



**DIXON RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT (DRCD)
MINUTES FOR
MARCH 8, 2017**

DIRECTORS

SPENCER BEI

SAM BEUKELMAN

ROBERT CHOPE GILL

DAVID VIGUIE

DIXON RCD STAFF

JOHN S. CURREY, DISTRICT MANAGER

KELLY HUFF, PROJECT MANAGER

JANICE BEAMAN, OFFICE MANAGER

OTHER ATTENDEES

JIM CAMPBELL, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

LEO SOUKERIS, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

**WENDY RASH, DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST, NATURAL RESOURCE
CONSERVATION SERVICES (NRCS)**

RICH COLLINS, FARMER/LANDOWNER

ALYSSA DEVINCENTIO, UC DAVIS HYDROLOGY GRAD STUDENT

1. Call the Meeting to Order

Director Viguie called the March 8, 2017, Regular Board meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at 1170 North Lincoln Street, Suite 110, Dixon, CA.

Present: Bei, Gill, Viguie

Absent: Beukelman

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 Bei, seconded by Director Gill, to approve the agenda. The motion passed as follows:

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

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

5. **Presentations – The Cover Crop Conundrum – Rich Collins**

Mr. Collins discussed “the Cover Crop Conundrum”, how the use of cover crop in agricultural regions change groundwater recharge, the benefits of these practices, and being the stewardship of water. He felt there is a workable approach to put and keep water on the ground. He showed pictures of orchards with and without cover crop, land with regular rain and land with cover crop. Overall, his land with cover crops has received 24” of rainfall since January 1, 2017, and there was zero runoff.

Mr. Collins discussed planting cover crops to keep water where it falls. He noted to get the soil through the process, it will take two or three years, “retaining it where it falls”, and that this practice is used all over the States, but not here. His parting thought is to change “Dixon Resource Conservation District to Dixon Resource Enhancing District”.

Director Viguie noted that for cover crops to be successful in Winters for almonds, the practice would have to be much earlier.

This item was filed.

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

a. **Approval of Expenses – Expenses from February 9, 2017, to March 8, 2017, and review of the 2016 / 2017 Budget Update.**

There was no discussion on this item.

A motion was made by Director Bei, seconded by Director Gill, to approve the Irrigated Lands expenses. The motion passed as follows

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

b. **Activities Reports – None**

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

Ms. Rash noted the second deadline for EQIP applications have been extended and there are some irrigation projects with the third group of applications. She

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noted that with their partnership with Dixon/Solano RCDs, NRCS helped with the grant application, site visits, identifying practices, projects that could be done and projects that will done. She discussed spending time on land evaluations and site assessments at Cache Slough, noted there are no changes in staffing, and that Paul Lum, Solano Irrigation District, will be conducting an Irrigation Efficiency Workshop on April 6th and the workshop will be in Spanish also.

This item was filed.

8. DRCD Consent Calendar

- a. **Approval of Minutes for the Board Meeting dated February 8, 2017.**
- b. **Approval of Expenses from February 9, 2017, to March 8, 2017, and review of the 2016 / 2017 Budget Update.**

Mr. Currey reviewed expenditures and noted that postage was added.

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

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

9. Old Business – None

10. New Business

- a. **Election of Board Officers – President and Vice President.**

Mr. Currey reported that Director Mark Holdener has resigned from the Dixon RCD Board and asked for the President and Vice President positions be filled.

Director Viguie volunteered to be President.

Director Bei volunteered to be Vice President.

A motion was made by Director Gill, seconded by Director Viguie, to appoint Director Viguie as President and Director Bei as Vice President. The motion passed as follows:

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

- b. **Grant and Funding Opportunities – Discuss several project concepts and consider directing staff on possible grant applications.**
 - i. ***Sediment and Erosion Control Planning – Technical Assistance and Educational Workshops for Water Quality Coalition Members.***

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- ii. ***Resource Conservation Districts Finance Assistance – Improving RCDs effectiveness and delivery of services.***
- iii. ***Cover Crop Demonstration Projects – Quantify and Interrogating the benefits of Cover Crops for Soil Health, Water Quality Improvements, Nitrogen Management, Groundwater Recharge and Reduction in Stormwater Runoff.***

Relating to Item 10bi, Mr. Currey noted this proposal is being reviewed by NRCS and this is a 3-year grant for offsetting staff costs and workshops to assist landowners with sediment erosion plans and technical assistance.

