San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District Board of Director's Meeting April 17, 2014

CALL TO ORDER

President Jack Hamm called the meeting to order at 12:07pm.

ATTENDANCE

Members of the Board present included Jack Hamm, Richard Rodriguez, Diego Olagaray, Molly Watkins, Bill Koster, John Thoming, John Herrick, Marden Wilber, and Phil Balmat. Staff members and contractors present included Ora Van Steyn, Mike Wackman, Ruth Mulrooney, Jennifer Spaletta, and John Brodie. Guests present included Julianne Phillips of San Joaquin Farm Bureau.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approve consent items including minutes from April 7, 2014 Special Meeting. Motion by Mr. Koster, second by Ms. Watkins, approved unanimously.

TREASURERS REPORT

John B. presented the lists of income and bills to be paid. <u>Pay the bills</u>. Motion by Mr. Herrick, second by Mr. Koster, approved unanimously.

NRCS UPDATE

Ora VS. reported staff is still trying to get the EQIP program fully implemented under requirements of the new Farm Bill. Some issues remain with computer programs. Ora also noted the state office is looking for organizations or entities seeing more information on the new farm bill. They will do a presentation for interested groups. In personnel matters, interviews are pending for a shared soil conservationist position, and two people were added at FSA. There was no updated on possible office relocation.

RESOURCES

Ms. Watkins reported the CRAE group issued a report on shelters and transportation for migrant workers. Possible next topics include water quality and climate change. Pay CRAE dues of \$500. Motion by Mr. Koster, second by Mr. Herrick, approved unanimously. John B. reported the most recently scheduled CRWFS meeting was cancelled. John also reported the MokeWISE group was working on a list of possible projects and sponsoring organizations. Ora VS gave an update on the county Agricultural Drought task force meeting. John B. reported meeting with local elected representatives during a lobbying day with a group from CARCD.

NEW BUSINESS, ETC.

John B. called the attention of Directors to items in the meeting packet(s) including notices about: LAFCO budget hearings, a Delta LTMS committee meeting, and a Delta Islands feasibility study.

COMMUNICATIONS

John B. called the attention of Directors to communication items in the meeting packet(s) including a thank you note from Margaret at the PMC for RCD sponsorship of the April field day.

AG WAIVER

John B. called the attention of Directors to minutes of the most recent Coalition Steering Committee meeting and the Coalition financial report. Ruth reported

new member approvals have been mostly on hold while regional board staff have been working on development of the new WDR. Accept additional land area into the Coalition with BMP verification and a secondary fee structure if monitoring is needed. Enter into an agreement with Amador RCD and the Sacramento Valley Coalition to handle members in designated areas. Motion by Mr. Thoming, second by Mr. Koster, approved unanimously. John B. was directed to develop memoranda of understanding with neighboring RCDs to conduct Coalition activities in those neighboring counties. Set fee of \$60 for parcels of 10 acres or less. Motion by Mr. Koster, second by Mr. Olagaray, approved unanimously. Authorize a communications subcommittee (Hamm, Watkins, Herrick) to approve final version of newsletter, billing forms, and press release. Motion by Mr. Herrick, second by Mr. Koster, approved unanimously. Approve \$5,000 from the Contingency fund, payable to the East San Joaquin Coalition for negotiation on use of patented business process. Motion by Mr. Balmat, second by Mr. Olagaray, approved unanimously. John B. called the attention of Directors to a report from the groundwater consultant.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Board members retired into executive session for conference with legal counsel on anticipated litigation.

ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting of the San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District Board is scheduled Thursday May 15, 2014 at the USDA Stockton Service Center.