

San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District
Regular Board Meeting

San Joaquin County Farm Bureau
3290 Ad Art Rd
Stockton, CA 95215

Thursday, July 21, 2022 • 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

President Richard Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 12:13 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Members of the Board present included Richard Rodriguez, Phil Balmat, Jack Hamm, Bill Koster, Diego Olagaray, and Jim Thoming. Brandon Bates (NRCS), Daniel and Julie Clary (guests), Krista McCoon (RCD Administrator), Sonya Miller (NRCS), Ruth Mulrooney (SJCDWQC), Linda Pinfold (Ag Commissioner's Office), and Mike Wackman (SJCDWQC) were also in attendance.

MEETING AGENDA

A motion to accept the agenda for the July 21, 2022, meeting was made by Mr. Olagaray. Mr. Hamm seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

MEETING MINUTES

A motion to accept the regular meeting minutes from June 16, 2022, was made by Mr. Olagaray. Mr. Hamm 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 and supplemental packets was made by Mr. Koster. Mr. Thoming seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

GUEST SPEAKER: Daniel Clary, Range Camp attendee, provided an overview of his experience at camp and answered questions from the audience. He noted he'd recommend the experience to others.

RESOURCES (Limited to 5 minutes/speaker)

- A. Ag Commissioner's Report – Ms. Pinfold said registration for the pesticide takeback program has been closed and they're hoping to complete the event by the end of September. She noted the office is requesting a secretarial disaster declaration for rangeland, as they estimate a 58% loss. Ms. Pinfold reviewed new certification and training regulations, which are set to be effective January 2024. This is being done to meet US EPA standards. This will impact both general use and restricted material users and will change certain subcategories. All pesticide applicator certificate holders will need to take new exams, which will be available in Fall 2022.
- B. CRAE Report – No report
- C. RCD Administrator – Ms. McCoon reviewed the upcoming Ag Careers Summit being held for juniors and seniors in the county to promote careers in agriculture. Mr. Hamm moved to provide a \$2,000 sponsorship for the event. Mr. Thoming seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

NRCS UPDATE

- A. EQIP Update – Mr. Bates reviewed a presentation he created to explain the process funding goes through from the Farm Bill to the NRCS Stockton office. He also reviewed the competitive funding process and the success rates of the Stockton applications. Staffing limitations and stressors were also reviewed. The board directed staff to create a support letter for the NRCS Stockton office for review and submission in October.

Ms. Miller reviewed the irrigation workshop the RCD sponsored, noting that while they hoped for a few more attendees, the event was a success.

- B. Personnel – Ms. Miller explained that Ms. Veronica Rivera will be moving to the Petaluma office. A soil agronomist was hired to provide technical assistance for the region.

CLOSED SESSION

The board went into closed session at 1:08 p.m. to discuss pending litigation. When they came out of closed session, at 1:35 p.m., there was no action to report.

IRRIGATED LANDS REGULATORY PROGRAM

- A. Financial Report – Monthly financial statements were reviewed. Mr. Olagaray moved to accept and file the financial report and pay all the invoices, including those in the supplemental packet. Mr. Hamm seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- B. Steering Committee – The report was included as an attachment.
- C. Membership Report – Memberships are being received and processed.
- D. Program Report – Mr. Wackman reviewed exceedances and noted that algae toxicity hits on the islands are causing issue and the water board wants studies completed. He also noted that self-certification for nitrogen management plans will occur in November.
- E. Delta Regional Monitoring Program – No report.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Paradise Cut – Ms. McCoon reviewed that SJAFCA is taking over and will be receiving funds from DWR. She noted that phase 2 will soon transition to phase 3 and committees are meeting to make the transition happen without issue. A community meeting to review the project has been set for November 10.
- B. DWR Contract – No report.
- C. CDFA – Water Efficiency Technical Assistance Grant – Ms. McCoon explained the group met to kick off the grant. An irrigation efficiency evaluation app will be developed in modules and available for review as developed. Mr. Olagaray and Mr. Rodriguez will serve as a committee for this grant to make decisions and recommendations, as needed.
- D. CARCD/AB 1902 – Ms. McCoon reviewed the progress on AB 1902 but warned that the match that was once removed has been added back. After discussion, the board appointed Ms. Watkins and Mr. Rodriguez to serve as the AB 1902 committee and leave the stance as currently noted, oppose unless amended.
- E. CalRecycle Grant – Ms. McCoon explained that the application is now available, and she will work with Mr. Balmat to apply for the second round.
- F. Updated Professional Services Agreements – Mr. Hamm moved to approve the independent service agreements, as presented, for contractors: Grupe, Cover, Jensen, McCoon, Mulrooney, and Wackman. Mr. Olagaray seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- G. CV Salts/Valley Water Collaborative – No report.

NEW BUSINESS

COMMUNICATIONS

All communications were included in the meeting packet.

ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn the July RCD board meeting on July 21, 2022, was made by Ms. Hamm. Mr. Thoming seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

The next board meeting of the San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District is scheduled for 12:00 p.m. Thursday, August 18, 2022, location TBD.