

VENTURA COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT



Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors Wednesday, May 20th, 2026 MINUTES

Mark Mooring, President
Roy Talley, Vice President
Kevin Cannon, Secretary/Treasurer
Sean Anderson, Director
Misty McNamara, Director
Remington Richardson, Director
Brienne Schwabauer Whitcomb, Director
Jamie Whiteford, Executive Director

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The **May 20, 2026**, meeting of the Board of Directors of the Ventura County Resource Conservation District was called to order by Vice President **Talley** at 8:36 a.m. with a quorum of Directors present.

2. **ROLL CALL & INTRODUCTIONS**

Mark Mooring was absent
Roy Talley was present
Kevin Cannon was present
Sean Anderson was present
Misty McNamara was absent
Remington Richardson was present
Brienne Schwabauer Whitcomb was present

STAFF PRESENT:

Jamie Whiteford, Executive Director
Rachel Ray, Wildlife Habitat and Development Team

PUBLIC

None Present

3. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA:** On motion by Director **Richardson**, second by Secretary **Cannon**, the Board adopted the **May 15th, 2026, agenda**. Motion carried 5-0.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

5. **REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS**

5.1 NRCS, represented by Brooks Engelhardt, Brooks reported that staff are conducting cultural resource reviews associated with conservation projects, continuing planning efforts for upcoming program years, and ensuring compliance with federal cultural resource requirements to protect historical and archaeological sites during project implementation.

5.2 Report from the Outreach and Education, Mary Reyes

Mary provided an update on Education and Outreach activities, highlighting continued growth in social media and newsletter engagement, successful community outreach events, development of educational resources, planning for a free summer coastal camp program, and ongoing coordination efforts for Coastal Cleanup Day. Discussion included coordination of Coastal Cleanup efforts with sample collection for microplastic analysis.

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5.3 Report by the Development Team by Committee member – Rachel Ray

- Rachel provided an update on Development Team activities related to the upcoming Spooktober fundraising event. The board reviewed sponsorship and donation outreach plans, established timelines for securing contributions, discussed potential auction and raffle items, and highlighted the importance of including nonprofit and tax-deductibility information in solicitation materials. Discussion involved the targeted number of items for raffle, coordination of pre-paid tickets, and sponsorships.

5.4 Report by Administrative Team, Jamie Whiteford

- A proposal to move the July Board meeting from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. to accommodate a staff mixer introducing new employees. The Board approved the change.
- An announcement that three new staff members had been onboarded, with a fourth position expected to be filled soon.
- An update that interviews had been completed for the Regional Programs Coordinator position, and candidates had been ranked for offers.
- Discussion regarding professional development opportunities for staff, with board members recommending that employees provide brief summaries of training courses attended to document learning outcomes and organizational benefits.
- Noted efforts related to policy and compliance, including exploring legal service providers for contract and waiver review.

5.5 Reports by Director

- Director **Anderson** discussed the use of newly acquired drone technology to support prescribed burn planning, biomass monitoring, and ecological data collection. The Board also highlighted the benefits of thermal imaging for post-burn hotspot detection and emphasized the importance of risk management practices, including certified burn plans and insurance coverage, in support of prescribed fire activities.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

6.1 On Motion by Director **Anderson** and Seconded by Director **Richardson** the Board voted to approve **May 20th, 2026, minutes of the regular meeting**. Motion carried 5-0.

6.2 On Motion by Director **Anderson** and Director **Whitcomb** the Board voted to accept the **May 20th, financial reports**. Motion carried 5-0.

7. ACTION CALENDAR

7.1 None noted

8. DISCUSSION CALENDAR

8.1 None

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9. **REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS BY DIRECTORS:**

9.1 Directors requested a future report on the outcomes and lessons learned from the upcoming prescribed burn activities. No additional agenda items were requested.

10. **ADJOURNMENT** – Vice President Talley adjourned the meeting at 10:38 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Jamie Whiteford, Executive Director

MINUTES APPROVED:

President: Kevin Cannon
Kevin Cannon, Board Secretary

Attest: Jamie Whiteford
Jamie Whiteford, Executive Director

