

San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District
Regular Board Meeting

Dave Wong's Restaurant and Deli
2828 W March Ln, Stockton, CA 95219

Thursday, December 16, 2021 • 11:00 – 1:00 p.m.

Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

President Richard Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 11:08 a.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), Ryan Hansen, Jim Thoming, 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 December 16, 2021, meeting was made by Mr. Olagaray. Ms. Watkins seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

MEETING MINUTES

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

TREASURERS REPORT

All bills for the month were presented. Mr. Balmat moved that the final scholarship award (\$500) be returned to the Pombo family, should the scholarship recipient not submit the necessary documents by the stated December 31, 2021, deadline. Mr. Hamm seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion to pay all invoices presented in the meeting packet and supplemental packet was made by Ms. Watkins. Mr. Olagaray seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

IRRIGATED LANDS REGULATORY PROGRAM

- A. Financial Report - Monthly financial statements were reviewed. Mr. Olagaray move to accept and file the financial report and pay all of the invoices, including those in the supplemental packet. Mr. Koster seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- B. Steering Committee - The program manager's report was included in the supplemental packet.
- C. Membership Report – Ms. Mulrooney reported that domestic well tests are due by the end of the year. Packets for next year will go out around the third week of January.
- D. Program Report – Mr. Wackman discussed the potential to work with Stanislaus RCD and others to apply for grant funding for irrigation efficiency projects. The board directed Mr. Wackman to gather more details and explore the particulars of participating.
- E. Regional Monitoring Program – Mr. Wackman explained it's moving in the right direction. He noted that the goal is for monitoring and analysis to occur in rotation, every of couple of years.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Paradise Cut – Mr. Herrick discussed the progress made regarding a larger Paradise Cut/South Delta restoration project; stating that San Joaquin Area Flood Control Area (SJAFCA) will be the project

lead with an advisory committee. An MOU was created and approved by SJAFCA. It's currently out for RD review and approval.

A motion was made by Mr. Olagaray to authorize SJCRCD president Richard Rodriguez, to sign the MOU agreement on behalf of the RCD. Mr. Balmat seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

B. DWR Contract – Ms. McCoon explained that the first site visit to Pace Preserve took place in November.

C. 2017 Ceres Imaging Grant – No report

NEW BUSINESS

A. Mr. Koster made a motion to appoint Jim Thoming as an associate director. Mr. Olagaray seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

RESOURCES

A. Ag Commissioner's Report – Mr. Pelican noted the remaining CE trainings would be virtual. He also stated there is a freeze on hemp licenses. Additionally, *Spray Safe* is being tentatively planned for late February.

B. CRAE Report – Ms. Watkins explained that the CRAE committee met virtually, and the department of conservation has a variety of grants available for "repurposing land."

C. RCD Administrator – Ms. McCoon noted that the Lower Mokelumne Watershed committee will be pursuing building a website independent of the RCDs.

NRCS UPDATE

A. EQIP Update – Mr. Bates reminded the group about the Outstanding Conservation Planning Partnership of the Year Award, which was being presented that afternoon. He also discussed that \$6.8M was being made available to fund cover cropping. Applications are due by January 6, 2022.

B. Personnel – Jesse Samson is retiring at the close of the year.

COMMUNICATIONS

All communications were included in the meeting packet.

ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn the December RCD board meeting on December 16, 2021, was made by Mr. Hamm. Ms. Watkins seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:53 a.m.

The next board meeting of the San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District is scheduled for 12:00 p.m. Thursday, January 20, 2021, at the Roberts Union Farm Center.