



Guadalupe-Coyote
Resource Conservation District (GCRCD)
An independent special district of the State of California

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Staff Report

Special Joint GCRCD/SCVWD Board Meeting
June 15, 2017

DATE: June 12, 2017

TO: GCRCD Board of Directors

FROM: Stephanie Moreno, Executive Director/District Clerk

AGENDA TITLE: Item 5: Presentation and Discussion SCVWD's and GCRCD's Interests to Improve and Maintain Natural Resources/Conservation.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive information and discuss what each organization's interests are, with a goal to find a common nexus with which both organizations can work collaboratively.

PRESENTERS:

Dr. Rick Lanman, GCRCD Vice-President/Director
Maya Esparza, GCRCD Director
Afshin Rouhani, SCVWD Water Policy and Planning Manager

DISCUSSION:

Guadalupe-Coyote Resource Conservation District requested this item be placed on the agenda for this first joint meeting of the two District Boards with the intention of:

1. creating a process towards building a more collaborative relationship between our Boards; and
2. identifying areas of common vision for which the districts can work jointly to improve and maintain natural resources within our watersheds.

Director Esparza will make a presentation on the first topic, and Director Lanman will present GCRCD's "common vision wish list" as a starting point for discussion on the second topic.

ATTACHMENTS:

GCRCD PowerPoint Presentation

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How to Work Together

With the intention of prioritizing the interagency working relationship between our two Districts, we encourage our Boards to:

- Be resolved that our intention is to have a positive working relationship.
- Initiate regular Board-to-Board communication.
- Promote open and transparent dialogue among all parties.
- Commit to timely and comprehensive responses to requests for information or when making decisions.
- Integrate joint policy and project decisions across division lines to ensure achievement of shared goals and objectives.
- Employ interest-based negotiation to resolve interagency disputes.

Finding a Common Vision

GCRCD's Common Vision Wish List:

1. Restoration of reproducing steelhead and salmon populations in Santa Clara County is of high value to our constituents. This goal can be managed along with the critical mission to provide flood control, water quality, and adequate groundwater to prevent subsidence.
2. Best available science should be the overriding principle for project planning and execution.
3. Riparian habitat is critical to stream function and ecology.
4. Stream restoration and fish passage barrier removal should be achieved on a watershed scale, not a county area scale. One stream that is passable from top to bottom has higher ecological value than a patchwork of projects on different streams that all remain impassable.
5. Streams and their riparian corridors are critical to wildlife migration and connectivity.