

San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District
Regular Board Meeting

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

Thursday, September 16, 2021 • 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

President Richard Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Members of the Board present included Richard Rodriguez, Phil Balmat, John Herrick, Bill Koster, John Thoming, and Marden Wilber. Sonya Miller (NRCS-Stockton), Phillip Brownsley (NRCS-Stockton), (Ruth Mulrooney (SJCDWQC), Mike Wackman (SJCDWQC), and Krista McCoon (RCD Administrator) were also in attendance.

MEETING AGENDA

A motion to accept the agenda for the September 16, 2021 meeting was made by Mr. Herrick; Mr. Koster seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

MEETING MINUTES

A motion to accept the regular meeting minutes from August 19, 2021, was made by Mr. Herrick; Mr. Koster 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; Ms. Wilber seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Paradise Cut – Mr. Herrick reported the project is moving forward. The general consensus is that San Joaquin Area Flood Control Area (SJAFCA) is the front runner for project lead with a committee to help guide the programming. An MOU is being drafted between the reclamation districts and SJAFCA to lay out how this will work. Mr. Herrick noted DWR positively responded to a funding request letter, noting there may be funding, in the millions, available within the multi-benefit group.
- B. DWR Contract – Mr. Rodriguez and Ms. McCoon said after the 2-week recruitment period, one applicant applied. The hiring committee recommended hiring Elisa Noble of Noble Common Ground Solutions, as per the service contract presented. Mr. Koster moved to approve the professional services contract for Elisa Noble as presented. Mr. Herrick seconded the motion. Motion passed; Mr. Balmat abstained.
- C. Ceres Imaging Grant – no report

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Insurance and Worker's Comp – Ms. McCoon presented a quote for Worker's Compensation from State Fund. Mr. Thoming moved to purchase the Worker's Compensation policy as presented. The

motion was seconded by Mr. Koster. Motion passed unanimously.

RESOURCES

- A. Ag Commissioner's Report – Mr. Pelican brought copies of the 2020 crop report and noted that ag industry was a \$3 billion industry in 2020. He discussed that Linda Pinfold, previously from Solano Co., was hired as the Assistant Ag Commissioner. Those with license and certificates needing to get continuing education units need to be submit by the end of October for permit season. The office is working on putting together a spray safe seminar. Additionally, Mr. Pelican noted he is in contact with other ag commissioners to put together an Ag Pass program for those needing to care for animals during disasters.
- B. CRAE Report – no report
- C. RCD Administrator – Ms. McCoon mentioned that she submitted details to Kathy Grant to work on obtaining a grant to facilitate a website update. She updated the group on the production of the AgVenture water video. Additionally, she confirmed the Delta-Bay Area meeting will be hosted by SJCRCD in February/March.

NRCS UPDATE

- A. EQIP Update – Ms. Miller discussed that the NRCS office is still closed to the public but will hopefully be open in January. There were 104 EQIP applications awarded funding, 35 have already been paid out. There are another 252 in the que and potential funding for another 10-12 projects.
- B. Personnel – Mr. Phillip Brownsley has been brought on as a rangeland specialist.

IRRIGATED LANDS REGULATORY PROGRAM

- A. Financial Report – Monthly financial statements were reviewed. Mr. Koster 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. Herrick 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 domestic wells must be tested by 12/31/21.
- D. Delta Regional Monitoring Program – The Delta Regional Monitoring Program is up and running and
- E. Program Director Report – Mr. Wackman discussed the exceedances in the county and that grower outreach meetings are being arranged to discussed/address them. Ruth and Wendy will reach out to the 50+ folks invited to attend. He noted CV salts is moving forward and a prioritization authorization study will be completed. This will happen next year, maybe the year after.

COMMUNICATIONS

All communications were included in the meeting packet.

ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn the board meeting of September 16, 2021 was made by Mr. Balmat; Ms. Watkins seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

The next meeting of the San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District is scheduled for 12:00 p.m., Thursday, October 21, 2021, location TBD.