued to the next meeting.

11. **Director, Associate Director and Executive Director Reports** – Due to the late hour, no reports were given.

12. **Adjourned until February 9, 2015** – The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:45 p.m.