

San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District
Regular Board Meeting

Roberts Union Farm Center
4925 W Howard Rd
Stockton, CA 95206

Thursday, April 15, 2021 - 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/507874829>

United States: [+1 \(571\) 317-3122](tel:+15713173122) ~ **Access Code:** 507-874-829

Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

President Richard Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 12:09 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Members of the Board present included Richard Rodriguez, Phil Balmat, Jack Hamm, Molly Watkins, John Herrick, Bill Koster, Marden Wilber, and John Thoming. Brandon Bates (NRCS-Stockton), Ruth Mulrooney (SJCDWQC), Mike Wackman (SCJDWQC), and Krista McCoon (RCD Administrator).

MEETING AGENDA

A motion to accept the agenda for the April 15, 2021 was made by Ms. Watkins; Mr. Wilber seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

MEETING MINUTES

A motion to accept the regular meeting minutes from the March 18, 2021 was made by Ms. Watkins; Mr. Wilber seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

TREASURERS REPORT

All bills for the month were presented. A motion to pay all invoices presented in the meeting packet and the supplemental packet was made by Mr. Koster; Mr. Hamm seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

The 2020 audit findings were reviewed. A motion to accept the audit findings as presented was made by Mr. Wilber; Mr. Koster seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Paradise Cut Update – Mr. Herrick reported that Patrea from Consero Solutions is leading outreach and will be first communicating with reclamation districts and engineers that would be impacted, in one way or another, by the project. Ms. Watkins will work on getting an op-ed piece started.
Two professional service contracts for technical work on the Paradise Cut project, one for Environmental Science Associates (ESA) and the other for American Rivers were reviewed. Mr. Hamm made a motion to accept the contracts as presented; Mr. Koster seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- B. DWR Grant Update – Ms. Noble with Noble Common Ground Solutions previously presented a contract. It was reviewed by Ms. Spaletta. Ms. Noble is working with DWR to move forward in resolving any issues. Ms. McCoon will provide necessary documents/details to DWR to hopefully have a contract for review next month.

- C. Ceres Imaging Grant – Ms. McCoon brought the group up to speed regarding the Ceres Imaging grant from 2017. She noted that DWR is willing to create a new grant for the remaining balance of the original \$300K, approximately \$126K. Ceres Imaging needs to provide some additional documentation to DWR to move forward. Hopefully, a new grant will be ready for review next month.

RESOURCES

- A. Ag Commissioner’s Report – no report
- B. CRAE Report – Ms. Watkins provided a final copy of the letter, *CRAE Comments on the 30 x 30 Executive Order, and the Water Resiliency Portfolio*, for the group to review. She signed the letter on behalf of SJCRCD.
- C. RCD Administrator – Ms. McCoon indicated that she’s been busy learning the particulars of the position. She updated the group on the Pombo scholarship, stating applications are due April 30. She discussed the boxes in the RCD office at the NRCS building. These will be reviewed, sorted and stored in the storage unit, a bigger unit can be obtained. The state GCC and county facts sheet reports were presented and will be submitted by April 30.

NRCS

- A. EQIP Update – Mr. Bates reported that NRCS has started funding non-tractor pieces of equipment and awarded 24 contracts, valuing approximately \$1.8 million. He plans to proceed with a survey to satisfy the local work group meeting requirement as no formal guidelines have been proposed.
- B. Personnel – Mr. Bates noted the office is now open, by appointment only.

IRRIGATED LANDS REGULATORY PROGRAM

- A. Financial Report – Monthly financial statements were reviewed. A motion to approve the financial report and pay all of the invoices including the additional bills presented in the supplemental packet was made by Mr. Hamm; Mr. Thoming seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Wackman reviewed the options for the 2021/2022 budget. Mr. Balmat made a motion to adjust membership dues for 2021/2022 to \$5.00 per acre; Mr. Koster seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Koster made a motion to adjust the flat rate dues for members with 10 acres or less to \$60.00 for 2021/2022; Ms. Watkins seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- B. Steering Committee Report – The Program Managers Report was included in the supplemental packet.
- C. Membership Report – Ms. Mulrooney noted that March was busy given the April 1 deadline for nitrogen plans and that 55% of members submitted theirs. One of the two newly contracted CCA is willing to help reach out to those still needing to submit plans or those needing modifications.
- D. Delta Regional Monitoring Program – The Delta Regional Monitoring Program, non-profit, will be having its initial meeting next Monday. The organization should be up and running by July 1.
- E. Program Director Report – Mr. Wackman noted that things have been very busy. He reviewed some of the recent testing results. He noted that steps are being taken to determine the ground water protection targets/value and modeling should be up and running in July. This will determine how much nitrate is leaking into the ground, on a township basis.

COMMUNICATIONS

All communications were included in the meeting packet.

CLOSE SESSION

The board went into closed session at 1:59 p.m. and returned to general session at 2:08 p.m. No action was taken.

ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn the board meeting of April 15, 2021 was made by Mr. Balmat; Mr. Wilber seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

The next meeting of the San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District is scheduled for 12:00 p.m., Thursday, May 20, 2021, location TBD.