

# **SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT REGULAR MEETING**

USDA Lockeford Plant Materials Center  
21001 Elliot Road, Lockeford, CA 95237  
**Thursday, February 15, 2018, 12:00 pm**

## **Minutes**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

President Richard Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 12:12 pm.

### **ATTENDANCE**

Members of the Board present include Richard Rodriguez, Phil Balmat, Ruth Mulrooney (Coalition), John Thoming, Molly Watkins, Diego Olagaray, Marden Wilber, Ora Van Steyn (NRCS), Margaret Smither- Kopperl (NRCS), Shasta Burns (SJCRCD), Kathy Grant (City of Lodi).

### **MEETING AGENDA**

A motion to accept the regular meeting minutes from the January 18, 2018, and the Agenda for February 15, 2018, made by Mr. Olagaray, second Mr. Wilber. Motion passed unanimously.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No Public Comments at this time.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

A presentation of all bills received for the month. A motion to pay all invoices presented in the meeting packet and supplemental packet, and additional deposits made earlier this month and will show on February financials made by Mr. Olagaray, second by Mr. Wilber. Motion passed unanimously.

### **IRRIGATED LANDS REGULATORY PROGRAM**

- A.** Financial Report – Monthly Financial statements were reviewed from the Board Meeting packet. A motion to approve and file all monthly financials with an additional Valley Wide Courier invoice in the amount of \$80, additional storage facility monthly fee for \$70 will apply to the Coalition Debit card monthly, made by Ms. Watkins, second by Mr. Olagaray. Motion passed unanimously.
- B.** Steering Committee – Minutes from the last meeting are attached in the Supplemental Meeting packet. Ms. Mulrooney reviewed a list of non-compliant 2016 Nitrogen Management landowners. Ms. Mulrooney is trying to reach out to contact non-compliant growers to avoid potential major fines.
- C.** Membership Report – Ms. Mulrooney reported that the Regional Board is reaching out to Growers that have not turned in their Nitrogen Management Plans. Non-compliance will result in a monetary fine. The Coalition is still receiving late payments.
- D.** Program Report –Discussions of current budget items for Michael L Johnson. Major report due in March and May that will cost most of the budgeted amount for Program Management. Meeting season and Nitrogen Management classes, Sediment Erosion Control plan classes are currently being done now. Sarah Lucchetti would like to attend an additional course for Nitrogen Management Training for CCA's. The training provides a CCA certification to sign Grower Nitrogen Management Plans. This would greatly assist the smaller growers within the Coalition who do not have access to a CCA or an understanding of Nitrogen Management. A motion to have Sarah Lucchetti attend a two-day conference held in Fresno, CA and be reimbursed for meeting fee and lodging with an amount not to exceed \$500 made by Mr. Wilber, second by Mr. Olagaray. Motion passed unanimously.
- E.** Sediment Erosion Control Plan – Ms. Lucchetti is continuing work on SECP with landowners.
- F.** Regional Monitoring Program – No report at this time. Mr. Wackman is not the Chair for the Regional

Monitoring Program. Mr. Wackman will be the Alternate for the head chair.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- A.** Pombo Scholarship – Discuss at the March Board Meeting.
- B.** Paradise Cut –Ms. Burns reviewed emails from Consero Solutions and from John Cain at American Rivers. December reporting has been turned in and approved by the Delta Conservancy. American Rivers has agreed to give the SJCRCD and additional \$2000 for administrative purposes for the Paradise Cut Grants. Mr. Balmat gave a brief of the latest easement standings. No monetary agreement has been made for the Acquisition Grant at this point.
- C.** DWR Grant- Ms. Burns reported on the upcoming reporting that will be send for reimbursement this week. Ms. Rodriguez from Ceres Imaging will send reports to Ms. Burns this week for review. Additional invoicing will be sent for landowners that have outstanding invoices.

## **NRCS UPDATE**

- A.** Ms. Smither-Kopperl Thanked the SJCRCD for having the meeting at the PMC. Latest cover crop studies were reviewed. Open House will be held on April 4<sup>th</sup>. A motion to sponsor the PMC Open House lunch in the amount not to exceed \$400, made by Mr. Balmat, second Mr. Olagaray. Motion passed unanimously. Agreement for Shawn Vue is approved to move forward. The money will run out in March. Margaret will be doing the modification for additional funds. Statement of work and monies being requested will be turned in. Margaret recommended to the Board that each of his Administrative and Seed Technician duties pay raised by \$1 each.  
Ms. Van Steyn reported on new movement PL566 Projects are being followed up. Public Law Projects generally Dam Projects. SJCRCD were sponsors in years prior. Stockton NRCS is doing yearly inspections of past projects. Tile Drain Project in New Jerusalem area which are not covered with homes, and flood control through North Stockton in Bear Creek as project descriptions. More details to follow. EQIP \$2.5 million dollars in first round of contracts. New Soil Conservationist will be coming to the Stockton office in May through the Pathways Program. FPAC (Farm Production and Conservation)- new merging of leadership for the NRCS agencies.

## **RESOURCES**

- A.** Ag Commissioner's Report – Mr. Pelican reported the DPR is looking to expand groundwater protection areas. June meetings at the Commissioners office for groups to educate pesticide applications and role in regulating applications for future public speaking opportunities. Mr. Pelican will be meeting with Fish Friendly Farming tomorrow February 16, 2018 for Best Management Practices. Pesticide use around schools and application time and notifications were discussed.
- B.** San Joaquin Farm Bureau Report –No report at this time
- C.** CRAE Report – Ms. Watkins reported on last months meeting American Farm Land Trust spoke and reported concept of cap and trade money for easements for Farmers.
- D.** RCD Administrator/Watershed Coordinator Report – Final invoicing check has been received and deposited. Kathy Grant from the City of Lodi who is the chair for the Lower Mokelumne River Watershed Stewardship Steering Committee discussed the future of the group. EBMUD is willing to match any addition future for the position. The Board will discuss financial matters in Closed Session.

**COMMUNICATIONS** – All communications were placed on the meeting table. Mail communications include Application Referrals and BAC communications for cash management purposes.

**CLOSED SESSION** – The Board entered into Closed Session at 1:20 pm and entered back into Open Session at 1:45 pm. No action taken during Closed Session. A motion to increase Shawn Vue's administrative hourly wage to \$26, and the Seed Technician position hourly wage to \$31 dollars per hour made by Mr. Olagaray, second by Mr. Balmat. Motion passed unanimously.

**ADJOURN**

A motion to adjourn the Board Meeting of February 15, 2018 at 2:50 pm, made by Mr. Olagaray and second by Mr. Balmat. Motion passed unanimously.

The next meeting of the San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District is scheduled for March 15, 2018 - 12 noon at the NRCS- USDA, Stockton Service Center, 7585 S. Longe Street, Stockton, CA 95206

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