

San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District

Board of Director's Meeting

March 17, 2016

- CALL TO ORDER** President Richard Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 11:02 p.m.
- ATTENDANCE** Members of the Board present included Richard Rodriguez, Molly Watkins, Phil Balmat, and Bill Koster, and Maren Wilber. 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), Jennifer Spaletta (Spaletta Law).
- PUBLIC COMMENTS** No public comments at this time.
- MEETING AGENDA** Motion to accept the regular meeting minutes from the February 18, 2016 meeting with a correction to the next meeting date listed in the Minutes. The next Regular Scheduled Board Meeting will be held on April 21, 2016 from 12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m. motion made by Mr. Hamm, second Mr. Koster. Approved unanimously.
- DISCUSSION ITEMS** A Letter of Support has been approved by the Board for the Contra Costa County RCD's proposal to CDFA Specialty Crop Block Grant Program. A motion to approve and send the Letter of Support made by Mr. Koster, second Mr. Hamm. Approved unanimously.
- Update on the Hoffman Winery Project with the Lower Mokelumne River Watershed Stewardship Steering Committee was given. NRCS' funding will expire in June, and currently the group is researching Proposition 1 money. Emails and correspondence is being made through Rick Leong with EBMUD, and John Brodie with hopes to move forward and secure the necessary funding by the NRCS' June deadline. No action taken at this time, the board is in support of helping and using the RCD's resources to do so.
- 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 by Mr. Koster, second Mr. Hamm. Motion approved unanimously. The 2015 Audit was presented to the Board for review and approval. A motion to review and file the year ending June 30, 2015 Audit Financial Report made by, Mr. Hamm, second Mr. Balmat. Approved unanimously.
- NRCS UPDATE** Update on EQUIP was given by Ms. VanSteyn. EQUIP applications are still low. 40 contracts have been received. NRCS personnel update was provided. Positions still remain unfilled, but are starting to see applications. Shawn Vue from the Plant Materials Center (PMC), has been doing part-time work for Ora under the Farm Bill Agreement. The overages that were paid for the PMC have been submitted and are closer to being finalized for possible reimbursement. Open House will be held on March 30, 2016 from 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.- all are welcomed to attend.
- RESOURCES** Ag Commissioner reported that CDFA has a new Medical Cannabis Program Manager. The Apple Moth-Lockeford quarantine will be lifted in the near future.
- Julianne from the Joaquin Farm Bureau gave local water updates, including the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act and Joint Powers Authority structure information. Workshops and one on one meetings with growers seem to be having a beneficial and positive influence on growers. Discussions on upcoming State Bills were also discussed.
- Ms. Watkins reported the CRAE Roundtable meeting update. A main discussion item at the meeting included Methane Digesters on farms.

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 Erik Ringelberg (Grant Writer) will be meeting with the Lower Mokelumne River Stewardship Steering Committee at their next meeting.
- NEW BUSINESS Kelsie Pombo has contacted the board and is interested in presenting at the next scheduled regular board meeting about the Durham Ferry Project. Ms. Pombo's letter was reviewed at the board and communication will be made for her to join the next meeting. Ceres Imaging would like to help submit a grant application in conjunction with the RCD for aerial imaging.
- IRRIGATED LANDS Coalition financials were reviewed. A motion to approve financials, and late bills included in the supplemental packet made by Mr. Koster, second Mr. Wilber, approved unanimously. Budget vs. Actuals for the year were reviewed, and still remain under the proposed budget. MLJ-LLC is reporting under budget this far, Mr. Wachman will have a budget for review at the next board meeting. Sarah Lucchetti will be taking the necessary steps to help with growers Seditment Erosion Control Plans. Ms. Lucchetti will be helping with the necessary recommendations, and taking the necessary training classes to do so.
- CLOSED SESSION Board entered into closed session at 12:46 p.m. No action taken at this time.
- COMMUNICATIONS Regional Board is stepping up their enforcement.
- PROGRAM REPORT A Brief Program Report was given about current invoicing from Michael L Johnson LLC.
- ADJOURNMENT The next meeting of the San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District Board is scheduled for Thursday, April 21st, 2016 at the San Joaquin Country Resource Conservation District Office, located at the USDA Stockton Service Center, 3422 W. Hammer Lane Suite A, Stockton, CA. Adjourn meeting at 1:05 p.m. Motion by Ms. Watkins, second by Mr. Koster. Motion Passed unanimously.