

San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District
Regular Board Meeting

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

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86487750746?pwd=IUcf5XJEAs8C9kmFDL4fiVj2ZMQGwO.1>

Thursday, February 20, 2025 • 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Agenda

1. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Roll call/introductions of guests
- B. Acceptance of agenda – last minute additions/deletions
- C. Public comments – limited to 3 minutes per speaker

2. CONSENT CALENDER

- A. Minutes for meeting on January 26, 2025

3. GUEST SPEAKER – Dusty Ference, Kern County Farm Bureau

4. TREASURER'S REPORT: presentation of bills, income received

5. NRCS UPDATE (discussion/possible action)

- A. Program and Personnel Update

6. RESOURCES (discussion/possible action)

- A. Ag Commissioner's Report
- B. CARCD (California Assoc. of Resource Conservation Districts)
- C. RCD Administrator Update

7. IRRIGATED LANDS REGULATORY PROGRAM (discussion/possible action)

- A. Financial Report
- B. Steering Committee
- C. Membership Report
- D. Program Report
- E. Delta Regional Monitoring Program
- F. CV Salts/Valley Water Collaborative

8. OLD BUSINESS (discussion/possible action)

- A. DWR Contract

B. Land Development within SJC

9. NEW BUSINESS (discussion/possible action)

10. COMMUNICATIONS

11. CLOSED SESSION

A. Personnel/Board Matters

All actions taken in closed session will be reported in open session.

12. ADJOURN

The next meeting is scheduled for 12:00 p.m. on March 20, 2025, at San Joaquin County Farm Bureau.

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Thursday, February 20, 2025 • 12:00 p.m.

Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

President Richard Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Members of the Board present included Richard Rodriguez, Phil Balmat, John Herrick, Bill Koster, and Molly Watkins. Kamal Bagri (SJC Ag Commissioner's Office), Dusty Fernece (Kings Co. Farm Bureau), Krista McCoon (RCD), Sonya Miller (NRCS-Stockton), Ruth Mulrooney (SJCDWQC), and Mike Wackman (SJCDWQC), Kendra Altnow, Mike Henry, Andrea Valentin-Rios, Jeremy Hart, Laina Llano-Jorge, were also in attendance.

MEETING AGENDA

A motion to accept the agenda for the February 20, 2025, meeting was made by Mr. Herrick. Mr. Koster seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

MEETING MINUTES

A motion to accept the regular meeting minutes from January 16, 2025, was made by Mr. Herrick. Mr. Koster seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

GUEST SPEAKER –

Mr. Ference from Kings County Farm Bureau discussed the ongoing legal battle regarding SGMA and the Tulare Lake Subbasin. He gave an overview of the progress and status. Mr. Fernece informed the group that he is soliciting donations to offset legal fees.

TREASURER'S REPORT

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

Mr. Koster moved to transfer \$13,289.45 from the RCD account to the Coalition account to correct an accounting error. Mr. Herrick seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

NRCS UPDATE

EQIP and Personnel Update – Ms. Miller noted that the trajectory of the office and technical assistance is changing. IRA funding, which initially increased staffing, is frozen. 2025 applications are in review. Three staff members have been let go by the administration.

RESOURCES

- A. Ag Commissioner's Report – Ms. Bagri noted she is looking to purchase new office space in Lodi. The Nutria Eradication Control Act will provide \$12M in funding, from which California can apply. There are more cases of High Path Avian Influenza and reinfections are being documented. Spray days reporting requirements will begin starting February 27. SJC Spray Safe will be February 28, with usually 200-300 people in attendance.
- B. CARCD (California Assoc. of Resource Conservation Districts) Report – Ms. Watkins discussed the CARCD board changed the name of the JEDI committee without consent of the board. She also noted the treasurer recently reported the line of credit they secured was for \$4M more than initially discussed.
- C. RCD Administrator Update – Ms. McCoon noted the 23/24 audit was complete and will be provided next month.

IRRIGATED LANDS REGULATORY PROGRAM

- A. Financial Report – All bills for the month were presented. Ms. Watkins moved to pay coalition invoices as presented and accept and file the financial report. Mr. Koster seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- B. Program Report – The program manager's report was included in the packet.
- C. Steering Committee – No report.
- D. Membership Report – Ms. Mulrooney noted there are approximately 124 members who haven't paid the management zone fee. She also asked for direction regarding the 7-9 members who are past due and or trying to join the coalition.
- E. Delta Regional Monitoring Program – Mr. Wackman noting things are progressing and a presentation will be given to the regional water board.
- F. CV Salts/Valley Water Collaborative – Mr. Wackman noted that fees will increase this coming year, but due to paying upfront for startup costs, the coalition should get approximately \$20K back.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. DWR Contract – Progress is being made at all locations covered under the contract.
- B. Land Development within SJC –

NEW BUSINESS

COMMUNICATIONS

All communications were included in the meeting packet.

ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn the board meeting on February 20, 2025, was made by Mr. Balmat. Mr. Herrick seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

The next board meeting of the San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District is scheduled for 12:00 p.m. Thursday, March 20, 2025, at the SJ Farm Bureau office.