

**DIXON RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT (DRCD)
MINUTES FOR
JULY 11, 2018**

DIRECTORS

DAVID VIGUIE, PRESIDENT

SPENCER BEI

SAM BEUKELMAN

ROBERT CHOPE GILL

DIXON RCD STAFF

JOHN S. CURREY, DISTRICT MANAGER

BROOK ROSENBERGER, OFFICE MANAGER

OTHER ATTENDEES

Wendy Rash, NRCS

1. Call the Meeting to Order

Director Viguie called the July 11, 2018, Board meeting to order at 6:06 pm at 1170 North Lincoln Street, Suite 110, Dixon, CA.

Present: Bei, Beukelman, Viguie

Absent: Gill

2. Establish a Quorum

A quorum was established.

3. Approve the Agenda

There was no discussion on this item.

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

Ayes: Bei, Beukelman, Viguie

Noes: None

Abstain: None

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Absent: Gill

4. **Comments from the Public – None**
5. **DRCD Consent Calendar**
 - a. **Approval of Minutes for the Board Meeting dated June 13, 2018.**
 - b. **Approval of Expenses from June 14, 2018 to July 11, 2018 and review of the 2017/2018 Budget Update**

There was no discussion on these items.

A motion was made by Director Beukelman, seconded by Director Bei, to approve the Consent Calendar as well as the amended Financial Report. The motion passed as follows:

Ayes: Bei, Beukelman, Viguie
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Gill

6. **Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Report – This Item was taken out of order**
7. **Presentations – None**
8. **Dixon/Solano RCD Water Quality Coalition (Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program) – Monthly Reports**
 - a. **Approval of Expenses from June 14, 2018 to July 11, 2018, and review of the 2017/2018 Budget Update**
 - b. **Activities Reports – None**

There was no discussion on these items, however a typo was noticed on the financial report item 1, Dixon RCD was listed as the vendor instead of Solano RCD – Office Manager will correct it.

A motion was made by Director Beukelman, seconded by Director Bei, to approve the Expenses as well as the Financial Report. The motion passed as follows:

Ayes: Bei, Beukelman, Viguie
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Gill

9. **Old Business – None**

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10. New Business –

- a. **Dixon / Solano RCDs Office Management Account for Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 - 2019 Budget – Review and consider adopting the Budget Committee’s recommended budget for the Office Management for FY 2018- 2019**

Mr. Currey gave an overview of the Office Management budget, including cost per workstation. Director Viguie asked about staffing capacity, per Mr. Currey we are currently at 16 and office space is sufficient. Because we split costs with Solano RCD, DRCD is implementing some additional tracking processes to better identify cost per RCD. By doing so, this is projected to lower DRCD’s annual Office Management cost.

The Board agreed on option number 1 for action;

Approve the Budget Committee’s recommended budget for Dixon/Solano RCDs Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Office Sharing and Management.

A motion was made by Director Bei, seconded by Director Viguie, to approve the Budget Committee’s recommendation. The motion passed as follows:

Ayes:	Bei, Beukelman, Viguie
Noes:	None
Abstain:	None
Absent:	Gill

- b. **Dixon RCD Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 - 2019 Budget Fund 024 – Review and consider adopting the Budget Committee’s recommended budget for Dixon RCD for FY 2018 – 2019 and corresponding staff billable rates.**

Mr. Currey gave an overview of the budget and expenses. Directors Bei and Viguie as the Budget Committee explained to Director Beukelman the numbers and expenses of the budget.

Director Viguie then asked for clarification on the Solano Sub basin GSA amount of \$6000.00 for 2017/2018, Mr. Currey explained that was a onetime contribution and was not an annual fee.

The Board also discussed annual per acre ditch maintenance fee increase for this upcoming year. Per the results of the 2016 rate study it was agreed that the ditch fee would increase from \$3.00 to \$3.50 this year. The additional fees collected would almost cover the cost of the biannual audit that will happen this year as well.

The Board agreed on option number 1 for action;

Approve the Budget Committee’s recommended budget for Dixon RCD Fiscal Year 2018-2019, Fund 024, including the staffs’ billable rates.

A motion was made by Director Bei, seconded by Director Viguie, to approve the Budget Committee’s recommendation. The motion passed as follows:

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Ayes: Bei, Beukelman, Viguie
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Gill

c. Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) Update – Receive staff report and consider submitting a letter to the Department of Water Resource in opposition to the Sub-basin re-prioritization

Mr. Currey gave an overview of GSA's proposal to re-prioritize the basin to HIGH. This would not benefit Dixon RCD, therefore Mr. Currey has recommended that we draft a letter of opposition to this proposal.

The Board agreed on option number 1 for action;
Authorize staff to submit a letter to the Department of Water Resource in opposition to the Solano Sub-basin being re-prioritization from medium to high priority.

A motion was made by Director Viguie, seconded by Director Bei, to approve writing a letter of opposition. The motion passed as follows:

Ayes: Bei, Beukelman, Viguie
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Gill

d. Manager's Vacation Request and August Meeting Date – Consider approving the District Manager's vacation and moving the August Board meeting to August 15, 2018

Mr. Currey explained to the Board that per our policy the board needs to approve any vacation request that exceed 5 days for the District Manager. Should the Board approve the vacation request, Mr. Currey would like to request that we move the August 8th Board Meeting to August 15, 2018.

The Board agreed on option number 1 for action;
Authorize the District Manager Vacation from July 29 through August 6, and move the meeting to August 15, 2018.

