



**DIXON RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT (DRCD)
MINUTES FOR
NOVEMBER 12, 2015**

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
LEO SOUKERIS, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR**

1. Call the Meeting to Order

President Holdener called the November 12, 2015, Special Board meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. at 1170 North Lincoln Street, Suite 110, Dixon, CA.

Present: Beukelman, Martinez, Holdener
Absent: Viguie

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 Beukelman, seconded by Director Martinez, to approve the amended agenda. The motion passed as follows:

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

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 from October 15, 2015, to November 12, 2015, and review of the 2015 / 216 Budget Update.

Mr. Currey reviewed the invoices, budget and credits for the Dixon/Solano RCD Water Quality Coalition's share of the Sac Valley Water Quality Coalition. The credits are a result of lower than anticipated expense in the prior year. Mr. Currey discussed the Regional Board's enforcement list of 200+ parcels that have failed to comply in Northern California, that notices will be mailed soon, and that none of the Solano County parcels are on the list, additional enforcement will occur in 2016.

A motion was made by Director Martinez, seconded by Director Beukelman, to approve the Water Quality Coalition expenses. The motion passed as follows:

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

b. Activities Reports – None.

7. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Report

Ms. Rash discussed the Bay Delta Initiative (BDI) amendment, their focus on water conservation and water quality, and the wildlife habitat practices will not be eligible for funding through the BDI. She discussed the role of the new Regional Conservation Partnership Program, the scheduling of Water Quality Coalition training workshops, with Program Manager Kelly Huff, in January and February. She noted that she recently attended the trainer for trainers for certification. Lastly, Ms. Rash announced that Sally Negroni, Soil Conservationist, will be retiring after the first of the year, but hopes to return and work part time during a transition period.

This item was filed.

MEETING MINUTES

8. DRCD Consent Calendar

- a. **Approval of Minutes for the Board Meeting dated October 14,, 2015.**
- b. **Approval of Expenses from October 15, 2015, to November 12, 2015, and review of the 2015 / 2016 Budget Update.**

Mr. Currey reviewed the amended Financial Report and budget adjustment.

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

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

9. Old Business – None

10. New Business

- a. **USDA and District Agreements – Review and Provide Staff Direction Regarding the Operational Agreement and Cooperative Agreement for Engineering Services.**

Mr. Currey discussed the engineering services ending December 31, 2015, the billing is about 75% of the contract, and that the Engineer is on maternity leave. He noted the hours she worked in the District and NRCS, her billable rate and at-will status. He also discussed the interest of Sally Negroni, NRCS Soil Conservationist, as an option to work part-time for NRCS, through the District cooperative agreement while NRCS fills her position.

Director Martinez asked for protection of the District against any workers compensation risk.

Ms. Rash felt that there would be no liability with an agreement in place and funding would be a pass through from NRCS to the District. Ms. Negroni would be able to provide a lower level of engineering services.

Director Martinez thought two agreements might be appropriate.

Ms. Rash noted they have been unable to attract applicants for engineering positions, possibly because of salary, and there are 7 or 8 vacancies with in the Bay-Delta Area.

By consensus of the Board, staff will identify what the needs are and draft the agreement(s).

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b. 2016 Ditch Fee Billing – Consider reviewing and adopting the Ditch Maintenance Fee and review outstanding accounts.

Mr. Currey reviewed the outstanding ditch fees, noted that the number of outstanding accounts has reduced, and the Board should determine the billing rate for the upcoming year's invoices. He noted in past years the Board has forgiven the accrued interest for those who did not pay their invoice by this time of year.

Director Martinez was interested in increasing the ditch rate. Mr. Currey noted he would work on an evaluation of ditch fees next year.

A motion was made by Director Martinez, seconded by Director Beukelman, to forgive accrued interest for the accounts that are paid in full and authorized the 2016 ditch fee at \$2.00 per acre. The motion passed as follows:

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

c. Ditch Maintenance – Review of Fall 2015 Ditch Maintenance activities.

Mr. Currey reviewed the map and identified the miles of ditch maintenance cleaned this year. He discussed working with contractors and additional costs for excavation and transport because of transport travel time and having to pay prevailing wage for special district contracts. He also asked for direction from the Board about what to do with excess spoils as there is no mandate for the District to remove them.

Director Martinez felt the landowner is responsible, cleanup can be hired and billed to the landowner.

Mr. Campbell thought if the District owns the property, it should be sold.

Mr. Currey discussed that a landowner will no longer be using the return system in Tremont 1, he would be meeting with the landowner in the spring, and asked for any Board direction about the District's responsibility for this section. Regarding ditch spraying, he was dissatisfied with overall weed control and discussed meeting with Blankenship and Associates and Reclamation 2068 about new sterilant products that are being tested. Mr. Currey discussed the clarity of the water in the Sacramento River with the drought, the aquatic herbicide materials and that Blankenship will provide current licensed products. Mr. Currey also noted that there will be two applications next year and he will discuss with RD 2068 their interest in partnering to manage a maintenance contract.

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This item was filed.

d. Dixon RCD Budget Adjustment – Consider budget adjustment for Fund 024 Fiscal Year 2015/16.

Mr. Currey discussed the necessary budget amendment resulting from Lateral 1 and 2, road improvements, the Fletcher survey, and use of an excavation contractor and having to pay prevailing wage.

A motion was made by Director Beukelman, seconded by Director Martinez, authorizing a budget adjustment to increase infrastructure expenses by \$13,000 from fund balance. The motion passed as follows:

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

11. DRCD Staff Reports

a. District Manager's Report:

Mr. Currey reported:

- That 40% of payments have been received for Irrigated Land fees;
- That until a settlement is reached with Mr. Wineman, they cannot move forward with West Yost reviewing the new proposal; Director Martinez thought Dixon RCD could plan the pipe size for Tremont 3 from the top down and felt there would be more control.

b. District Engineer's Report – None

12. Directors Report - None

13. Communications - None

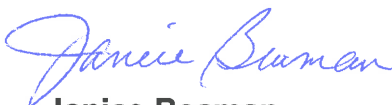
14. Upcoming Events - None

15. Announcements

The next Dixon RCD Business Meeting will be on Wednesday, January 13, 2016, at 12:00 noon.

16. Adjourn Meeting

The Dixon RCD Board meeting adjourned at the hour of 2:30 p.m.



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