
**DIXON RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT (DRCD)
MINUTES FOR
JUNE 8, 2016**

DIRECTORS

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

DIXON RCD STAFF

**JOHN S. CURREY, DISTRICT MANAGER
JANICE BEAMAN, OFFICE MANAGER
LIZ COLBY, DISTRICT ENGINEER**

OTHER ATTENDEES

**WENDY RASH, DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST, NATURAL RESOURCE
CONSERVATION SERVICES (NRCS)
JIM CAMPBELL, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
LEO SOUKERIS, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
PETER BRIGGS
BEELER JONES
RON TIMOTHY**

1. Call the Meeting to Order

President Holdener called the June 8, 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.

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

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

4. Comments from the Public - None

5. Public Hearing on Proposed Ditch Maintenance Fee Increase

- a. Receive staff report and open public hearing on proposed ditch increase.**
- b. Close public hearing and recess meeting for District Engineer to tabulate protests.**
- c. Reconvene meeting and receive report from District Engineer regarding protests received.**

Mr. Currey stated this is the first phase of the fee increase process. He advised the Board to open the public hearing, take any comments and protests, and close the public hearing.

Director Holdener opened the public hearing.

Mr. Jones asked about supplementing the District's income with Yolo Bypass funds and the reason for the change.

Mr. Currey discussed the management of agricultural leases and the State contract that changed the revenue to the District from \$30,000 to \$10,000. The Board felt the revenue was not enough to manage the leases.

Director Martinez noted the Yolo Bypass was a large number of acres and the management fee the District was paid kept the ditch rate low. Now to keep up with the costs, a rate increase is necessary.

Seeing no one else present to speak, Director Holdener closed the public hearing.

Mr. Currey reported that protests from 17 parcels were received out of 380 parcels and that a minimum of 190 parcels were required in order to stop the rate increase.

No recess was necessary to count protests.

This item was filed.

MEETING MINUTES

6. **DRCD/Solano RCD Water Quality Coalition (Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program) – Monthly Reports – None**

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

Ms. Rash reported that they finalized the batch of EQIP applications and that she will be participating in the Irrigated Lands tour. She discussed hiring a summer intern, interviewing a biologist, and hopefully will be hiring a Soil Conservationist and Engineer.

Mr. Currey noted that Ms. Negroni would like to phase out from her position by June 30, 2016, but with that it would provide additional hours for the District Engineer through September 30, 2016.

This item was filed.

8. **DRCD Consent Calendar - (ACTION)**

- a. **Approval of Minutes for the Regular Board Meeting dated May 11, 2016.**
- b. **Approval of Expenses from May 12, 2016, to June 8, 2016, and review of the 2015 / 2016 Budget Update.**

There was no discussion on these items.

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 – None**

10. **New Business**

- a. **Consider Resolution authorizing the use of a Mail Ballot Proceeding, calling a Special Mail Ballot Proceeding for August 9, 2016, for submittal of Proposed Ditch Maintenance Fees to owners of real property subject to the fees, and adopting procedures for the conduct of the Proceeding.**

Mr. Currey noted the ditch fee is a unique fee that is unlike irrigation, trash or sewer fees. It is a property related fee that requires a vote. He discussed the next phase of the ditch fee increase process is to mail ballots to each property owner listed on the last County Assessor's roll by June 24, 2016, with ballots due by August 9, 2016, by 4:45 pm. The ballots will be tallied and the results will be reported at the August 10th Board meeting.

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Mr. Currey noted the Board has the choice of how the ballots are counted prior to the ballots being mailed. The ballots can be weighted and counted based on the total fees paid (number of acres x the proposed fee) owned by the property owner or un-weighted in which the ballot would be counted as one owner is one vote.

Director Holdener asked for public comment. No public comments were received.

Directors Martinez, Viguie and Beukelman supported a weighted ballot.

A motion was made by Director Viguie, seconded by Director Martinez, to count ballots based on weighted ballot. The motion passed as follows.

