San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District

Board of Director’s Meeting

March 20, 2014

CALL TO ORDER President Jack Hamm called the meeting to order at 12:05pm.

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 Mike Wackman, Ora Van Steyn, Ruth Mulrooney and John Brodie.

CONSENT AGENDA Approve meeting minutes as amended and other consent items as mailed. Motion by Mr. Herrick, second by Mr. Rodriguez, approved unanimously.

TREASURERS REPORT John B. presented the lists of income and bills to be paid. Pay the bills. Motion by Mr. Herrick, second by Mr. Koster, approved unanimously.

NRCS UPDATE Ora VS. reported staff is moving forward on screening and ranking EQIP contracts for current year as well as verifying completed work on previous contracts. She also noted information regarding security at the Service Center, including on-site security guards. John B. reported the Plant materials Center needs to maintain staffing levels and state NRCS office recommends hiring contractors through RCD to continue staffing. Apply for personnel grant from CA NRCS for staffing at Plant Materials Center in Lockeford. Motion by Mr. Koster, second by Mr. Rodriguez, approved unanimously.

RESOURCES Ms. Watkins reported the CRAE group meeting was pending. John B. reported the CRWFS group is seeking input on next module for consideration and outreach plan forn “connectivity” report. John also reported the MokeWISE project continues to move toward a project rating and evaluation criteria. He also reported on the county’s agricultural drought task force meeting, noting the task force is primarily an information gathering body. Both the RCD and USDA NRCS are members along with various county departments and local irrigation districts.

NEW BUSINESS, ETC. John B. called the attention of Directors to items in the meeting packet(s) including: announcements for Ag Commissioner Scott Hudson’s retirement celebration, a joint lobbying day at the state capitol, and ag conservation webinars.

COMMUNICATIONS John B. called the attention of Directors to communication items in the meeting packet(s) including an vacancy for an alternate public member on LAFCO, an update from CARCD including draft reporting requirements for all RCDs.

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. Mike W. reported on WDR hearing at the Regional Board March 12, 2014 including details of changes made to public draft of the WDR. Board members discussed pros and cons of continuing to serve as third party representative for local growers. Submit application to serve as third party lead agency under new Waste Discharge Requirements approved by the Regional Water Quality Control Board on March 12, 2014. Motion by Mr. Koster, second by Mr. Wilber, approved unanimously. Apply as third party for current geographical area including minor boundary adjustments but excluding areas Northeast of current boundary in Calaveras County. Motion by Mr. Wilber, second by Mr. Rodriguez, approved unanimously. Staff was directed to draft language for Notice of application letter to regional board, member application forms including acknowledgement/affirmation of new regulation. Staff was also directed to present these items and an updated draft budget as a special RCD Board meeting on Monday April 7, 2014 at 12 noon at the USDA Stockton Service Center. Staff was also directed to include an executive session on that agenda so board members could discuss current litigation and possible legal challenges to the new WDR where the RCD could be named as a plaintiff, or defendant, or both.

ADJOURNMENT An emergency meeting of the San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District Board was scheduled Monday April 7, 2014 at the USDA Stockton Service Center.