



**DIXON RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT (DRCD)
MINUTES FOR
AUGUST 10, 2016**

DIRECTORS

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

DIXON RCD STAFF

**JOHN S. CURREY, DISTRICT MANAGER
JANICE BEAMAN, OFFICE MANAGER**

OTHER ATTENDEES

**WENDY RASH, DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST, NATURAL RESOURCE
CONSERVATION SERVICES (NRCS)
JIM CAMPBELL, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
DOUG MOORE, WEST YOST AND ASSOCIATES**

1. Call the Meeting to Order

President Holdener called the August 10, 2016, Regular Board meeting to order at 6:00 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 - Eastside Pond (Large Detention Basin East of the Railroad (LDBER)) by Doug Moore, West Yost.**

Mr. Currey asked the Board if they had any questions or comments.

Director Martinez thought all three alternatives meet the necessary obligations and noted that a new agreement will be necessary with Maine Prairie. He asked if Solano County has reviewed this, whether the City of Dixon is looking at options, and if the Joint Powers Authority (JPA) is paying for West Yost.

Mr. Currey replied West Yost is working for the JPA and is being paid with Project Development Funds (City of Dixon). The City needs a model outcome to design a project and Dixon RCD and Reclamation District (RD) 2068 need to have outflow numbers. Solano County needs to develop performance criteria to meet the City's criteria and they have asked for a project for their staff to review. He noted the Board needs to define the District's future and determine what will serve the District forever.

Mr. Currey thought Alternative 3 model output should allow the District to meet RD 2068 obligations. He would like to see a model that the City and County could agree with.

Mr. Moore discussed the history during the Dixon Downs project and currently is at 37 cfs. He noted CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act) will still need to be met, that nothing can be worse downstream and there cannot be damage to RD 2068's main canal, with trying to keep costs down and meeting all needs. He noted that the City's concerns are that Solano County does not participate and do not have impact fees. On the other hand, the City has impact fees and can develop without the County. He discussed the basin with one outlet and meeting the 10, 15 and 100 year flood requirements.

Director Martinez expressed concern that cropping could be hurt because of the new permanent crops (trees). He noted that Dixon will continue to grow and at some point a pond will be needed. He would like to complete it and whatever is decided, new agreements will be necessary. He is concerned because the current agreement does not comply.

Mr. Moore noted that both the City and County have to find funding for Alternative 3. He discussed using the Tremont 3 drain and thought those who have not joined the Tremont 3 drain, need to do so now, and fees could be revenue for the District.

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Director Viguie noted that whatever is built will have no minimal benefit below Vaughn Road.

Mr. Currey discussed charging those who would use Tremont 3, ability to use 120 cfs, the outcome of Alternative 3 is that 120 cfs can be used by the entire Watershed. Potentially the benefit will be in all storm events and the conditions would be made better and no worse.

Director Martinez thought maybe the new landowners could share in the costs to offset maintenance costs.

Director Viguie discussed being sure the agreements with the City and County do not introduce more water south of the railroad tracks.

Mr. Moore thought the City should send Alternative 3 to Solano County for review and thought the County's concern will be giving up agricultural land for a pond east of the railroad tracks. He noted the benefit to the City and JPA and suggested applying for grant funding.

Mr. Currey stated each member agency wants to meet independently and review the draft technical report.

Director Martinez thought the lack of regulation of the pipe size would be a concern for RD 2068.

Mr. Moore thought the City could manage the project and still be a JPA project. He also thought that once Phase 1 of the project is complete, the JPA could be eliminated.

Mr. Currey noted that Solano County has not created a comprehensive regional drainage plan and this may force them to do more than look at individual projects.

A motion was made by Director Viguie, seconded by Director Martinez, to submit Alternative 3 to Solano County for review and approve the performance criteria. The motion passed as follows:

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

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

- a. Approval of Prior Year Expenses – None**
- b. Activities Reports – None**

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7. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Report

Ms. Rash reported that Chris Robbin has taken the role of lead Soil Conservationist and Luke Petersen has been hired as the new Biologist. She noted Mr. Petersen will be sharing time with Point Blue (Point Reyes). Also, she reported that the Engineering application period closed and that she hoped to hire a half time planner to work on Habitat Projects, compliance and NEPA (National Environmental Protection Act).

Ms. Rash reported that available funding for Bay Delta was not spent and the EQIP application period is ending for 2016. She hoped for local input for agricultural land and land use decisions for funding from the Delta Conservancy. She discussed possibly restructuring the Local Workgroup to be more effective and noted an agricultural advisory for the Egyptian Broomrape that is a federally controlled noxious weed, native to Australia and Israel.

