

San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District

Board of Director's Meeting

March 16, 2017

- CALL TO ORDER President Richard Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 12:08 p.m. Meeting held at the USDA Stockton Service Center- 7585 S. Longe Street, Stockton, CA 95206
- ATTENDANCE Members of the Board present included Richard Rodriguez, Molly Watkins, John Thoming, Marden Wilber, Jack Hamm, Tim Pelican (Ag Commissioner), Ora Van Steyn (NRCS), Mike Wackman, Ruth Mulrooney. Guests present, John Cain (American Rivers), Eric Ringleberg.
- PUBLIC COMMENTS No Public Comments at this time.
- MEETING AGENDA Motion to accept the regular meeting minutes from the February 16, 2017 meeting made by Mr. Thoming, second by Ms. Watkins. Motion passed unanimously. Also, to accept the written Agenda for the meeting today, February 16, 2017 made by Mr. Hamm, second by Ms. Watkins. Motion passed unanimously.
- DISCUSSION ITEMS No items at this time.
- TREASURER'S REPORT Income and bills to be paid for both the RCD and Coalition were presented, along with current financial reports. A motion to accept the Treasurer's report and pay all late bills presented at meeting in the Supplemental Packet, made by Mr. Thoming, second Ms. Watkins. Motion approved unanimously.
- NRCS UPDATE Ora Van Steyn reported that March 17th is the deadline for the second batching period. She recently hired an engineer, but is currently under a hiring freeze. Motion made by Mr. Hamm to hire Vicki Pierini as a contract RCD employee to fulfill the Farm Bill Assistant Agreement with the NRCS. The employment period will be March 20, 2017- October 17, 2017 at the rate of \$20.00/hour, second by Thoming. Motion passed unanimously.
- PMC- A farm tour was given to student at Oak View School. The topic was Soil Health. Open House will be held on April 5th from 10:00 am- 3:00 pm. Topics on the Agenda include, Water Management and Cover Crop Benefits. Lunch will be held at noon.
- RESOURCES Farm Bureau report- n/a
- Ag Commissioner- Mr. Pelican reported that San Joaquin County has been declared a Federal Disaster for Crops. He needs growers to report their losses to his office.
- CRAE Report- The next meeting will be held at the EPA Building in Sacramento. Secretary Ross will be in attendance for a brain storming session of her last two years in office.
- The RCD Administrator/Watershed Coordinator reported that she has been working on monthly duties. An Excel spreadsheet of available funds for all NRCS Agreements and monthly standings are attached in the meeting packet for monthly review.
- GRANT UPDATES All grant updates were discussed in New Business below.
- NEW BUSINESS A decision to postpone approving the grant agreement Prop 1-2015-Y1-012 to the April Board meeting was made. The two Paradise Cut Grant Committee members were not in attendance. Mr. Thoming and Mr. Wilbur will read and review the Prop 1-2015-Y1-012 documents prior to the April Board Meeting. Jennifer Spaletta will be in attendance at the next Board Meeting for

more Easement guidance for the Board. The Board would also like Mr. Cain to present maps with the properties that already have easements on them. A Draft of all the Easements is due to Ms. Burns on April 5th for legal review.

DWR Ceres Imaging – Jenna Rodriguez and James Hunt from Ceres Imaging will rework the flyer sent out to Landowners. Address needs to be changed for the April 20th seminar.

A motion to pass the attached **Policies & Procedures** documents made by Mr. Hamm, second by Ms. Watkins. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion to pass the attached **Harassment and Retaliation Policy** as written made by Ms. Watkins, second by Mr. Hamm. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion to pass the attached **Reimbursement Policy of Director and Contractor Expenses** made by Mr. Thoming, second by Mr. Wilbur. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion to pass the attached **Vehicle Use Policy** as written made by Mr. Hamm, second by Ms. Watkins. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion to pass the attached **2017/2018 Annual Plan** Document as written made by Ms. Watkins, second Mr. Wilber. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion to apply for the **Department of Conservation Grant with the help of Mr. John Brodie to purchase a Conservation Tillage Seeder with the awarded funds**, made by Mr. Thoming, second by Mr. Hamm. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion to approve **Resolution 0001-03-2017** accepting the California Department of Water Resources Prop 50 Water Use Efficiency Grant Funds made by Mr. Thoming, second by Mr. Hamm. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion to accept the MOU attached from East Stanislaus Resource Conservation District made by Mr. Hamm, second by Ms. Watkins. Motion passed unanimously.

IRRIGATED LANDS

Coalition financials were reviewed. A motion to approve monthly financials from the Supplemental packet provided at the meeting made by Mr. Hamm second Mr. Thoming, and approved unanimously. A membership report was given by Ruth Mulrooney. Program Managers Report was given, and information included in the Board Meeting packet. A review of the NPEP program was given. Mr. Wackman reported that the state fee per acre will potentially increase to \$1.00/acre for 2018. 96% of dues have been collected, and the Coalition remains under budget in testing due to rain and no toxicity hits. Invoices will be mailed in May, rates have to be approved at the April Board Meeting.

CLOSED SESSION

No Closed Session at this time.

COMMUNICATIONS

Eric Ringelberg discussed grant opportunities to partner with Fresh Water Trust from Portland, OR. Discussion of other water projects his company as participated in were also discussed.

ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting of the San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District Board is scheduled for Thursday, April 20, 2017 at the Stockton Service Center- NRCS, 7585 S. Longe Street, Stockton, CA. Adjourn meeting at 2:28 p.m. Motion by Mr. Thoming, second by Mr. Hamm. Motion Passed unanimously.