

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

USDA Stockton Service Center - NRCS  
7585 S. Longe Street, Stockton CA 95206  
**Thursday, March 15, 2018, 12:00 pm**

**Minutes**

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Richard Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm.

**ATTENDANCE**

Members of the Board present include Richard Rodriguez, Phil Balmat, Ruth Mulrooney (Coalition), Jack Hamm, Bill Koster, Molly Watkins, Diego Olagaray, Marden Wilber, Ora Van Steyn (NRCS), Mike Wackman (Coalition), Jennifer Spaletta (Spaletta Law), Tess Dunham (CV Salts), Shasta Burns (SJCRCDD), Sarah Lucchetti (Coalition), Ralph Lucchetti (Associate Director), Tim Pelican (Ag Commissioner).

**MEETING AGENDA**

A motion to accept the regular meeting minutes from the February 15, 2018, and the Agenda for March 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 with an updated excel financial sheet handed out with current debit and checks for payment this month, made by Mr. Koster, 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 State Water Board Bill for \$449,331.00, and an additional Spaletta Law bill in the amount of \$1,375.00, made by Mr. Hamm, second by Mr. Olagaray. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Wackman reviewed upcoming budget and increased costs. Additional questions will be addressed to Michael L Johnson LLC and a report back at the April Board Meeting.
- B.** Steering Committee – Minutes from the last meeting are attached in the Supplemental Meeting packet. Mr. Wackman reported on the low and recent toxicity hits. Ms. Mulrooney reviewed a list of non-compliant 2016 Nitrogen Management landowners. All landowners who have not turned in Management Plan and have received certified letters with efforts to contact them. Ms. Mulrooney is trying to reach out to contact non-compliant growers to avoid potential major fines. Ms. Mulrooney expressed interest in having a serviced offered by the RCD and offering well testing as a way to earn income in the months to come. Clarifications given by Mr. Wackman on what the well testing would entitle.
- 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. 655 members have signed up to use the Member Portal.
- D.** Program Report –

- E. Sediment Erosion Control Plan – Ms. Lucchetti is continuing work on SECP with landowners.
- F. Regional Monitoring Program – Mr. Wackman reported on the last meeting attended, and program monitoring.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Pombo Scholarship – Contact with 2015 recipient Francesca Arnaudo has been made. She has expressed interest in attending school in Spring 2018. All transcripts and school enrollment will be collected for award of scholarship funds when applicable.
- B. Paradise Cut –Mr. Balmat reviewed meeting with Mr. Cain and John Herrick. Mr. Balmat expressed interest in adding dredging as an option for continuing the grant for downstream opportunities. Brief explanation of monthly conference calls was explained. A motion to enter into an agreement with Consero Solutions and SJCRCD. Agreement was reviewed and a motion to for the agreement of a one-time payment of \$2,000 from American Rivers to support Shasta Burns administrative costs for the Paradise Cut Grant with Consero and SJCRCD, made by Mr. Balmat, second Mr. Koster. Motion passed unanimously.
- C. DWR Grant- Ms. Burns reported that all paper invoices and reports have been mailed to the Department of Water Resources Grant Specialist for the first quarter payment.
- D. Range and Natural Resources Camp - Ms. Watkins reviewed flyer passed out. Location is in Half Moon Bay. Recipients have to turn their application by April 27, 2018. Board Directors will spread the word. A motion to fund one recipient for the 2018 Range and Natural Resources Camp made by Ms. Watkins, second by Mr. Olagaray. Motion passed unanimously

## **NRCS UPDATE**

- A. Ms. Van Steyn reported on EQIP program and a possible government shut down on April 6, 2018. About 50 positions in the NRCS were flown, and one was available in California. Understaffing concerns were expressed. Ms. Van Steyn is getting a new employee this summer and taking the Soil Conservation position. A flyer for the PMC Open House was passed around and will happen on April 4, 2018 and all are encouraged to attend.

## **RESOURCES**

- A. Ag Commissioner's Report – Mr. Pelican reported on June Environmental Justice Workshop which will involve educating farm labor groups. Nutria in Los Banos/Merced issue. Burrowing animal, and becoming an issue with levees, and disturbing the banks.
- B. San Joaquin Farm Bureau Report –No report at this time
- C. CRAE Report – Ms. Watkins reported on last month's meeting
- D. RCD Administrator – Ms. Burns reported on form 700's due no later than April 1, 2018. All forms have been mailed to each Directors home via USPS. Ms. Burns reported that she will be working and posting the District's open Grant Writer position availability and will report any inquiries as necessary.

**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 12:10 pm. The Board came out of Closed Session at 1:05 pm. No reportable action taken at this time.

## **ADJOURN**

A motion to adjourn the Board Meeting of March 15, 2018 at 2:30 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 April 19, 2018 - 12 noon at the NRCS- USDA, Stockton Service Center, 7585 S. Longe Street, Stockton, CA 95206

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