

**DIXON RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT (DRCD)**  
**MINUTES FOR**  
**MARCH 9, 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**

**1. Call the Meeting to Order**

President Holdener called the March 9, 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 Amended Agenda**

Mr. Currey noted that Item 10c was added after the agenda was posted. Action on the matter was necessary before the next Board meeting.

A motion was made by Director Martinez, seconded by Director Beukelman, to approve the amended 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- None**
  - b. **Activities Reports**

Ms. Huff reported to the Board about the pyrethroid testing in Lateral 1 at Highway 113 and discussed a new method of monitoring and sampling by Don Weston. She noted this was not an exceedance, that no response was necessary and responded to Board questions.

Ms. Huff reported that 94% of the Irrigated Lands billings have been received and that 50% of the Farm Evaluations have been received. She stated postcards reminders were sent to those not received and they have had a high response. She discussed the high vulnerability areas, changes regarding discharge sediment and thought the Regional Board would take action in February. She provided an update on requirements for nitrogen and sediment reporting and statistics on response rates from the Farm Evaluation reporting.

Ms. Huff discussed the 6 workshops held with the help of NRCS, the number of participants, and the results from the self-certification testing.

Ms. Huff reported that the Regional Board gave a one year deadline extension for additional requirements relating to groundwater quality high vulnerability areas. She discussed the surface water monitoring by the Regional Board staff, waste discharge, and nitrates in water.

This item was filed.

### **7. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Report**

Ms. Rash noted that EQIP applications are moving slow and the next deadline for applications is mid-April. She discussed the difficulties with hiring staff and noted there are 9 vacant Engineer positions and the application period was open In-house for 5 days. If the search fails, then advertising may be outside the organization. She noted another agreement with Dixon RCD may be necessary, if administered differently, and can be up to \$75,000.

Mr. Currey noted funding is available until mid-July. The current contract expires the end of March.

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This item was filed.

### 8. DRCD Consent Calendar

- a. **Approval of Minutes for the Special Board Meeting dated February 11, 2016.**
- b. **Approval of Expenses from February 12, 2016, to March 9, 2016, and review of the 2015 / 2016 Budget Update.**

There was no discussion on this item.

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

- a. **Drainage Fee Rate Study – Review and consider accepting the Draft Rate Study and direct staff to convene a workshop.**

Mr. Currey explained the process, provided the history about the rate study, and asked if there are any issues to address. He noted that if the study is acceptable, postcard notices would be mailed, the draft study will be posted on the website, and there would be a landowners meeting on March 28<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Campbell suggested telling landowners upfront what the rates are.

Director Martinez suggested presenting the study to some of the past Directors for their comments.

By consensus of the Board, the study is to move forward.

### 10. New Business

- a. **Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) – Discuss Status of the GSA Formation Process and Provide Direction to Staff Regarding Possible Roles for Dixon RCD.**

Mr. Currey discussed the statistics about the number of acres of Irrigated groundwater dependent users in Dixon RCD, Solano RCD and the unincorporated areas and reviewed the Groundwater Users Map. He asked if the Board would like him to continue to participate and keep them informed.

He noted the Solano County Water Agency (SCWA) Policy Committee was deciding on the structure and RCD's can elect the amount of their involvement. His concern was that there be an economic balance and what representation there would be on the GSA Board. He noted that SCWA may not be the lead.

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Director Martinez thought Mr. Currey should actively participate and make recommendations to this Board, but he should not represent landowners because he thought there should be a representative from a vested landowner.

Mr. Currey thought a future advisory group will be making recommendations to a governing board and the decisions would be made by the elected officials. He discussed not being the voice for property rights, reasonable use of groundwater and felt it was a property rights issue. He confirmed that his participation would be advisory. He also noted that no landowners are at the board to vote and just a dozen or so landowners use more groundwater than government agencies.

Director Martinez felt this is a landowner issue and landowners should be informed. He asked what the governance role would be.

Mr. Currey thought presentations would appear before the governance officials and they would make the decisions. He will inform the Board of Supervisors and the Solano RCD Executive Director about the Board's discussion and their consensus was that the Dixon RCD Board reaffirmed its interest; that he continues to participate in the GSA formation process and that we continue to help by providing information to the landowners through our outreach programs.

They also stated that they do not believe that a seat on the ultimate GSA governance structure is the right fit for District. However, they think that participation in the advisory committee is most appropriate.

Also, they believe that, if it is possible, one to three landowners from the areas of extensive groundwater use should have a seat at the GSA and that these landowners could be appointed by the Board of Supervisors, Farm Bureau, Ag Advisory Committee.

Finally, they are willing to reconsider the RCD role in the ultimate GSA and would invite any agencies to the April or May Board meeting to discuss the issue.

This item was filed.

**b. Vegetated Ditch Projects – Review and Discuss Landowners Interest to Plant Habitat along on Lateral 3 near Pedrick Road and Radio Station Road.**

Mr. Currey reported that the Zucca properties include a large pasture and two homes, that they like vegetation and asked what vegetation can be used at their location. Mr. Currey asked the Board for any concerns and if they want to approve the project.

Director Viguie felt a wide ditch would allow a better flow.

Mr. Currey stated that with native vegetation and it is assumed that the ditch would not be sprayed.

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Director Martinez thought they may have to make changes and should clean up their area first.

The Board was hesitant to agree with changes, felt more easement and capacity is needed, and requested the water flow design capacity be verified.

This item was filed.

**c. Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area / Yolo County RCD Grant Application – Review and Consider Providing a Letter of Support for the Wildlife Corridors for Flood Escape Grant Application.**

Mr. Currey noted Yolo Bypass has requested a letter of support to be included in the Wildlife Corridors for Flood Escape Grant Application and this project is within the District.

Director Martinez suggested the project be in accordance with past landowner developed Yolo Bypass Management Strategy.

A motion was made by Director Martinez, seconded by Director Viguie, to approve the support letter, but to check the involvement of the landowners and Yolo Basin Foundation. 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 - None**
- b. District Engineer's Report – None**

**12. Directors Report - None**

**13. Communications - None**

**14. Upcoming Events - None**

**15. Announcements**

The next Dixon RCD Business Meeting will be on Wednesday, April 13, 2016, at 6:00 p.m.

**16. Adjourn Meeting**

The Dixon RCD Board meeting adjourned at the hour of 8:45 p.m.

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