

**DIXON RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT (DRCD)
DITCH COMMITTEE
MINUTES FOR
December 23, 2020**

DIRECTORS

**SAM BEUKELMAN
SPENCER BEI**

DIXON RCD STAFF

KELLY HUFF, DISTRICT MANAGER

1. Call the Meeting to Order

Director Bei called the December 23, 2020, Ditch Committee meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. at 1170 North Lincoln Street, Suite 110, Dixon, CA.

Present: Beukelman, Bei
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

2. Approve the Agenda

There was no discussion on this item.

A motion was made by Director Beukelman, seconded by Director Bei to approve the agenda. The motion passed as follows:

Ayes: Beukelman, Bei,
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

3. Approve Minutes

No minutes to approve

MEETING MINUTES

4. Comments from the Public – None

5. Old Business – None

6. New Business

- a. DRCD 2020-2021 Ditch Maintenance – Review current practices, feedback from ditch members regarding maintenance, consider plans for remainder of 2020-2021 and future years. Provide direction and recommendations to the Board. (Action)

Ms. Huff presented the current status of 2020-2021 maintenance activities & costs as well as recent concerns expressed by ditch members regarding spoils management. The 2016 rate study and the annual maintenance budgeting assume that the majority of spoils management would continue to be performed by landowners or tenants. Ms. Huff has had three ditch members express concern about the costs and impacts of spoils management, in some cases expressing the expectation that all spoils would be hauled off after ditch cleaning.

Directors Bei and Beukelman expressed concern over the increases in per mile excavation costs over the last several years and the potential for additional exponential increases in maintenance costs if the District plans to haul spoils away. As an example, Director Bei estimated that the removal costs of the spoils from the recent excavation on Lateral 1A would be around \$10,000 for ½ mile. Ms. Huff explained Dixon RCD is due to conduct a new request for proposals (RFP) for ditch maintenance services in 2021. The current on call service agreement is based on an hourly rate. The new RFP could be structured to request estimates based on amount of material estimates and/or distances.

Director Beukelman requested that Ms. Huff provide estimates of the amount of spoils material that currently exists within the system that would need to be moved to address the impacts to all ditch members. Ms. Huff explained that the costs to conduct the 2016 rate study were \$50,000 over three years.

Director Bei suggested that we encourage landowners to incorporate spoils when transitioning to orchards or drip irrigation.

Director Beukelman and Director Bei recommended that the ditch committee reconvene after the policy committee meets to provide recommendations to the full board at their January 13th meeting.

7. Announcements –

- a. **Future committee meetings will be scheduled as necessary.**

8. Adjourn Meeting

The Dixon RCD Ditch Committee meeting adjourned at the hour of 11:00 a.m.



Kelly Huff, District Manager, Dixon Resource Conservation District