



**DIXON RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT (DRCD)
MINUTES FOR
OCTOBER 10, 2018**

DIRECTORS

SPENCER BEI

SAM BEUKELMAN

DAVID VIGUIE

DIXON RCD STAFF

JOHN S. CURREY, DISTRICT MANAGER

BROOK ROSENBERGER, OFFICE MANAGER

OTHER ATTENDEES

WENDY RASH – NRCS (Natural Resource Conservation Service)

1. Call the Meeting to Order

Director Viguie called the October 10, 2018, Regular Board meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. 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 Viguie, seconded by Director Beukelman, to approve the agenda. The motion passed as follows:

Ayes: Bei, Beukelman, Viguie,

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Gill

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4. Comments from the Public – None

5. Presentations – Mrs. Rash delivered a pre-scheduled presentation/discussion at this board meeting.

Mrs. Rash stated that the goal of her presentation was to obtain feedback from the board on a few specific questions;

- What resource issues are most important to growers?
- What do you as the grower/farmer need?
- How NRCS can better engage with growers on these issues?

The Board discussed many things farmer related focusing on these 2 topics. The Board assisted NRCS by providing input to help them obtain information for NRCS local objectives for the upcoming year.

6. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Report

Mrs. Rash gave a brief update from NRCS – she noted that she is acting DC for Napa until they hire a permanent DC. Mrs. Rash also wanted to remind us that the 4th annual Latino Farmers Conference on Thursday November 8th. For more information visit www.latinofarmerconference.neat.org.

7. DRCD Consent Calendar

- Approval of Minutes for the Board Meeting dated September 12, 2018.**
- Approval of Expenses from September 13, 2018, to October 10, 2018, and review of the 2018 / 2019 Budget Update.**

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

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

8. Old Business – None

9. New Business

- Ditch Maintenance Fee Database Billing Process – Review and consider approving the amended Ditch Maintenance Fee Billing Process, adopt the interest rate and receive staff report on the database refresh agreement**

The Board discussed the proposed billing schedule and possible interest rate increase to 10%.

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A motion was made by Director Viguie, seconded by Director Beukelman to adopt the Ditch Maintenance Fee Billing Schedule and to continue to charge 7% interest.

The motion passed as follows:

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

b. Updating Ditch Assessment Roll – Review and discuss a one-time update of parcel billed acres to match the assessor acres and consider uniformly implementing the district exemptions

Mr. Currey explained that with our project to “re-fresh” the ditch fee database we have the opportunity to not only clean up the database but to better identify each and every parcel record maintained by DRCD. While reviewing the reports and database, we have some findings that require updates;

- 26 parcels have been or could be grant exception since portions of the parcels drain outside the watershed or the parcel retains 100% of any storm runoff.
- 10 parcels are not billed due to reasons unknown to staff
- 130 parcels are billed for acres less than the current assessor’s acres
- 92 parcels are billed for acres more than the current assessor’s acres
- 134 parcels match the County records

A motion was made by Director Viguie, seconded by Director Bei, to approve the adjustments to the billed acres as identified in the worksheets provided, so that each parcel matches the assessors’ acres, unless it qualifies for one of the two exemptions. The motion passed as follows

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

c. 2019 Ditch Maintenance Fee – Review and consider schedule for the Voter Approved Ditch Maintenance Fee Increase

Mr. Currey re-capped the previously approved action to increase the per acre Ditch Maintenance Fee, scheduled for December 1, 2018. Mr. Currey reminded the Board that they chose not to increase the rate of \$.25 per acre last year. This year’s rate may be increased up to \$.50 per acre per the 2016 Ditch Maintenance

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Fee Rate Study. That brings 2018 billing rate from last year's \$3.00 per acre to the proposed \$3.50 per acre this year should the Board opt to follow that action.

A motion was made by Director Bei, seconded by Director Viguie, to approve taking no action and allowing the ditch maintenance fee rate to increase to the \$3.50 per acre on December 1st, 2018. The motion passed as follows

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

d. 2018 Outstanding Ditch Maintenance Fees – Review and consider outstanding Ditch Maintenance Fee accounts for possible adjustments and a refund

Mr. Currey presented all outstanding Ditch Maintenance Fee accounts from the 2017 fiscal year. At close of the 2017 fiscal year we had;

A total of 14 accounts that have balances due or credits. The report indicates that the District is owed \$1,663.36. However, after removing the 2 accounts with deposit errors and the 1 account with a credit the amount owed by the remaining 11 accounts would be \$1,311.95.

9 Paid in full, less interest	\$63.86
1 newly outstanding	\$42.67
1 chronic outstanding	\$1,205.42

The Board discussed and motioned to waive the 9 that didn't pay the interest, recalculate the interest on the 2 outstanding owners and roll it forward.

In addition, DRCD needs to recalculate the bill paid by 1 owner that overpaid. Figure out a reimbursement and handle it in person.

