

**SONOMA VALLEY FUND**  
**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**JULY 9, 2015**  
**LOCATION: SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFICES**  
**17850 RAILROAD AVENUE**

**The meeting was called to order at 4:04 pm**

**A quorum was present: Blattner, Brangham, Collins, Dale, Eliot, Grandy, Hughes, Magrane, Pistole, Rymer, Van Camp, Young; Ex officio: Ruelas**

**Excused Absences: Fulton, Iturri, Scott**

**The minutes of the May 14, 2015 were approved as corrected, showing Hughes as absent.**

**All Financials were reviewed and approved as circulated and presented by Hughes.**

**Magrane provided a report on the October 4, 2015 Annual Event to be held at the Sonoma Ecology Center. Board members were asked to volunteer their services for the occasion, which is always one of the highlights of the year, honoring "Best in Class" volunteers at our nonprofit partner organizations.**

**Rymer and Collins reported on the continuing positive responses received on our Community Conversation held at the Sonoma Valley Community Center. Preliminary plans on being discussed about following up with a second Community Foundation focused on the challenge of managing water resources in the Valley. First conversation participants as well as poll respondents identified this topic as the issue of greatest concern for the Valley.**

**Hughes reported on plans for the first grantmaking round to be focused on capacity building to be awarded to nonprofits with programs and services aimed at health and well-being broadly defined. \$5000 awards will be made on a competitive basis to enable organizations to improve their operations and program impact through enhanced organizational effectiveness. The cohort of awardees will participate in group learning and capacity building through collaboration. The grants program will be announced in August with a formal request for proposals with awards being made in late fall. This will be a 3-year program and selected nonprofits will remain in the cohort for the three-period.**

**Grandy shared plans for the launch of a SVF development initiative, which is slated to get underway in the fall. All board members have identified**

**individuals who will be apprised of the Fund's work and are encouraged to both support the organization financially and become involved in its community building activities. Board members have been divided into groups and they will work together to reach out to the targeted individuals to inform them about SVF. This should be considered a "friend raising " effort that will serve as a "soft" fundraising launch.**

**Brangham and Van Camp presented a multi-tier list of potential candidates for Board membership, comprised of individuals who had been identified as prospects by board members based on agreed-upon criteria. Those on Tier 1 were approved for approach by selected board members to determine whether there was interest in being formally considered for membership. The Board was reminded that this was a multi-step process and these first contacts should be seen as early-stage conversations to determine interest.**

**Rymer reminded the Board that he would plan for a full-Board discussion on the topic of President-succession at the September meeting.**

**There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:04 pm.**

**Respectfully submitted,  
Dennis Collins  
Secretary**