

MINUTES

Dixon / Solano Resource Conservation District (RCD) Water Quality Coalition AD HOC ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

July 26, 2017

6:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Dixon/Solano RCD Office

1170 N. Lincoln Conference Room

CONTACT: Kelly Huff (707) 678-1655 x 102

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Paul Lum, Bruce Brazelton, Rick Martinez, Cork McIsaac, Spencer Bei, Joe Martinez, and David Viguie

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Roy Gill and Guy Garcia

COALITION STAFF PRESENT: John Currey, Kelly Huff, Chris Rose, Andrea Mummert

OTHERS PRESENT: Wendy Rash - USDA NRCS District Conservationist, Jim Allan - Solano County Agricultural Commissioner, Steve Maricle – Larry Walker Associates, Donald Weston – UC Berkeley

1. Donald P. Weston, UC Berkeley
 - Mr. Weston presented data from research he has conducted since 2011 in Cache Slough regarding toxicity/pesticides in Cache Slough.
2. Review 2016-2017 Program Year & New Requirements for 2017-2018
 - Staff reviewed 2016-2017 program year monitoring results and assessments, enrollment, farm reporting process, response rates (for farm evaluations, nitrogen summary reports and reporting of education attended) and planned education activities for the upcoming year. Advisory members provided feedback on upcoming outreach/education/reporting season.
3. Advise Dixon/Solano RCD Boards on Membership Policies and Databases
 - Committee Members reviewed the following staff recommendations and offered additional recommendations (in blue).
 - i. Change farm reporting deadline from February 15th to February 1st As long as members have at least 1.5 months to complete from when they receive.
 - ii. Charge late fee for each farm report submitted after Feb 1st deadline equal to twenty percent of member fees OR \$100.00, whichever is more. This includes farm evaluations and nitrogen summary reports for high vulnerability parcels ONLY. Late fee does not apply to education requirement.

iii. Change policy so that if a membership has not turned in ALL farm reporting by July 1st of each year, they will be revoked. This includes farm evaluations and nitrogen summary reports for high vulnerability parcels ONLY. Parcels for which no education has been recorded will be identified on annual member list submitted in July. Committee members recommended that members lacking education from previous years be notified.

- Committee Members and staff discussed the online farm reporting systems that have been developed by other subwatersheds, the likely timeframe they could be available and cost estimates. Committee members recommended continuing to pursuing an online system for the long-term.

4. Make Recommendations on Dixon/Solano RCD Coalition Finances

- Committee Members reviewed Dixon/Solano RCD coalition finances and the offered the following recommendations.
 - i. Maintain the \$3.00 per irrigated acre member fee for 2017-2018.
 - ii. Maintain current policy of \$50,000 cash reserve.
 - iii. Dedicate an additional \$50,000 of the cash on hand as a resource for future database transition.