A motion was made by Director Viguie, seconded by Director Bei, to approve the District Managers vacation request and the rescheduling of the August Board Meeting. The motion passed as follows:

Ayes: Bei, Beukelman, Viguie
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Gill

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6. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Report

Mrs. Rash arrived after her section on the agenda, so we postponed her status update to the end of the meeting. Mrs. Rash reported;

- ❖ The last batch of EQIP for fiscal 2018 has been selected, and the total EQIP funding for Solano County this year will be over \$1.1 million. A large percentage of projects were irrigation systems and irrigation efficiency work. Other projects include pasture and range plans, and tillage management and cover crops on cropland.
- ❖ NRCS is continuing to get past-year projects implemented this summer, there is a lot of construction going forward at this time.
- ❖ Carbon Farm Plans are in the works for a couple of sheep ranchers in the area, who are working with Fiber Shed (a non-profit group) to market their wool as "climate-friendly". The conservation practices called for in the Carbon Farm Plan can be funded through EQIP and some of those plans will be going forward next year. Carbon Farm Plans are basically Conservation Plans that focus on carbon sequestration and avoidance of carbon emissions in the farm operation.
- ❖ The State of California has put out a draft strategy for funding climate change mitigation work on natural and working lands. They are still trying to figure out how they will achieve climate benefits with the cap-and-trade funding. Some of the programs they have already started are the SWEEP and Healthy Soils Programs through CDFA (which were largely modeled on EQIP) and the Sustainable Ag Lands Conservation Program (SALCP) through Dept of Conservation, which has focused a lot on easements to keep farms from being developed into urban uses. There may be opportunities for partnerships with the State, RCDs, and NRCS to help deliver these programs to farmers and get good conservation results on the ground. SALCP may also be a source for funding planning efforts like the Land Evaluation and Site Assessment (LESA) model for the rest of Solano County. Solano County still does not have an ag mitigation strategy that was called for in the general plan.
- ❖ Mrs. Rash reported that she attended the Bay-Delta Regional CARCD meeting with John Currey and Chris Rose. It was a good meeting with updates from Department of Conservation and the California Association of RCDs. Department of Conservation is looking to revive the Watershed program, which helped to fund capacity-building staff ("Watershed coordinators") through the RCDs. CARCD is working at the capitol to get more recognition for RCDs and promote partnerships with state agencies and the RCDs.

11. DRCD Staff Reports

District Manager's Report

Mr. Currey reported about the following:

Ditch Maintenance:

Spraying: DRCD is in the process of identifying sites for late summer applications.

Ditch Cleaning: None planned until fall.

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Other Maintenance Issues:

Lateral 4A has been cleaned. The bill was submitted and all 3 parties have agreed to split the costs; 1/3 for Mr. Gill, Mr. Robben and the District.

Ditch Fees:

Mr. Currey reported that as of June 30, 2018 we have deposited \$120,538.75 or 102.4% of the budget (\$117,668). Included in the board packet is a list of all outstanding accounts. There are only 2 outstanding accounts equaling \$1205.42 vs last year with 10 accounts equaling \$3597.99

- Also noted, that there are approximately 9 accounts that made payments in 2018, but failed to pay the accrued interest or there was a rounding error – the total on these accounts is \$63.76.

TEC: TEC (Truck Sale Business) has broken ground near I-80 and Pedrick Road.

Agricultural Industrial Service Area (AISA):

Mr. Currey provided Scope of Work (see attachment) that has been sent to the Solano County Water Agency for consideration at their August 9th Board Meeting.

Freshwater Trust:

Mr. Currey reported that he continues to participate in the monthly conference call to discuss various aspects of the modeling.

Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA):

The Solano Sub-basin GSA has tentatively set their workshop for October 2, 2018. They are still trying to determine if it should be a larger Stakeholder meeting or a smaller Board workshop.

Regional Drainage Projects (Dixon Regional Watershed JPA):

Due to the update to the Dixon Watershed Management Plan being moved to the August 9, 2018 SCWA Board meeting, Mr. Currey is planning to postpone the July JPA meeting to August.

California Association of Resource Conservation District (CARCD): On May 27, 2018 Mr. Currey attended the CARCD Bay-Delta regional meeting. A large portion of that meeting was Prop 68 and the funds that will be released. We will be discussing how this affects DRCD at the August 8, 2018 Water Quality Coalition meeting.

Durable Collaboration Project: Mr. Currey and Mr. Rose participated in a conference call on July 3, 2018 as follow up to the planning meeting that took place in May. As a result they will be working together next week to develop vision and scope statements. Once a rough draft is completed they will request a Board member from each RCD for review then ultimately creating a presentation.

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Financial Items: All year-end financial documents have been submitted to the county for each organization (DRCD, Coalition, Office Management, and the JPA).

Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program: The Irrigate Lands staff has been busy with preparations for the new data base as well as the Regional board's revision.

Office and John's Schedule:

Mr. Currey stated that in addition to his requested vacation he will be utilizing flex time to work on his home.

12. **Directors Report - None.**

13. **Communications – None.**

14. **Upcoming Events - None**

15. **Announcements**

The next Dixon RCD Business Meeting will be August 15, 2018, at 6:00 p.m.

16. **Adjourn Meeting**

The Dixon RCD Board meeting adjourned at the hour of 7:00 p.m.



**Brook Rosenberger
Office Manager
Dixon Resource Conservation District**