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

b. Sustainable Ground Water Management Act – Receive staff report on the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) formation process and consider possible GSA Board structures.

Mr. Currey discussed the Solano County Ag Summit to receive input on how the ag community can best be represented by a Groundwater Sustainability Agency. He felt the Dixon RCD Board's direction to him was farming interests need to participate on the GSA Board. He felt that 7 to 9 agencies would create the GSA Board, there would be management areas, and a person(s) at large. He thought staff would be meeting in August or September to discuss structure and make a proposal. Mr. Currey responded to Board questions.

Director Martinez preferred flexibility and did not think they had issue with groundwater.

Mr. Currey noted 30 agencies with in the subbasin are eligible, but felt realistically 9 would participate that may include Solano County, Solano Irrigation District, Maine Prairie, Reclamation District (RD) 2068, Delta Coalition, Solano County Water Agency and all cities. Also, he had told them he would like seat at the table unless the agricultural community is represented.

Director Martinez discussed the board formation and preferred Mr. Currey to continue to get the word out.

Director Viguie requested an update next month. Mr. Currey noted it may be after they have another meeting.

This item was filed.

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c. DRCD Maintenance Priority for 2016-2017 – Receive staff report on identified projects and consider prioritizing projects.

Mr. Currey discussed the philosophy of the District is to spray the ditches 2 to 3 times per year, clean as needed, and typically the landowners/farmers would use spoils dirt as needed. He discussed his initial site review of areas in need of spoils leveling and reviewed two options to accomplish the work. One option is to meet with local contractors and to request bids consistent with the District's policies or the second option is to hire a seasonal employee to complete the projects with leased equipment. He discussed the cost for each option and asked for direction from the Board.

Director Martinez thought it would be difficult to hire a part-time employee and felt using a contractor for spoils leveling would be the priority.

The consensus of the Board was to move forward with doing the work now.

d. Dixon RCD FY 2016-2017 Fund 024 – Receive Staff Report and Consider Adopting the Proposed Dixon RCD FY 2016-2017 Budget for Fund 024.

Mr. Currey reviewed the proposed FY 2016-2017 budget, including payroll expenses, funding from NRCS, ditch maintenance adjustment of \$20,000 for spoils leveling, and noted no capital improvements are planned.

The proposed Dixon RCD Budget for FY 2016-2017 for Fund 024, including the adjustments are:

Total Income		\$381,689
Payroll Expenses	\$231,411	
Ditch Maintenance	\$88,055	
Services and Supplies	\$86,141	
Capital Improvements	\$0	
Total Expenses		\$405,607
Net Position		-\$23,918

Mr. Campbell discussed the County tax initiative, the ditch fee increase, salary costs, and percentage to set aside.

A motion was made by Director Martinez, seconded by Director Viguie, to approve the budget with proposed adjustments. The motion passed as follows.

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

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11. DRCD Staff Reports

a. District Manager's Report

Mr. Currey discussed his Manager's report and noted:

- Ditch spraying will not be done this summer, but does plan for fall/winter application including a pre-emergent;
- 97% of ditch fees were received;
- There has been no draft received for the Habitat Conservation Plan and the Regional General Permit;
- The Eastside Drainage Project has been determined not to be a viable project and discussed the new pond project being reviewed located east of Pedrick Road and North of Campbell Soup. Mr. Currey suggested a joint meeting be called with the Dixon RCD and RD 2068 Board to discuss an agreement.

Director Martinez preferred RD 2068 and Dixon RCD review together.

12. Directors Report - None

13. Communications - None

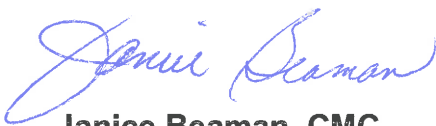
14. Upcoming Events - None

15. Announcements

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

16. Adjourn Meeting

The Dixon RCD Board meeting adjourned at the hour of 7:25 p.m.



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