

San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District
Regular Board Meeting

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

Thursday, June 15, 2023 • 12:00 p.m.

Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

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

ATTENDANCE

Members of the Board present included Richard Rodriguez, Phil Balmat, Diego Olagaray, Molly Watkins, and Marden Wilber. Kamal Bagri (SJC Ag Commissioner), Joe Takai, via phone (NRCS - Stockton), and Ruth Mulrooney (SJCDWQC) were also in attendance.

MEETING AGENDA

A motion to accept the agenda for the June 15, 2023, meeting was made by Mr. Balmat. Ms. Watkins seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

MEETING MINUTES

A motion to accept the regular meeting minutes from May 18, 2023, was made by Mr. Balmat. Ms. Watkins 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. Olagaray. Mr. Balmat seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

RESOURCES (Limited to 5 minutes/speaker)

- A. Ag Commissioner's Report – Ms. Bagri noted that CDFA granted SJC an extra \$30,000 for weed management to create a free “weed booklet” distribute to growers. She noted the Ag Comm. Office has five vacant positions. California Department of Fish & Wildlife (CDFW) has a new policy on beaver removal permits and created a new division to relocate beavers. The Nutria program had a \$13 million budget. The last reported Nutria in SJC was February 2022. She also noted CDFA is wanting a label change, which would only allow the anti-coagulant squirrel bait to be used in a bait station. California regulation changes because of the Pesticide Regulation Act of 2022, will be enacted in 2024 and translate bilingual pesticide labels into Spanish and indigenous languages. Ms. Bagri explained DPR produced the “Sustainable Pest Management Roadmap” to phase out ag chemicals by 2050, farms would be organic.
- A. CRAE Report – Ms. Watkins explained they have hired a new moderator, Aimee Ryan. She will facilitate the group.
- C. RCD Administrator – No report.

NRCS UPDATE

- A. EQIP Update – Mr. Takai stated a total of \$3.3M has been awarded to 37 contracts in SJC. As more funds become available, more application selections will be made. Selections may last until August and/or September.
- B. Personnel – District Conservationist interviews are ongoing. A decision will be made by 6/23/23.

IRRIGATED LANDS REGULATORY PROGRAM

- A. Financial Report – Mr. Balmat moved to pay invoices as presented and accept and file the financial report. Mr. Olagaray seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- B. Steering Committee – The program managers report was included in the packet.
- C. Membership Report – Ms. Mulrooney noted invoices were due 6/15/23. She and Wendy continue to revise invoices and address members’ questions regarding payments. The Coalition will USPS mail a late notice post card at the beginning of July to members who have failed to pay their annual membership or have not submitted their Irrigation Nitrogen Management Plan Summary Report (INMP).
- D. Program Report – No report.
- E. Delta Regional Monitoring Program – No report.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. DWR Contract – No report.
- B. CDFA – Water Efficiency Technical Assistance Grant – Krista McCoon and the two summer interns attended a training for irrigation distribution uniformity evaluations.
- C. CV Salts/Valley Water Collaborative – No report.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. CARCD - Ms. Watkins noted the CARCD Bay Delta Region will hold a “Social Mixer Type Event” in Livermore tentatively 7/26 or 7/31/23.

COMMUNICATIONS

All communications were included in the meeting packet.

ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn the board meeting on June 15, 2023, was made by Mr. Olagaray. Mr. Wilber seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 1:22 p.m.

The next board meeting of the San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District is scheduled for 12:00 p.m. Thursday, July 20, 2023, at the SJ Agricultural Commissioner’s Office.