

**San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District**  
***Regular Board Meeting***

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

**Thursday, November 18, 2021 • 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.**

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**Minutes**

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Richard Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 12:08 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE**

Members of the Board present included Richard Rodriguez, Phil Balmat, Jack Hamm, John Herrick, Bill Koster, Diego Olagaray, John Thoming, Marden Wilber, and Molly Watkins. Brandon Bates (NRCS – Stockton), Tess Dunham (Attorney – Kahn, Soares, and Conway, LLP), Ryan Hansen, Ruth Mulrooney (SJCDWQC), Tim Pelican (SJC Ag Commissioner’s Office) Mike Wackman (SJCDWQC) and Krista McCoon (RCD Administrator) were also in attendance.

**MEETING AGENDA**

A motion to accept the agenda for the November 18, 2021, meeting was made by Mr. Koster. Mr. Wilber seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**MEETING MINUTES**

A motion to accept the regular meeting minutes from October 21, 2021, was made by Mr. Koster. 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 supplemental packet was made by Mr. Koster. Mr. Wilber seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**IRRIGATED LANDS REGULATORY PROGRAM**

- A. CV Salts Presentation – Attorney Tess Dunham of Kahn, Soares, and Conway, LLP reviewed the CV Salts program with the group. She explained that the program allows a longer period of time, 35 years, to come up with solutions to regulatory requirements regarding nitrogen and salt levels. The program requirement will likely be initiated at the end of 2022.
- B. Financial Report - Monthly financial statements were reviewed. Mr. Koster move to accept and file the financial report and pay all of the invoices, including those in the supplemental packet. Mr. Balmat seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- C. Steering Committee - The program manager’s report was included in the supplemental packet
- D. Membership Report – Ms. Mulrooney reported that one hundred percent of dues have been collected. There are 327 members missing farm evaluation and nitrogen management plans. Many haven’t previously been required to complete these. She and Ms. Grupe, along with the CCA consultants, are working to get them into compliance.
- E. Program Report – Mr. Wackman discussed the need for a government entity to serve as a pass through between USGS and Delta RMP in order to maintain approximately \$70K in in-kind sampling and monitoring. He presented a draft contract agreement.  
Mr. Hamm made a motion to give SJCRCD president, Richard Rodriguez, authority to sign an agreement with USGS, provided it’s approved by legal counsel, which would provide SJCRD \$5,000 for administrative services over the course of the 2.5-year agreement. Mr. Koster seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

- F. Regional Monitoring Program – Mr. Wackman explained the group is meeting with the regional board once a month to ensure it’s moving forward as desired.

### **IRRIGATED LANDS REGULATORY PROGRAM**

- A. Paradise Cut – Mr. Herrick discussed the progress of the project and current challenges in developing an MOU with SJAFCA that prioritizes dredging.
- B. Consideration of modification to Paradise Cut grant agreement – Mr. Herrick moved to authorize the RCD administrator to submit a budget transfer request to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy to shift \$12,800 in the Paradise Cut grant from the San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District to Consero Solutions and increase Consero Solutions’ total contract amount by \$12,800. Mr. Olagaray seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- C. DWR Contract – Ms. McCoon explained that the contract had been fully executed and contractor Elisa Noble was on board. She noted the first site visit was set for November 23, and invited anyone interested to attend.
- D. 2017 Ceres Imaging Grant – Ms. McCoon indicated the invoice was submitted to the queue for final payment.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

### **RESOURCES**

- A. Ag Commissioner’s Report – Mr. Pelican said permits were being issues, both online and in person. Two CE training classes have been offered, with more scheduled for December. Online CE trainings will be available for two more years. A kickoff meeting for spray safe took place and he is searching for more board members.
- B. CRAE REPORT – Ms. Watkins explained that the CRAE committee met for the first time in-person and Karen Ross was in attendance. The meeting was focused on climate change and land repurposing.
- C. RCD Administrator – Ms. McCoon explained that the final scholarship recipient had been contacted again and told that he has until December 31 to submit the necessary documentation to accept his award or it would be forfeited.

### **NRCS UPDATE**

- A. EQIP Update – Mr. Bates informed that group that NRCS, SJCRCD and SJC AgVenture were awarded the Outstanding Conservation Planning Partnership of the Year Award for 2021.
- B. Personnel – Alan Curry will replace Kay Joy, as she’s retiring at the end of the year.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

All communications were included in the meeting packet.

### **ADJOURN**

A motion to adjourn the November RCD board meeting, November 18, 2021, was made by Mr. Koster. Mr. Balmat seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

The next board meeting of the San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District is scheduled for 11:00 a.m. Thursday, December 16, 2021, at Dave Wong’s in Stockton.