

San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District

Board of Director's Meeting

August 18, 2016

- CALL TO ORDER** President Richard Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 12:07 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, Phil Balmat, John Thoming, Molly Watkins, Bill Koster, John Herrick, Diego Olagaray, Jack Hamm. Staff members and contractors present included Ora VanSteyn (NRCS), Mike Wackman, Ruth Mulrooney, Shasta Burns, Sarah Luccehetti. Guests present included Julianne Phillips (SJFB), Kamal Bagri (Asst. Ag Commissioner), Laura Jensen (Delta Conservancy), Maggie Boberg (River Partners).
- PUBLIC COMMENTS** Maggie Boberg, from River Partners spoke to the Board about possible collaborations and partnerships for Riparian Wildlife Restoration projects. Also, specific Directors would like to have their packet physically mailed to them prior to the meeting.
- MEETING AGENDA** Motion to accept the regular meeting minutes from the July 21, 2016 meeting made by Mr. Hamm, second by Mr. Koster. Also, to accept the written Agenda for the meeting today, August 18, 2016, made by Ms. Watkins, second by Mr. Koster. 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, made by Mr. Hamm, second Mr. Balmat. Motion approved unanimously.
- NRCS UPDATE** EQIP program results were reviewed. Over \$4 million dollars was spent on contracts this year. Mostly all of the money went towards tractor replacement. A review of all open positions were announced. Two new positions are available for NRCS Stockton, and two new employees will be joining this location next month. Ms. Van Steyn will be leaving on detail to Hawaii and will not be returning until December. The RCD has permission to hire for the Farm Bill Assistant while Ms. Van Steyn is away, all ok with a unanimous Board vote for this contract.
- RESOURCES** Farm Bureau report- AB1066 was pulled for Ag Overtime, and was passed and is now headed to the floor for voting. Waters of the US are exploring a dredge and fill process and furnished comments.
- Assistant Ag Commissioner reported that next month there will be Public Comments for pesticide use around school areas. A letter of support is being asked for from the RCD. Ag inspectors will now be using tablets in the field for easy reporting purposes.
- CRAE Report- No report at this time.
- 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** Laura Jensen from the Delta Conservancy gave a presentation on the 2016-2017 grant cycle and funding available for this period. Presentation available upon request.

A motion to create a subcommittee for Prop 1 Grant involving Hyacinth outreach to contract grant writer, Erik Ringelberg to potentially attend the Delta Conservancy Workshop on September 8, 2016, and move forward with any contract agreements made by Mr. Hamm, second by Mr. Balmat. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board has agreed upon a subcommittee for the Paradise Cut Grant. This subcommittee will consist of Mr. Herrick and Mr. Balmat, and if one member is not available, Mr. Hamm will be the alternate back up for this role. A motion to create a Paradise Cut Grant Subcommittee was made by Mr. Hamm, second by Mr. Koster. Motion passed unanimously. It was also asked that our legal counsel Ms. Spaletta review this grant proposal for further questions.

NEW BUSINESS

Grant cycle 2016-2017 discussed above. Two new SWEEPS contracts have been assigned to the SJCRCD. Waiting on payment from the first round executed before we move forward.

IRRIGATED LANDS

Coalition financials were reviewed. A motion to approve monthly financials from the Supplemental packet provided at the meeting, with the exception of the wrong deposit made by the auditor's office that will have a final journal entry for review by next month and represent the correct balance made by Mr. Koster second Mr. Hamm, and approved unanimously. A membership report was given by Ruth Mulrooney on current standings of the percentage of members that have paid and that are compliant with nitrogen and sediment erosion reports. Program Managers Report was given, and information included in the Board Meeting packet. Minutes from the August meeting were reviewed with the Program Managers Report. Ms. Grupe the Assistant Membership Director has been making calls to growers that have not turned in their Farm Evaluation Plans. The state is cracking down on growers and issuing substantial fines for not complying. It was stated that there will be a new State Order rewrite in October. Ms. Mulrooney presented a reimbursement to a grower that overpaid membership dues, and asked for the Boards approval to reimburse grower for this one year mistake. A motion to pay the grower overdue fees made by Mr. Hamm, second by Mr. Balmat, motion approved unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION

No Closed Session at this time

COMMUNICATIONS

No communications at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting of the San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District Board is scheduled for Thursday, September 15, 2016 at the NEW NRCS, 7585 S. Longe Street, Stockton, CA. Adjourn meeting at 2:55 p.m. Motion by Mr. Balmat, second by Mr. Hamm. Motion Passed unanimously.