

San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District
Board of Director's Meeting
April 18, 2013

- CALL TO ORDER President Jack Hamm called the meeting to order at 12:20pm.
- ATTENDANCE Members of the Board present included Jack Hamm, Richard Rodriguez, Diego Olagaray, Bill Koster, John Thoming, John Herrick, Marden Wilber, and Phil Balmat. Members absent excused included Molly Watkins. Staff members and contractors present included Mike Wackman, Ora Van Steyn, Ruth Mulrooney, Michael Johnson, Jennifer Spaletta, and John Brodie.
- MINUTES The minutes of the March 21, 2013 meeting were previously mailed. Approve the minutes as mailed. M S P
- TREASURERS REPORT John B. presented the lists of income and bills to be paid. Pay the bills. M S P
- NRCS STATE CON. New NRCS State Conservationist Carlos Suarez was forced to postpone his attendance at the RCD meeting in order to meet the Assistant secretary of Agriculture in southern California. He will try to reschedule in the coming months.
- SPECIAL PROGAMS John B. reported on progress for the Ecosystem Services Pilot project, noting project proponents were still in search businesses/entities that would pay for the services provided. John also reported the watershed coordinator continues to facilitate the LMRWSSC. He noted that the final field day for the FARMS Leadership program was held April 11.
- NRCS UPDATE Ora VS reported EQIP ranking and screening continues, but there are still program descriptions from the state office that are incomplete. Ora also reported that 37 applications were approved under the NAQI program, and that three group planning workshops hosted by the District were both well-attended and well-received by growers. She noted that she is uncertain about being able to fill Kristen's position.
- CRAE Ms. Watkins reported on an informational session held with local growers for input on AB 32 and carbon credits for agriculture.
- POMBO SCHOLARSHIP Ruth reported she is awaiting word from Ms. Pombo regarding possible dates and locations for the annual scholarship dinner.
- NEW BUSINESS, ETC. John B. called the attention of Directors to items in the meeting packets including the CARCD Bay-Delta Region Meeting 4/22/13, and information on the annual range camp in July. Pay for up to three students to attend range camp and

reimburse travel expenses provided students do a presentation at a Board meeting on their experiences. M S P

COMMUNICATIONS

John B. called the attention of Directors communications including an advisory from USDA NRCS to investigate soil before planting.

DETACHMENTS

There were no detachments to review.

AG WAIVER

John B. called the attention of Director's to the Coalition's financial report and minutes from the Steering Committee meeting. Mike W. reported negotiations continue with regional board staff on this Coalitions WDR under the Long Term Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (LTILRP). Mike W. also reported on requirements to participate in a Mercury Exposure Reduction Program, noting that a participation plan will be submitted to the regional board 4/19/13. He distributed copies of the Coalition newsletter to Directors and asked for input and corrections by the 25th so changes could be made in time to mail the nbesletter along with membership statements. Mike J. updated the Board on a proposed Regional Monitoring Program the Coalition must participate in, which is scheduled to be in place by 1/1/14. The program is supposed to be cost neutral for the Coalition. Ruth M. noted that the printer has been contacted and everything is in place for the membership mailing to occur May 3, 2013. Jennifer S. reported we are awaiting a judge's decision on the Coalition's lawsuit challenging the environmental documentation for the LTILRP. The Regional Board has suspended adoption of WDR's pending outcome of the case, but has directed staff to continue preparing WDRs for adoption. This will also result in delay of a local workshop on the Coalition's WDR. Committee of current Ag Waiver Program consultants and at least one board member to interview candidates for groundwater consultants and make hiring recommendation to the full board at May meeting. M S P

PERSONNEL

Renew contracts for existing RCD subcontractors. M S P

ADJOURNMENT

The next business meeting of the San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District is scheduled for 12 noon Thursday June 20, 2013 at the USDA Stockton Service Center.