
**DIXON RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT (DRCD)
MINUTES FOR
APRIL 13, 2016**

DIRECTORS

**MARK HOLDENER, PRESIDENT
SAM BEUKELMAN
RICK MARTINEZ
DAVID VIGUIE**

DIXON RCD STAFF

**JOHN S. CURREY, DISTRICT MANAGER
KELLY HUFF, PROGRAM MANAGER
JANICE BEAMAN, OFFICE MANAGER**

OTHER ATTENDEES

**WENDY RASH, DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST, NATURAL RESOURCE
CONSERVATION SERVICES (NRCS)
JIM CAMPBELL, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
MISTY KALTREIDER, SOLANO COUNTY ENGINEERING GEOLOGIST**

1. Call the Meeting to Order

President Holdener called the April 13, 2016, Regular Board meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. at 1170 North Lincoln Street, Suite 110, Dixon, CA.

Present: Beukelman, Martinez, Viguie, Holdener
Absent: None

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 Martinez, seconded by Director Viguie, to approve the agenda. The motion passed as follows:

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Ayes: Beukelman, Martinez, Viguie, Holdener
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

4. **Comments from the Public - None**

5. **Presentations – None**

6. **DRCD/Solano RCD Water Quality Coalition (Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program) – Monthly Reports**

a. **Approval of Expenses from March 10, 2016, to April 13, 2016 and review of the 015 / 2016 Budget Update.**

Mr. Currey reviewed the irrigated lands expenses and discussed the separated monitoring costs and permit holders having to pay State fees to administer projects.

A motion was made by Director Martinez, seconded by Director Viguie, to approve the irrigated lands expenses. The motion passed as follows:

Ayes: Beukelman, Martinez, Viguie, Holdener
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

b. **Activities Reports**

Ms. Huff requested Board input for the upcoming Regional Board's tour with Sacramento Valley Region staff. The tour will be on May 10th and be an informal setting. The tour may include a monitoring site, hedgerow project, an irrigated pasture and possibly Hastings Island and she is open to suggestions. She hoped that the Regional Board staff will discuss and see things they have not had experience with. The tour will end with lunch at the home of Director Martinez.

Director Martinez hoped to be able to discuss easier ways of reporting and wished they knew the cost expended for the tour.

Mr. Currey introduced Misty Kaltreider, Solano County Engineering Geologist, with specialty in groundwater.

Ms. Huff discussed the Regional Board's requirements for farm evaluations relating to inventory farming practices, Nitrogen Management Plan relating to nitrates in groundwater, and high vulnerability areas having additional filing requirements. She also discussed the Sediment and Erosion Control Plan, surface water and sediment, and options for certification methods.

This item was filed.

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7. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Report

Ms. Rash reported the EQIP deadline is Friday, April 15th. She noted that she will be strategizing with other NRCS offices about how to generate energy to apply.

Director Martinez noted that when farming is well, they cost share with others, but in down years, they do not apply. He felt that if NRCS could explain that their program applications provide the “best bang for the buck”, it could be better. He also suggested providing examples that may help focus on applications.

Ms. Rash noted the next deadline is in June and that applications for irrigation systems is low and that State policies that changed the conversions have made them a lower priority. She discussed the Regional Conservation Partnership Program with Dixon, Solano and Yolo RCD's to propose programs for EQIP.

She hoped for long term solutions, to leverage from the Sediment and Erosion Program, and alternative funding. Ms. Rash noted that NRCS hopes to have training and help people implement plans. She hoped within a month for NRCS to be able to write Sediment Erosion Plans and to train RCD's to make onsite recommendations.

Director Martinez suggested a checklist be included.

This item was filed.

10d. TAKEN OUT OF ORDER

Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) – Receive Staff Report from the Ad-hoc Committee and Consider DRCD's Role in the GSA and Possible Subbasin Boundary Modifications.

Mr. Currey noted the Dixon and Solano RCD Ad-hoc Committee met on March 31st to discuss the GSA formation and that the GSA is separate from the Solano County Water Agency Board. He discussed what a GSA should look like, talked with Board members what role will be for the Board, and if Dixon RCD should have a seat at the governance table.

Director Martinez felt the DRCD Board needs to decide on their participation and he felt that they should not give up a seat at the governance table without an agriculture representative. He also thought a landowner within DRCD could be the representative.

Mr. Currey noted there currently is no grower, individual or RCD at the governance table. The only representation would be the Board of Supervisors. He thought a request for a landowner could be made or to ask for a RCD Director to stay until the implementation of the plan.

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Mr. Campbell thought that because the representative is more than a groundwater user, that maybe there should be more than one representative on the governing board.

A motion was made by Director Martinez, seconded by Director Viguie, for the Mr. Currey to request one seat on the governing board for Dixon RCD. The motion passed as follows:

Ayes: Beukelman, Martinez, Viguie, Holdener
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

Mr. Currey discussed the Yolo County proposed subbasin boundary changes, noted the County will be the permitting agency and that all subbasins will have to work together.

Ms. Kaltreider showed maps with updated boundaries and Yolo County properties. She noted that Yolo County is out of Solano County except for UC Davis and the Reclamation District 2068. She noted that only Dixon RCD will be divided with the proposed boundaries, but the ground water recharge will help Dixon RCD.

Mr. Currey did not think any objection to Yolo County is necessary.

Director Martinez did not see a need to oppose the boundaries, but asked if there should be an agreement. Mr. Currey replied that a series of agreements will have to be developed to govern the interactions between the GSA's.

Mr. Campbell thought nothing should be given up with Yolo County.

