San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District Board of Director's Meeting March 21, 2013

CALL TO ORDER

President Jack Hamm called the meeting to order at 12:28pm.

ATTENDANCE

Members of the Board present included Jack Hamm, Richard Rodriguez, Molly Watkins, Bill Koster, and Diego Olagaray. Members absent excused included John Thoming, John Herrick, Marden Wilber, and Phil Balmat. Staff members and contractors present included Mike Wackman, Inara Montalvo, Ruth Mulrooney, and John Brodie. Guests present included Katie Patterson of SJFB.

MINUTES

The minutes of the February 21, 2013 meeting were previously mailed. Approve the minutes as amended. M S P

TREASURERS REPORT

John B. presented the lists of income and bills to be paid. <u>Pay the bills</u>. M S P <u>Pay data recovery and system restoration fees for RCD laptop computer</u>. M S P

AUDIT

Accept the District Audit. MSP

SPECIAL PROGAMS

John B. reported on progress for the Ecosystem Services Pilot project, noting the intent to conduct a restoration project at Heritage Oak Winery as part of the pilot project. John also reported on watershed coordinator participation in the county wide state of the rivers symposium on 3/20 and a meeting at Farm Bureau on the proposed expansion of the San Joaquin National Wildlife Refuge earlier in the day 3/21. He noted that the next scheduled field day for the FARMS Leadership program is scheduled 3/26 at Lange Twins Winery.

NRCS UPDATE

Inara M. reported EQIP contracting is expected to start after ranking and screening, which is scheduled for completion 4/19/13. The local office still doesn't know how much money will be allocated, nor are program descriptions available yet. Inara also reported there was good participation in group planning projects sponsored by the RCD and funded through a grant from NRCS. Finally she noted that Kristen Dalldorf resigned her position with the agency to take a position with the Department of Energy.

CRAE

Ms. Watkins reported on an upcoming meeting regarding carbon credits and AB 32 where CRAE and others are seeking input from local growers on the potential and pitfalls. The diner is scheduled 3/27 and RSVPs are needed as soon as possible.

POMBO SCHOLARSHIP

John B. reported preliminary discussions with Jeanette Pombo indicated the scholarship dinner could resume at the family residence this year. John is to report by the next RCD meeting, and contact the executive committee sooner if an alternate location is needed.

AG WAIVER

John B. called the attention of Director's to the Coalition year-end financial report, and noted the report was presented to the Contra Costa County RCD earlier in February. The CCRCD thanked SJCRCD for continuing to take the lead on the ILRP. John also called the attention of Directors to the minutes from the latest steering committee meeting. Mike W. reported on negotiations with regional board staff on proposed WDRs for the Coalition. Mike noted that staff seemed receptive to some of the ideas presented by the Coalition, including designation of some operations as low-threat and therefore having less frequent reporting requirements. The Board directed staff to convene a meeting with growers on the low threat designation for additional input. Proposals to conduct groundwater monitoring were reviewed and discussed. The Board requested John to secure the presence of current ILRP subcontractors at the April Board meeting to further discuss the issue.

NEW BUSINESS, ETC.

John B. called the attention of Directors to items in the meeting packets including an open house at the Lockeford Plant materials Center and the CARCD Bay-Delta Region Meeting 4/22/13

COMMUNICATIONS

John B. called the attention of Directors communications including a thank you note from counsel Spaletta, and comment letters submitted on the proposed wildlife refuge expansion and suggestions for diverting funds generated by AB 32.

DETACHMENTS

Two detachments were reviewed.

ADJOURNMENT

The next business meeting of the San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District is scheduled for 12 noon Thursday April 18, 2013 at the USDA Stockton Service Center.