

San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District

Board of Director's Meeting

January 21, 2016

- CALL TO ORDER President Richard Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 12:14 p.m.
- ATTENDANCE Members of the Board present included Richard Rodriguez, Molly Watkins, John Thoming, Phil Balmat, and Bill Koster. Staff members and contractors present included Ora VanSteyn (NRCS), Mike Wackman, Ruth Mulrooney, Shasta Burns. Guests present included Julianne Phillips (SJFB), Tim Pelican (Ag Commissioner).
- PUBLIC COMMENTS No public comments at this time.
- MEETING AGENDA Motion to accept the regular meeting minutes from the December 17, 2015 meeting made by Mr. Koster, second Mr. Thoming, approved unanimously.
- TREASURER'S REPORT Income and bills to be paid for both the RCD and Coalition were presented, along with current financial reports. Accept the Treasurer's report and pay all the monthly bills and a transfer of funds to the Coalition Debit card in the amount of \$10,000 for upcoming printing and mailing expenses. Motion by Mr. Koster, second Mr. Wilber, approved unanimously. A motion to have Shawn Vue from the PMC write his hourly wages on each invoice moving forward for the director's review, motion made by Mr. Koster, seconded by Mr. Herrick. A motion made to have Ms. Burns prepare annual 1099 reports for contractors electronically, and pay the QuickBooks filing fee made by Mr. Thoming, seconded by Mr. Wilber.
- NRCS UPDATE Update on EQUIP was given by Ms. VanSteyn. NRCS received their audit back. The audit states that the NRCS is not following their own policy on computer monitoring. The audit was explained to the board and ideas of how the NRCS will comply were discussed. If the remaining contracts are terminated, this will result in 10% penalty fee. It was stated that once a project is signed it is not up for modification. The new practices that will be put into place this year for the NRCS will be "incentive based". The NRCS will pay \$10 per acre for Clean Harvest Technology. The incentive program is a 3-year program that hopes to put money towards the purchase of farm equipment like sweepers, tractors, etc. which will ultimately reduce Particulate Matter (PM) by 30%. NRCS personnel was provided. Positions still remain unfilled. One Engineering Position just closed this week. There is not a lot of applicants expected. Eight vacancies still remain unfilled. The letter to the Chief that the RCD board sent out last month was discussed. President Richard Rodriguez had a telephone conversation with the State Conservationist Carlos Suarez. Suarez explained the new programs coming in 2016. Mr. Suarez does not see an issue, and Mr. Rodriguez is now waiting for a telephone call from the National level.
- RESOURCES Ag Commissioner's reported that there has been an Asian Citrus Psyllid find in the Quail Lakes area of Stockton. Treatment has been started, and that there is a quarantine in all areas indefinitely. The quarantine includes areas from Lodi, Stockton, South Stockton, and Western Stockton. There has been a finding in the Oakdale area, but the citrus fruit trees have been

removed and destroyed. It was stated that areas that seem to become affected are mainly along corridors and high traffic areas. Blunder traps are being used to help eliminate these pests. Permit Scanning is now available. It is available to Pest Control Advisors (PCA's) and equipment dealerships that are listed as a contact. This information can be requested online. The District Attorney's office will be subpoenas to growers affected by the pesticide drift in the Boldin Island area. These subpoenas will be hand delivered this month.

Ms. Phillips from the SJFB reported on behalf of the SJFB a letter of support has also been sent to the Chief in Washington DC regarding NRCS personnel matters. Ms. Phillips gave a report of groundwater. Good news, we are above average for rainfall this year. The snowpack is also above average for this year.

No CRAE meeting report

The RCD Administrator/Watershed Coordinator reported that she has been working on monthly duties, and making connections for potential grant writers for the district. The LMRWSSC Watershed Coordinator Agreement has been extended until June 2016. An Excel spreadsheet of available funds in the agreement was in the meeting packet for board review. Two website proposals were reviewed to update the RCD website. The board would like to come back to this next month after conversation and a written proposal is discussed with our potential grant writer Kathleen Robins. The Beeler Award will be presented to Mr. John Brodie at the February 18, 2016 Board Meeting, held at the San Joaquin Farm Bureau office, with a small reception to follow. RCD will be working with Kathy Grant (LMRWSSC Head Chair), and Rick Leong (EBMUD) in preparing and presenting this award to him.

#### GRANT UPDATES

Discussion and presentations from Daniel Kramer- Petrologix, and Kathleen Robins. Presentation available upon request. The board has decided to make a subcommittee to review and sit down with other potential grant writers and come back with ideas at the next scheduled board meeting in February. Molly Watkins and John Herrick will join together to make the subcommittee.

#### NEW BUSINESS

New business for the meeting was talked about above in the Grant Updates portion of the meeting agenda.

#### IRRIGATED LANDS

Coalition financials were reviewed. Approve financials, and late bills included in the supplemental packet. A motion to transfer \$10,000 into the Coalition debit account was made in the minutes above in the beginning of the meeting in the Treasurers Report. Motion Mr. Wilber, second Ms. Watkins, approved unanimously. A review of the Budget to Actuals for the year were reviewed.

#### COMMUNICATIONS

A membership report was provided. Membership will be receiving more income in the next few weeks due to the boundary changes. A notice was mailed to growers informing them that their secondary contact has been notified and asked to mail response back for acknowledgement records purposes. The need for a consultant to help with Grower Workshops and assist growers with certification glasses was expressed. A motion to retain a consultant for Grower Assistance and Workshops to help with Grower Certification classes made by Mr. Koster, and seconded by John Herrick. Motion approved unanimously. A Program Report was given. Sediment Control Plan Reports have been mailed. All questions have been directed to the Coalition website, as well as incoming phone calls received at the Coalition office.

HYDROFOCUS            Proposal attached to the meeting packet were reviewed. A motion to move forward with Hydrofocus' proposed work plan for a Groundwater Quality Trend Monitoring Workplan (GQTMW) made by Mr. Thoming, seconded by Mr. Herrick. Motion passed unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION        No closed session at this time

ADJOURNMENT           The next meeting of the San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District Board is scheduled for Thursday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at the San Joaquin Farm Bureau Office, located at 3290 North Ad Art Road, Stockton, CA 95215. Adjourn meeting at 2:05 p.m. Motion by Mr. Koster, second by Mr. Balmat. Motion Passed unanimously.