

San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District
Regular Board Meeting

Dave Wong's Restaurant
2828 W March Lane • Stockton, CA 95219

Thursday, December 21, 2023 • 11:00 a.m.

Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

President Richard Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 11:14 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

Members of the Board present included Richard Rodriguez, Phil Balmat, Jack Hamm, John Herrick, Diego Olagaray, Jim Thoming, and Molly Watkins. Kamal Bagri (SJC Ag Commissioner/Sealer), Ryan Hansen (Assoc. Director), Krista McCoon (RCD), Sonya Miller (NRCS - Stockton), Ruth Mulrooney (SJCDWQC), and Mike Wackman (SJCDWQC), were also in attendance.

MEETING AGENDA

A motion to accept the agenda for the December 21, 2023, meeting was made by Ms. Watkins. Mr. Olagaray seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

MEETING MINUTES

A motion to accept the regular meeting minutes from November 16, 2023, was made by Ms. Watkins. Mr. Olagaray seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

All bills for the month were presented. A motion to pay all invoices presented in the packets was made by Mr. Herrick. Mr. Olagaray seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

NRCS UPDATE

- A. EQIP and Personnel Update – Ms. Miller noted there are over 250 applications submitted, of which 60 are for tractors. This works out to about 50 applications per staff person. Selections will be made from now until late summer.

RESOURCES (Limited to 5 minutes/speaker)

- A. Ag Commissioner's Report – Ms. Kamal Bagri discussed that vesicular stomatitis, a horse/cattle disease, was found in SJC. Avian influenza has also been found in a commercial flock. There have been over 900 fruit fly detections; last year, there was only 75. The permitting and CE process are underway and going well. Inspectors are being hired and trained.

- B. CARCD (California Assoc. of Resource Conservation Districts) Report – Ms. Watkins discussed some of the issues that were presented at the CARCD meeting and the inability to vote due to lack of quorum. The CARCD bylaws are also going to be overhauled. Tom Wheri will be contacted to give a presentation to the board about CARCD history.
- C. CRAE (California Roundtable on Agriculture and the Environment) Report – No report.
- D. RCD Administrator Update – Ms. McCoon reviewed her time at the CARCD conference. She discussed some of the more interesting sessions and that the SJCRCDC speak off representative was second in the contest. She also mentioned that Campbells is interested in hosting a meeting in the county. She presented the board with an MOU with East Stanislaus RCD regarding a project they are doing within the county. Mr. Olagaray moved to authorize the SJCRCDC board president to sign the MOU with East Stanislaus RCD. Mr. Thoming seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

IRRIGATED LANDS REGULATORY PROGRAM

- A. Financial Report – All bills for the month were presented. Mr. Olagaray moved to pay coalition invoices as presented and accept and file the financial report. Mr. Hamm seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- B. Program Report – Mr. Wackman discussed the various meetings taking place. He also mentioned that submission of nitrogen management plans is going to be more strictly enforced.
- C. Steering Committee – The program manager’s report was included in the packet.
- D. Membership Report –
- E. Delta Regional Monitoring Program – Mr. Wackman explained the Delta RMP is moving forward, despite a few struggles.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. DWR Contract – No Update
- B. CDFA – Water Efficiency Technical Assistance Grant – Ms. McCoon noted 11 evaluations were completed in 2023. Interns will be solicited earlier in the year for 2024 and board members were asked to brainstorm and recruit applicants.
- C. CV Salts/Valley Water Collaborative – No report.

COMMUNICATIONS

All communications were included in the meeting packet.

ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn the board meeting on December 21, 2023, was made by Mr. Thoming. Mr. Balmat seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:54 a.m.

The next board meeting of the San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District is scheduled for 12:00 p.m. Thursday, January 18, 2024, at San Joaquin Farm Bureau.