Relating to Item 10bii, Mr. Currey discussed the opportunity for financial assistance through the Department of Conservation (DOC). He discussed the DOC being divided into two Tiers and that Dixon RCD has completed Tier 1, except for the three policies on the agenda today. The funding assistance would be used for Tier 2 to build capacity within the RCD.

Relating to Item 10biii, Mr. Currey discussed looking at the opportunity for groundwater recharge and reduction in storm water runoff. His goal is to design localized data regarding groundwater recharge, to convene a group consisting of the City of Dixon and Solano County Water Agency for their expertise, the funding would support a portion of his time, SGMA, using cover crops and best management practices.

Ms. DeVincentio noted she is interested in soil analysis and could have relevant information.

Mr. Currey discussed refining changes in flooding downstream, gathering information to enhance what is currently being done, enhance the ability to partner with Solano County Water Agency, Solano County, City of Dixon and Reclamation District 2068. He also hoped this may be an opportunity for growers, for downstream improvements, money for constituents if cover crops are beneficial. He discussed having expendable hours since the Dixon Regional Watershed JPA is having fewer meetings, SGMA taking his time, but is interested in starting it from the ground floor.

Mr. Currey responded to Board questions and noted that Board authorization and adoption of a resolution will be needed to submit this grant.

A motion was made by Director Gill, seconded by Director Bei, to adopt Resolution No. 2017-001 authorizing submittal of a funding request to the Department of Conservation. The motion passed as follows:

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

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- c. **Sustainable Ground Water Management Act – Receive staff report on the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) formation process and provide direction to staff and board representative.**

Mr. Currey discussed meetings held to determine if modifications can be made so the Solano Irrigation District (SID) would join the GSA, what he thought SID's concerns are, SID's participation if they join the GSA, and the formation of the Board that SID would like see.

This item was filed.

- d. **Policy Updates – Review and Consider adopting the following Policies:**
- i. **3033 Reserve Designation – Update**
 - ii. **3035 Investment of District Funds**
 - iii. **3038 Fee for Service**

Mr. Currey noted that these three policies are the ones missing to complete Tier 1 of the Department of Conservation grant submittal.

A motion was made by Director Gill, seconded by Director Bei, to adopt Policies 3033, 3035, and 3038. The motion passed as follows:

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

- e. **District Planning – Review and consider adopting the Dixon RCD 2018 – 2022 Long Range Plan and review the draft Annual Plan for Fiscal Year 2017-18.**

Mr. Currey noted that he merged two long range plans together as their priorities and goals were similar. He requested the Board to review and provide any suggestions or changes.

This item was continued to April 5, 2017.

11. DRCD Staff Reports **District Manager's Report**

Mr. Currey reported about the following:

- 92.8% or \$109,199.05 of Ditch Fees have been collected;
- Ditch spraying will be between mid-May to mid-June;
- \$34,000 is budgeted for Ditch Maintenance and the map was reviewed;
- Gene Robben requested some dirt; Mr. Currey offered Lateral 1 at Casey Road. Director Bei requested a closer site at Miller and Robben Road; Mr. Currey agreed;

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- The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CFDA) selected 10 organizations to provide technical assistance to SWEEP (State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program) applicants;
- CFDA is releasing a request for proposal to assist landowners/producers to access funds to improve soil, reduce greenhouse gases, air pollution by developing demonstration projects and technical assistance;
- Little Hoover Commission conducting hearings regarding Special Districts, possible proposal to hold an election every 10 years for reauthorization of the districts;
- California Supreme Court ruled that government business on private devices are subject to the Public Records Act;
- Legislative Action Days will be May 16-17, 2017;
- Ransom-ware virus attacked the computer system on March 2, 2017; was stopped within a half hour; backup system was sufficient, and data for only that date was lost;
- Mark Holdener served on the Dixon RCD Board for 25½ years, was the second longest serving as a Board member and would like any suggestions to recognize him for his service.

12. Directors Report - None

13. Communications - None

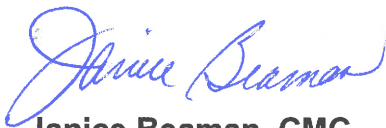
14. Upcoming Events - None

15. Announcements

The next Dixon RCD Business Meeting will be April 12, 2017, at 6:00 p.m.

16. Adjourn Meeting

The Dixon RCD Board meeting adjourned at the hour of 8:50 p.m.



Janice Beaman, CMC
Office Manager
Dixon Resource Conservation District