

San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District
Regular Board Meeting

Roberts Union Farm Center
4925 W Howard Rd
Stockton, CA 95206

Thursday, July 15, 2021 - 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/841175045>

Dial In: [+1 \(786\) 535-3211](tel:+17865353211) ~ **Access Code:** 841-175-045

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 June 17, 2021

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

4. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Paradise Cut – update on status and direct future action as needed
- B. DWR Grants
 - 1. Noble Common Solutions
 - 2. Ceres Imaging Grant – 2017

5. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Insurance and Workers Comp

6. RESOURCES (Limited to 5 minutes/speaker)

- A. Ag Commissioner's Report
- B. CRAE Report
- C. RCD Administrator

7. NRCS UPDATE

- A. EQUIP
- B. Personnel

8. IRRIGATED LANDS REGULATORY PROGRAM

- A. Report
- B. Steering Committee
- C. Membership Report
- D. Program Report
- E. Regional Monitoring Program

9. COMMUNICATIONS

10. CLOSED SESSION

Closed Session pursuant to Section 54956.9 CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION (3 cases)

Monterey Coastkeeper, et al. v. Central Valley Regional Quality Water Control Board, et al. (Case No. 34-2018-8002853)

Protectores del Agua Subterranea v. State Water Resources Control Board, et al. (Case No. 34-2018-80002852),

Environmental Law Foundation v. State Water Resources Control Board, (Case No. 34-2018-80002851),

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

11. ADJOURN

The next meeting of the San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District is scheduled for 12:00 p.m., Thursday, August 19, 2021, location TBD.

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Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

President Richard Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Members of the Board present included Richard Rodriguez, Phil Balmat, Jack Hamm, John Herrick, Bill Koster, Diego Olagary, John Thoming, Molly Watkins and Marden Wilber. Sonya Miller (NRCS-Stockton), Jennifer Alvarez (NRCS-Stockton), Ruth Mulrooney (SJCDWQC), Mike Wackman (SJCDWQC), and Krista McCoon (RCD Administrator) were also in attendance.

MEETING AGENDA

A motion to accept the agenda for the July 15, 2021 meeting was made by Mr. Koster; Mr. Olagary seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

MEETING MINUTES

A motion to accept the regular meeting minutes from June 17, 2021, was made by Mr. Thoming; Mr. Olagary 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 packet and the supplemental packet was made by Mr. Koster; Ms. Watkins seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Paradise Cut Update – Mr. Herrick reported that meetings took place in June with most of the Reclamation Districts. The majority seem interested in moving forward with an expanded Paradise Cut project. The general consensus was that San Joaquin Area Flood Control Area (SJAFCA) would be the front runner as project lead with a JPA to advise them. DWR positively responded to the funding request letter previously submitted by the Paradise Cut planning committee. The public meeting initially scheduled for July is being postponed until the Fall.
- B. DWR Contract Update – Ms. McCoon and Ms. Spaletta provided input to DWR to update the final contract to reflect the use of subcontractors as well as clarify items on the budget spreadsheet. DWR will have a final draft to review/sign in the coming days. Once reviewed and approved by Ms. Spaletta, Mr. Rodriguez will review and sign.
- C. Ceres Imaging Grant – Ms. McCoon explained the final progress report was submitted to DWR along with all pending invoices. Ceres Imaging provided Ms. McCoon with a draft of the final grant document, which she will review, edit and submit.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Insurance and Worker's Comp – Ms. McCoon submitted the documents necessary to obtain a Worker's Comp quote from the RCD's current insurance broker. A response should be available soon.

RESOURCES

- A. Ag Commissioner's Report – Joint regional pesticide recycling events with surrounding counties are likely in the future. Lodi is looking like a probable location. Proposed regulations of neonicotinoids should be available for comment period in the fall. DPR is reaching out to get growers to take meetings with environmental justice groups. The Ag Center is being turned back over next week and will be available for public use at the end of September. N-95 masks are available from the Ag Center. The furthest north nutria have been spotted is Stockton. To date, none have been found in Lodi.
- B. CRAE Report – Ms. Watkins will serve as a backup presenter for the committee's presentation regarding the *30 x 30 Plan* letter the group prepared. Ms. Watkins noted she will be attending the CARCD meeting on August 3, if anyone else wants to join.
- C. RCD Administrator – Ms. McCoon reviewed the conversation she had with Kathy Grant regarding obtaining grant funds to update the website. She will work with Ms. Grant to move the project forward.

NRCS UPDATE

- A. EQIP Update – Ms. Miller discussed that the NRCS office is still closed to the public, but will hopefully be open in October. There were many EQIP applications that weren't accepted, only 1/3 of projects were funded. She noted conservation projects are incentivized.
- B. Personnel – Ms. Jennifer Alvarez introduced herself and discussed her educational endeavors and she's seeking opportunities to learn in an experiential environment.

IRRIGATED LANDS REGULATORY PROGRAM

- A. Financial Report – Monthly financial statements were reviewed. Mr. Koster made a motion that the financial report be reviewed and filed and to pay all of the invoices including the additional bills presented in the supplemental. Mr. Balmat seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- B. Steering Committee Report – The Program Managers Report was included in the supplemental packet.
- C. Membership Report – Ms. Mulrooney noted that 90-93% of dues have been collected. They were due June 15. There are many farm surveys (~ 24%) and nitrogen reports (~ 20%) not submitted to the water board. They will be acting on the missing reports. The two CCAs hired as consultants worked out great.
- D. Delta Regional Monitoring Program – The Delta Regional Monitoring Program is up and running, paying its bills, etc.
- E. Program Director Report – Mr. Wackman discussed the Ground Water Protection Formula, a tool used to estimate the nitrates leached from the root zone on township basis. He said the results seem to align with nitrogen reports and the soil and water assessment tool is of value for various reasons.

COMMUNICATIONS

All communications were included in the meeting packet.

CLOSED SESSION

The board of directors entered closed session at 1:49 p.m. and reconvened into general session at 1:54 p.m. Mr. Balmat moved to increase the hourly pay rate for Ms. McCoon by \$10 per hour. Mr. Thoming seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn the board meeting of July 15, 2021 was made by Mr. Hamm; Mr. Wilber seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

The next meeting of the San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District is scheduled for 12:00 p.m., Thursday, August 19, 2021, location TBD.