A motion was made by Director Martinez, seconded by Director Viguie, to support Yolo County's proposed subbasin boundary modification and to write a non-committal letter of support. The motion passed as follows:

Ayes: Beukelman, Martinez, Viguie, Holdener
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

8. DRCD Consent Calendar

- a. **Approval of Minutes for the Regular Board Meeting dated March 9, 2016.**
- b. **Approval of Expenses from March 10, 2016, to April 13, 2016, and review of the 2015 / 2016 Budget Update.**

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Mr. Currey noted that he had been attending the California RCD (CARCD) meetings and have found them to be helpful relating to prevailing wage, planning and strategies for RCDs.

Director Martinez requested in the next year to provide a list of what benefits the CARCD provides.

A motion was made by Director Martinez, seconded by Director Viguie, to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion passed as follows:

Ayes: Beukelman, Martinez, Viguie, Holdener
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

9. Old Business

10. New Business

- a. **Consider Resolution related to the Ditch Maintenance Fee Rate Study:**
 - i. **Accepting the 2016 Ditch Maintenance Fee Rate Study.**
 - ii. **Authorizing the Dixon Resource Conservation District Manager to Mail Notices for a Proposition 218 Hearing on June 8, 2016 to increase Ditch Maintenance Fee Charges**

Mr. Currey noted that the Board needs to formally approve the rate study and the next step is mailing the Notice of Hearing by April 22, 2016.

A motion was made by Director Beukelman, seconded by Director Martinez, to adopt Resolution No. 2016-001 approving the 2016 Ditch Maintenance Fee Rate and authorized DRCD Manager to mail the Notices of Hearings for the June 8, 2016, hearing.

Ayes: Beukelman, Martinez, Viguie, Holdener
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

- b. **Consider Resolution for Approval of Guidelines for the Submission and Tabulation of Protests in connection with Rate Hearing conducted pursuant to Article XIID, Section 6 of the California Constitution.**

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Mr. Currey discussed guidelines for submission and tabulation of protests and noted that the District Engineer is designated to collect the protests. The hearing will be June 8th. If 191 protests are received by parcel, the process will stop. If less than 191 protests are received, the election will be held on August 10, 2016, and 51% will be needed. Mr. Currey noted the Board will determine, before ballots are mailed, the criteria for determining qualified ballots.

A motion was made by Director Viguie, seconded by Director Martinez, to adopt Resolution No. 2016-002 approving the guidelines for submitting and tabulating protests.

Ayes: Beukelman, Martinez, Viguie, Holdener
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

- c. **Audit – Consider Accepting Biennial Audit for Dixon Resource Conservation District, Dixon-Solano RCD Water Quality Coalition, and Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area for Fiscal Years ending June 30, 2015 and June 30, 2014.**

There was no discussion on this item.

A motion was made by Director Beukelman, seconded by Director Martinez, to accept the audits for Dixon Resource Conservation District, Dixon-Solano RCD Water Quality Coalition, and Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area for Fiscal Years ending June 30, 2015 and June 30, 2014. The motion passed as follows:

Ayes: Beukelman, Martinez, Viguie, Holdener
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

- d. **TAKEN OUT OR ORDER**

Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) – Receive Staff Report from the Ad-hoc Committee and Consider DRCD’s Role in the GSA and Possible Subbasin Boundary Modifications.

See Minutes on Page 3.

- e. **Dixon RCD Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 Budget Workshop, Fund 024 – Receive Staff Report and Provide Direction for Dixon RCD FY 2017 Budget for Fund 024.**

MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Currey noted the 2017 budget could be adopted as part of the Ditch Fee Rate Study or the Personnel Committee could convene a meeting. He asked for direction from the Board.

Director Martinez preferred to wait to see if the rate increase is approved.

Mr. Currey asked the Board which Consumer Price Index (CPI) they preferred to use.

Director Martinez thought the San Francisco CPI was too high.

Mr. Currey noted the Western States CPI is much different than past years.

Director Viguie suggested averaging the two CPIs together.

Mr. Currey discussed proposing a Ditch Maintenance Spray Program for the District. He thought hiring an employee and equipment would cost approximately \$88,000. He noted if the rate increase is not approved, the budget would have to be amended.

Director Martinez discussed a landowners concern about ditch spraying and Washburn Spray Services performance.

Director Viguie asked to meet with Mr. Currey about Buckley.

A motion was made by Director Viguie, seconded by Director Martinez, to average the CPIs for West Coast and San Francisco for percentage. The motion passed as follows:

Ayes: Beukelman, Martinez, Viguie, Holdener
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

11. DRCD Staff Reports

a. District Manager's Report

Mr. Currey reported:

- That over 90% of ditch fees has been received.
- He met with Solano County relating to a detention pond and discussed the County's new regulations for new construction on rural properties that will open discussion in the Ag Service Area.
- He and the Program Manager attended leadership training.
- He is participating in a monthly conference call with CARCD.
- He is conducting staff reviews.
- About purchasing property for a detention pond.

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- The May meeting for the Joint Powers Authority will include a presentation regarding the preliminary design for the regional detention pond and its possible locations. Director Martinez noted he hoped the City of Dixon would take over the project and to move the project forward. Mr. Currey thinks the City expects the Member Agencies to agree on the project.
- b. District Engineer's Report – None**
- 12. Directors Report - None**
- 13. Communications - None**
- 14. Upcoming Events - None**
- a. California Association of Resource Conservation Districts Bay Delta Area Meeting, Spring 2016, will be on April 20, 2016. Currey Ranch, 8753 Currey Road, Dixon CA 95620, from 10:00 am – 2:30 pm.
- 15. Announcements**
The next Dixon RCD Business Meeting will be on Wednesday, May 11, 2016, at 6:00 p.m.
- 16. Adjourn Meeting**
The Dixon RCD Board meeting adjourned at the hour of 8:48 p.m.



Janice Beaman, CMC
Office Manager
Dixon Resource Conservation District