A motion was made by Director Viguie, seconded by Director Beukelman, to authorize adjustments presented resulting in 3 accounts with credits totaling \$534.90 and 2 accounts that owe \$534.20. The motion passed as follows

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

e. California Association of Conservation Districts Annual Conference Nov. 14 – 17, 2018 – Consider director attendance and proposed resolution for changes to the Association's structure

Mr. Currey explained to the Board about the Association Board putting forth 5 resolutions in an attempt to address some of the challenges that have been

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identified over the years. Mr. Currey re-iterated that the ONLY way to have a say on any of the resolutions is to cast a vote at the annual conference November 17 2018.

It is the overall feeling of the Board that they do not support these resolutions at this time, making it clear that this is not a NO from our Board it's just a No right now. Director Viguie express an interest in going to merely state that we stand with a No position on the resolutions, DRCD feels like it is too dramatic of a change, it is unknown of a 5 year plan and what that means with staff and stakeholders. A motion was made by Director Viguie, seconded by Director Beukelman, to hold a position of NO on the proposed resolutions. The motion passed as follows

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

f. Outside Employment – Receive report to consider authorizing the District Manager to renew his contract with the Yolo County Resource Conservation District to provide support services to the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area Management project

Mr. Currey stated that the Yolo County Resource Conservation District is seeking "Help/Input/Guidance" from Mr. Currey as it relates to the lease management project at the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area. Mr. Currey stated that he does not feel comfortable just helping them on his own because of his prior involvement. Therefore Mr. Currey is asking the Board to determine if he can assist Yolo and if yes then would this be considered Outside Employment, Inside Employment or not to provided assistance.

It is the overall feeling of the Board that Mr. Currey can assist Yolo RCD, and he does it under the umbrella of a DRCD employee. A motion was made by Director Viguie, seconded by Director Bei, to develop an agreement between Dixon RCD and Yolo County RCD but that it is limited to providing guidance agricultural issues, past practices and prior history. The motion passed as follows

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

10. DRCD District Manager's Report

Mr. Currey reported about the following:

- **Spraying:** I have observed that some of the tulle and cattail spraying has occurred. Since, I have not received the invoice and spray reports yet I have not verified the results at each location.

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- **Ditch Cleaning:** Mr. Kett has completed the excavation on Lateral b and Lateral 5B. Liz Colby and I surveyed Tremont 1 on September 27, and I believe we have sufficient information now to set the culver on the Schwartz property and determine how much excavation is needed on Tremont 1 and Tremont 1 Lateral C. I will be meeting with Jeff Middlekauff on Friday 10/12 to discuss excavation in Tremont 1 east of Mace for a 1/2 mile.
- **Agricultural Industrial Service Area (AISA):** Attached (**Item 1**) is Doug Moore's, West Yost review of the drainage/grading plan for 8308 Pedrick Road. As you can see by is comment we have identified some areas of concern According to County staff, as of October 1, 2018, they we preparing a letter to the applicant requesting these concerns be addressed.
- **Other Items:**
 - **CDFA Climate Smart Agricultural Programs: State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program (SWEEP) and Healthy Soils Program (HSP):** We have received notification (see attached – Item 2) that our grant application for \$9,000 to provide technical assistance for the farmers who want to apply for the SWEEP and HSP. I should receive additional information next week about the contracting and staff training schedule.
- **Fish Friendly Farming:** There will be a meeting of the Technical Advisory Group during the Week of Nov. 12.
- **Freshwater Trust:** We continue our monthly calls discussing the various aspects of the modeling.
- **Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA):** The Solano Sub-basin GSA Board will be meeting has October 11, at 5:30pm. Planning for a larger stakeholder meeting is on hold pending a few Department of Water Resources decisions.
- **Regional Drainage Projects (Dixon Regional Watershed JPA):**

The JPA member agency staff will continue to work with Solano County Water Agency (SCWA) and County staff to finalize and then review the outcome of the attached scope of work (**Item 3**) to identify the potential impacts of full buildout of the Northeast Quadrant and the Agricultural Industrial Service Area. The first stage will be to have West Yost run the model for the pre and post build out conditions. Once the results have been review the second stage will be to develop a request for proposal to investigate drainage project based on the model runs.
- **Durable Collaboration Project:**

As part of our collaboration efforts, the Solano RCD and Dixon RCD continue develop a common message about RCD and NRCS services.

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We anticipate sharing the draft publication in December having a discussion at the January board meetings.

The districts sponsored the Speak-off contest here in Dixon, while we only had 1 local contestant, she went on to win the regional contest (**Item 4**) and will be eligible to compete at the annual conference in San Diego.

▪ **Office and John's Schedule:**

My schedule will be normal from now until the Christmas holiday. I will be attending the CARCD conference, but I have chosen not to attend the ASFMA conference.

11. **Director's Report** - Brief reports given by Directors on meetings attended on behalf of the Dixon RCD.
12. **Communications - None**
13. **Upcoming Events - None**
14. **Announcements**
The next Dixon RCD Business Meeting will be November 14, 2018, at 12:00 p.m.
15. **Adjourn Meeting**
The Dixon RCD Board meeting adjourned at the hour of 7:12 p.m.



Brook Rosenberger
Office Manager
Dixon Resource Conservation District