

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

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

**Thursday, March 16, 2023 • 12:00 p.m.**

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**Minutes**

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Richard Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE**

Members of the Board present included Richard Rodriguez, Phil Balmat, Jack Hamm, John Herrick, Bill Koster, Diego Olagary, Jim Thoming, Molly Watkins, and Marden Wilber. Brandon Bates (NRCS - Stockton), Krista McCoon (RCD Administrator), Ruth Mulrooney (SJCDWQC), Kamal Bagri (SJC Ag Commissioner), and Mike Wackman (SJCDWQC) were also in attendance.

**MEETING AGENDA**

A motion to accept the agenda for the March 16, 2023, meeting was made by Mr. Herrick. Mr. Thoming seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**MEETING MINUTES**

A motion to accept the regular meeting minutes from February 16, 2023, was made by Mr. Herrick. Mr. Thoming 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. Wilber seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**RESOURCES** (Limited to 5 minutes/speaker)

- A. Ag Commissioner's Report – Ms. Kamal Bagri noted she is trying to implement an expanded Ag Pass program in the county, which allows farmers past frontlines to tend to livestock/farms during natural disaster.  
Mr. Koster moved to support Ms. Bagri in pushing forward to establish the program. Mr. Wilber seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.  
She also noted that Environmental Health is doing an audit to determine the future of ordinances regarding spreading organic waste. Finally, she noted that Linda Pinfeld, Assistant Ag Commissioner, will be leave at the end of the month to be the Ag Commissioner in Stanislaus County.
- B. CRAE Report – Ms. Watkins explained the group is in limbo, trying to decide if they will continue. To meet some of the financial strain, Glenda Humiston of UC Davis committed \$10K. The group is determining financial structure for involvement and exploring next steps.
- C. RCD Administrator – Ms. McCoon discussed the work she's been completing with Paradise Cut. She's also been active with the AB 1902 working group, which is now focused on better transparency with CARCD.

**NRCS UPDATE**

- A. EQIP Update – Mr. Bates noted that batch one funding received 34 applications and awarded approximately \$2.2M. There will be additional funding rounds thru September.
- B. Personnel – The new engineer officially started in March.

### **IRRIGATED LANDS REGULATORY PROGRAM**

- A. Financial Report – Mr. Wackman reviewed the financials, noting they will be on budget. Mr. Koster moved to pay invoices as presented and accept and file the financial report. Mr. Hamm seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.  
Mr. Hamm moved to set the coalition membership dues at \$5.25 per acre. The motion was seconded by Mr. Olagaray. Motion passed unanimously.
- B. Steering Committee – Mr. Wackman reviewed exceedances, noting algae toxicity exceedances are ongoing. The Delta RMP had couple of exceedances.
- C. Membership Report – Ms. Mulrooney noted the water board has sent notices to those who didn't submit a 20, 21, 22 irrigation nitrogen management plans. Meetings were held and MPIR surveys sent out. A 100% survey response rate is required. As such, modifications will be made to the web portal to create a pop up making it obvious to producers who are delinquent. Of the coalition members, 89% have emails in the portal.
- D. Program Report – Mr. Wackman noted that parties impacted by CV Salts are meeting to discuss next steps. The notification letter is now expected at the end of 2023.
- E. Delta Regional Monitoring Program – The final modifications to the USGS contract are being made and will be completed prior to the next board meeting.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Paradise Cut – Mr. Herrick reviewed the project and noted the planning team is currently working on getting the outreach meeting finalized, March 23 from 9 -11 a.m.
- B. DWR Contract – No update.
- C. CDFA – Water Efficiency Technical Assistance Grant – Ms. McCoon explained that the intern description was ready for review and Mr. Rodriguez and Mr. Hamm agreed to interview candidates.
- D. CV Salts/Valley Water Collaborative – Mr. Wackman noted that the impacted parties are meeting to discuss next steps. The notification letter is now expected at the end of 2023.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. SJ CWA Spring Meeting – Ms. McCoon discussed that the SJC California Women for Agriculture ladies will be focusing on water at their spring meeting/luncheon on May 17. Mr. Herrick will serve as a speaker. They are seeking meeting sponsorship.  
Mr. Hamm moved to sponsor \$250 for building rental fees. Mr. Thoming seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

All communications were included in the meeting packet.

### **ADJOURN**

A motion to adjourn the March RCD board meeting on March 16, 2023, was made by Mr. Herrick. Mr. Balmat seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 1:59 p.m.

The next board meeting of the San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District is scheduled for 12:00 p.m. Thursday, April 20, 2023, at the San Joaquin Farm Bureau.