This item was filed.

8. DRCD Consent Calendar

- a. **Approval of Minutes for the Board Meeting dated July 13, 2016.**
- b. **Approval of Expenses from July 14, to August 10, 2016, and review of the 2016 / 2017 Budget Update**

There was no discussion on these items.

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

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

9. Old Business – None

10. New Business

- a. **Acceptance of Ditch Maintenance Fees Election Results – Receive Staff Report and adopt a Resolution to either 1) accept the Certificate of Election results for the Ditch Maintenance Fees mail ballot election on August 9, 2016; or, if the voters approve the new fees, 2) accept the Certificate of Election results for the Ditch Maintenance Fees mail ballot election on August 9, 2016, and adopt and implement the proposed rate structure for the Ditch Maintenance Fees.**

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Mr. Currey discussed the two Resolutions and reviewed the outcome of the election, with 46% election turnout, voting a weighted ballot with 23.07% voting in favor of the rate increase and 22.99% opposing the rate increase.

A motion was made to adopt Resolution No. 2016-004 increasing the Ditch Fee rate to \$3.00 per acre, effective December 1, 2016. The motion passed as follows.

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

b. Eastside Pond (Large Detention Basin East of the Railroad (LDBER)) – Review and consider establishing design objectives and priorities for the Eastside Pond.

See Item 5 above on Page 3.

c. Delta Conservancy Prop 1 Grant Application – Discuss possible Grant Application for Habitat / Water Quality Project, such as the Eastside Pond and Vegetated Ditches.

Mr. Currey discussed a grant opportunity for Delta Conservancy Prop 1 funding that could benefit the Eastside Pond and vegetated ditches. In discussing this with the City Engineer, they could meet with Delta staff to discuss whether to submit a grant pre-proposal. He asked the Board if he could allocate time to work on a pre-proposal to further the Regional Drainage Project. If favorable, this would be an item on the next JPA agenda for planning funds.

Director Martinez discussed previous efforts of time and money spent and the project not advancing and preferred he not pursue the grant at this time. He would agree if the City of Dixon was ready to go with the project, but felt it was too early to get involved.

Director Beukelman asked how much time would be necessary. Mr. Currey replied 15 to 20 hours to be sure it is a compatible and viable project for the grant.

Director Martinez discussed Mr. Currey's current workload, his vacation leave accrued and the liability to the District as reported on Item 11, District Manager's Report. He preferred to not add the Delta Conservancy grant review. He requested the leave liability be reported periodically.

By consensus of the Board, Mr. Currey was asked not to pursue the grant application.

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- d. **Sustainable Ground Water Management Act – Receive staff report on the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) formation process and provide direction on possible GSA Board structures.**

Mr. Currey discussed the establishment of an 11 member Board with three at-large seats consisting of a Resource Conservation District, Ag Advisory Committee member, and a public member. He noted that funding is now the topic, “pay to play”. He noted the 11 member agencies will be paying, but he suggested the at-large members not have a fee because they are not government. If the RCD gets a seat they will not be required to pay a fee.

This item was filed.

- e. **Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (ILRP) – Discuss possible collaboration with Freshwater Trust to develop planning tools to help with the ILRP implementation and authorize staff to further explore the possible collaboration.**

Mr. Currey discussed the Freshwater Trust developing planning tools to help with the Irrigated Lands Program implementation. They have asked him to participate in brainstorming meetings because of his experience. He anticipated it would take 30-60 days to identify future opportunities in groundwater quality and ag practices in the Solano Basin.

By consensus of the Board, they supported Mr. Currey’s involvement if this could be determined quickly.

11. **DRCD Staff Reports**
 - a. **District Manager’s Report**

Mr. Currey noted that in addition to his written report that Solano RCD, Dixon RCD and the City of Dixon, as lead agency, are working on a grant application for habitat and vegetation at Pond C. Katherine Holmes from Solano RCD and Kelly Huff from Dixon RCD will be working with Janet Koster from the City of Dixon.

12. **Directors Report - None**
13. **Communications - None**
14. **Upcoming Events - None**
15. **Announcements**

The next Dixon RCD Business Meeting will be September 14, 2016, at 6:00 p.m.

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16. Adjourn Meeting

The Dixon RCD Board meeting adjourned at the hour of 9:00 p.m.



**Janice Beaman, CMC
Office Manager
Dixon Resource Conservation District**