

Contra Costa Hills Club
Virtual Board Meeting
April 10, 2026

The April board meeting was held virtually through Zoom. President Stew Perlman called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

Board Members present: Stew Perlman, Mike Branning, Suzy Mark, Lucy Perdichizzi, Jim Baranowski, Rosemary Johnson, Connie Gee, Helen Wong Johe, Cameron Mitchell, Roland Hebert

Members at large present: Noël Siver

Absent: Sharon Wang

Minutes Approved: March 13, 2026 minutes: M/S/C (Branning, Baranowski)

President's Report: It appears that the unusual hot weather we experienced is behind us. And we can anticipate good hiking weather as April usually provides. There were a number of hikes in March that did indeed induce a sweat but no complaints when you consider that many parts of the country were digging their way out of blizzards. I want to thank those of you who were able to attend Roberta O'Grady's birthday celebration. The show of affection was outstanding. Remember that April is the month to renew your CCHC membership: \$25 for one member, \$40 for two or more living in the same household and \$10 more if you prefer to receive printed material. Send your check to Connie Gee. The Spring Luncheon is April 29 at Hong Kong East Ocean Restaurant in Emeryville, so do not forget to send your check to Lucy Perdichizzi. We have dined there before, and the food and service are first class. The Annual Meeting last month was well attended, and I hope that those of you who did come enjoyed the food, the camaraderie, and our guest speaker, Carl Nolte of the San Francisco Chronicle. He surely knew his audience as he extolled the virtues of women leadership in the environmental movement. This month there will be an Overnight Outing in Santa Cruz from April 19 to 23. Keep in mind that if you want to go on these outings your best chance to get selected is to volunteer for the club. Lastly, I want to thank those of you who have already renewed your membership, donated additional funds to the club - conservation and social committees - have lead hikes, are in a volunteer position, and do go on hikes. Stay well and I hope to see many of you on a hike or at the luncheon.

Vice-President's Report: Jim thanked Noël for planning to lead the coming hike on April 16th especially since the date is near the Santa Cruz outing which begins April 19th. He reminded us that this is a great time of year for hiking outside city locations because of all the attractive green landscape that has sprouted from our usual mild winters.

Membership: Connie reported that to date she has received 145 renewals. Today \$ 4,560 will be deposited. As usual, we anticipate and welcome late renewals. Rosemary plans to remove non-renewed members from the Groups-io site. Doing so now rather than later might serve as an incentive to renew.

Bills: Cameron Mitchell Mechanics Bank Check Endorsement Stamp \$ 19.54
Suzy Mark T-shirts, Sweatshirt, shirts, transfer logos \$ 186.25

M/S/C (Branning, Gee) to pay the bills.

Merchandise sales at the annual meeting was \$ 196.00

Conservation Request: The committee has no remaining funds to carry over to the new year. M/S/C (Johnson, Mark) transfer \$ 2,000 from the general fund to the conservation committee. There was discussion about considering increasing the transferred funds but the decision was tabled for now. The treasurer mentioned that for the first time in memory, the line item, "General fund" was in a deficit standing of \$ 733 as March 31, the end of our fiscal year. The 'working' checkbook balance at Mechanics Bank is \$ 2,682 but those funds are designated for other line items. The possibility of transferring some CD funds into General Fund was discussed as a future option.

Treasurer's Report: Board has latest report of Revenue & Expenses.

As the Spring Luncheon approaches, Lucy, Yvonne Moss, and others proposed making a special gesture to see that Ilse Eden, who has made 98 years and been a member since 1993, be escorted to the luncheon. M/S/C (Johnson, Gee) to invite Ilse Eden to attend the Spring Luncheon as a guest of the club. Included in the club discussion was information from the audit committee on hosting/gifting a current member. During the audit last year, the committee was asked about guidelines on funds spent on members. They clarified

that paying members for club duties was not permitted. However they said the board has discretion regarding honoring or gifting a member for special recognition. It requires a club vote. Two instances in the last year of board decisions to reach out to a member with a gift, both at less than \$ 125, were shared.

Corresponding Secretary: Suzy sent out five cards. Our new Corresponding Secretary, Helen, said she had cards in hand. Stew said he had many gifts from conservation organizations received as thank you gifts for donations. Linda Malm, our crafty card creator, has been in touch with Helen with plans to continue sharing cards with her. Other members commented that they send old calendars to Linda for possible use in making her cards.

Old Business: Noël reported on progress of archiving the club's history. Leigh Ann Davis has received the archive boxes. She will be sending us a bill. There was discussion on how to handle materials to be archived. One suggestion was to make a car to car transfer to Yvonne Moss at the Spring Luncheon. Also considered and rejected was transferring materials at the Santa Cruz outing. Yvonne's input will be sought on how she would like to see this handled. Yvonne will be seeking volunteers to assist with initial handling of archive materials. The gathering will be arranged prior to her summer plans out of the area. Yesterday Noël emailed the first draft regarding archives protocol. She welcomes everyone's responses.

New Business: Stew shared the new 2026 GSA mileage rate is 72.5 cents per mile. Here are the rates as follows: 5 people in a vehicle - \$.15, 4 people - \$.18, 3 people \$.24, 2 people - \$.36. The new rates will appear on the CCHC Hike Schedule. Lynn Vogensen will share the information with carpoolers for use during the coming Santa Cruz outing. As usual, tolls and parking fees are shared by members of the carpool as well.

Mailed copies of Knapsack: Connie asked and Cameron volunteered to mail out the paper copies of the Knapsack in June and July.

Holiday Luncheon: Lucy suggested that we hold the Holiday Luncheon at the Mona Lisa Mare e Monti in San Francisco North Beach, a popular choice in the past. M/S/C (Baranowski, Hebert) to hold the Holiday Luncheon at Mona Lisa Mare e Monti on December 9th from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. As the date nears, Lucy will determine cost and menu.

Announcements:

Spring Luncheon: The Spring Luncheon will be on April 29 at Hong Kong East Ocean Restaurant in Emeryville. Current reservations are about 40 members.

Suzy and Jon Mark will assist with welcoming members. Cost: \$48 for CCHC members, \$60 for non-member.

Member plans: Rosemary will miss the May meeting. Stew has two vacations pending and will arrange coverage.

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 11:26 a.m. Motion to adjourn M/S/C (Baranowski, Gee)

Next Virtual Meeting: May 8, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Cameron Mitchell, Acting Recording Secretary