

San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District

Regular Board Meeting

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

Thursday, June 17, 2021 - 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

President Richard Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 12:04 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Members of the Board present included Richard Rodriguez, Phil Balmat, Jack Hamm, John Herrick, John Thoming, Marden Wilber, and Molly Watkins. Kathy Grant (City of Lodi – LMRWSC), Margaret Smither- Kopperl (NRCS-PMC), Brandon Bates (NRCS-Stockton), Ruth Mulrooney (SJCDWQC), Mike Wackman (SJCDWQC), Charlotte Mitchell (CA Farmland Trust), Jennifer Spaletta (Spaletta Law) and Krista McCoon (RCD Administrator) were also in attendance.

MEETING AGENDA

A motion to accept the agenda for the June 17, 2021 meeting was made by Mr. Herrick; Mr. Wilber seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

MEETING MINUTES

A motion to accept the regular meeting minutes from May 20, 2021, was made by Mr. Herrick; 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. Thoming; Mr. Hamm seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Paradise Cut Update – Mr. Herrick reported that Patrea from Consero Solutions is leading outreach and they will be meeting with reclamation districts and engineers at the end of June. A public meeting has been tentatively slated for July 20 at the Roberts Union Farm Center. The planning committee compiled a list of potential project leads that will be reviewed at the meetings. The planning committee drafted a letter to send to DWR requesting financial support of the project. Mr. Hamm made a motion that President Richard Rodriguez sign the letter on behalf of the SJCRCD. Mr. Wilber seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- B. DWR Grant Update – Ms. Noble with Noble Common Ground Solutions previously presented a contract. Ms. Spaletta reviewed her concerns regarding the contract and ways to mitigate them. She and Ms. McCoon will work with DWR to bring resolution to the concerns highlighted and bring a contract to fruition. Mr. Herrick moved to conditionally proceed forward with finalizing a scope of work and contract upon thorough evaluation of risk and financial exposure and give President Richard Rodriguez the authority to sign a proposal and/or bring it back to the board for review. Mr. Thoming seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- C. Ceres Imaging Grant – Ms. McCoon brought the group up to speed regarding the Ceres Imaging grant from 2017.

A new grant will not be necessary. The outstanding modified invoices have been submitted and Ceres Imaging is drafting the final grant report to submit to DWR.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Lower Mokelumne River Watershed Stewardship Plan – Ms. Smither - Kopperl and Ms. Grant explained that their group is updating the stewardship plan and started with the “Ag Element” portion. They provided the group a copy to review and asked for input. They also discussed concerns with the RCD website and noted they would be willing to seek grant funding to update the website.
- B. 21/22 RCD Budget Proposal – Ms. McCoon discussed the proposed 21/22 budget. Mr. Hamm moved to approve the proposed 21/22 SJCRCD budget as presented. Mr. Thoming seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- C. Insurance and Worker’s Comp – Ms. McCoon will complete the necessary paperwork to obtain a quote for worker’s comp coverage and report back next month.

RESOURCES

- A. Ag Commissioner’s Report – no report
- B. CRAE Report – no report
- C. RCD Administrator – Ms. McCoon presented the engagement letter for the annual audit with Croce, Sanguinetti and Vander Veen. Mr. Thoming moved that President Richard Rodriguez sign the engagement letter on behalf of the SJCRCD. Mr. Hamm seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- A. EQIP Update – Mr. Bates reported they are waiting on EQIP selections. Applications will be accepted in July for new five-year contracts. The NRCS office may be an option for in-person meetings as early as August/September.

IRRIGATED LANDS REGULATORY PROGRAM

- A. Financial Report – Monthly financial statements were reviewed. Mr. Hamm made a motion that the financial report be reviewed and filed and to pay all of the invoices including the additional bills presented in the supplemental. Mr. Thoming 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 payments have been coming in from invoices sent on May 1.
- D. Delta Regional Monitoring Program – The Delta Regional Monitoring Program has been meeting.
- E. Program Director Report – Mr. Wackman reviewed some of the recent testing results. He noted to that CV Salts is moving forward. Terry Pritchard is working with growers to discuss surface and ground water issues, specifically with some smaller growers.

COMMUNICATIONS

All communications were included in the meeting packet.

ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn the board meeting of June 17, 2021 was made by Mr. Wilber; Mr. Hamm seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 1:51 p.m.

The next meeting of the San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District is scheduled for 12:00 p.m., Thursday, July 15, 2021, location TBD.