
DIXON RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT (DRCD) MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 14, 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

SPENCER BEI, DIRECTOR-ELECT
**WENDY RASH, DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST, NATURAL RESOURCE
CONSERVATION SERVICES (NRCS)**

1. Call the Meeting to Order

President Holdener called the December 14, 2016, Regular Board meeting to order at 12:00 noon 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.

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

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

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4. **Comments from the Public** – None
5. **Presentations** – Mr. Currey presented a plaque to Director Martinez for his 20 years of service as a Director on the Dixon Resource Conservation District, Board of Directors.
6. **DRCD/Solano RCD Water Quality Coalition (Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program)** – Monthly Reports.
 - a. **Approval of Prior Year Expenses from November 10, 2016, to December 14, 2016.**

Mr. Currey noted the total amount due on the invoice for the Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition has been reduced by the carryover from the prior year.

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

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

- b. **Activities Reports – receive staff report on prior quarter activities and upcoming events.**

Ms. Huff noted that monitoring data has been received and there were no exceedances and no chlorpyrifos was detected and she provided an update on chlorpyrifos. She reported that toxicity was observed in the water sample collected in Ulatis Creek, but the cause is not available yet.

Ms. Huff discussed data reported to the Regional Board and encouraged attendance at the sediment self-certification meeting on February 23rd. Board members discussed possible spreadsheets being developed for Regional Board reporting and hoped to have online reporting in the future. Ms. Huff and Mr. Currey responded to Board questions.

Director Viguie noted his approach to giving information is providing it to anyone as though they do not attend board meetings.

Director Martinez suggested a “Frequently Asked Questions” list on the Dixon RCD website and possibly include presentations made or videotape the sessions presented.

Ms. Huff noted about 50 people attended the Annual meeting and asked for feedback.

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Mr. Currey asked for suggestions to make the annual meeting better.

Director Martinez thought the meeting should not be any later than it was and Sustainable Groundwater Water Management (SGMA) could be excluded.

Ms. Huff noted she asked for SGMA to be discussed because staff was receiving many questions. She also noted that the Farm Evaluation and Nitrogen Management information are both on the website.

This item was filed.

7. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Report

TAKEN OUT OF ORDER. See Minutes on Page 4.

8. DRCD Consent Calendar

- a. **Approval of Minutes for the Board Meeting dated November 9, 2016.**
- b. **Approval of Expenses from November 10, 2016, to December 14, 2016, and review of the 2016 / 2017 Budget Update.**

There was no discussion on these items.

A motion was made by Director Martinez, seconded by Director Viguie 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. **Sustainable Ground Water Management Act – Receive staff report on the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) formation process and consider the proposed principles and board members.**

Mr. Currey noted the draft Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) is being reviewed. The 16 potential JPA members are being asked to make good faith contribution for start-up costs. For Dixon RCD the amount is \$2,500 to \$5,000. He discussed the possibility of applying for a loan, if Solano County Water Agency and/or Solano County will provide loans, for the continued planning, and determining cost to landowners. He explained examples, planning being done and his position is do the least amount possible to be legally complainant and for the cheapest amount as possible with the latest date possible. Mr. Currey noted that if all agencies do not participate, Solano Irrigation District will manage their own GSA. Mr. Currey responded to Board questions.

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A motion was made by Director Martinez, seconded by Director Viguie, to approve \$3,000 and to return to the Board if additional funds are needed. The motion passed as follows:

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

This item was filed.

7. TAKEN OUT OF ORDER

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Report

Ms. Rash noted that the EQIP application deadline is January 13, 2017. She reported that their first Steering and Stakeholders Committee meetings have been held for the Land Evaluation and Site Assessment (LESA) and their focus area is Cache Slough in conjunction with other projects. She noted there is no mitigation now for the loss of agricultural when it is converted to habitat, but they are reviewing mitigation values, soil, sizes of parcels, amenities, and not money at this time.

Mr. Currey noted the traditional use of LESA is to direct true ag economic value and that Yolo County's approach is different.

Ms. Rash announced the soil conservation position will be filled by Petros Maskal and discussed his background.

This item was filed.

b. 2017 Strategic Long Range Plan – Review and provide direction to staff on the Draft 2017 Strategic Long Range Plan and Additional Planning Efforts.

Mr. Currey highlighted the updates to the plan to reflect current projects. He discussed the District's priority are ditches and discussed the proposed contract with Mike Kett for ditch maintenance.

Mr. Currey expressed his concerns about not clearly addressing citizen's natural resource concerns and discussed six active projects by Solano Resource Conservation District (SRCD) in the Dixon RCD. He noted that the two Districts have a great mutual relationship and SRCD supplies services throughout Solano County if asked. His concern is the expectation from landowners that Dixon RCD's may not be clearly addressing citizen's natural resource interest in the DRCD's plans or priorities. He discussed different organizational structures, restructuring, and possibly developing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), similar to the Irrigated Lands Program, with SRCD.

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Director Martinez felt Mr. Currey's job is to do the best for the District and he felt it is fine the way it is. He noted the District is flexible and felt the focus of the District should be ditches and ditch maintenance.

Mr. Bei presented some history between SRCD and Dixon RCD.

Mr. Currey noted a recent Municipal Service Review reflected the mutual respect between the Districts by staff. The Board requested an update of the old plan, but he felt the old plan does not address all the needs of the constituents, the landowners. Mr. Currey discussed other RCD's that are now defunct because they did not change with the times and asked how people could be directed to SRCD for different types of projects.

Director Viguie suggested a MOU be prepared, preferably a simple non-binding agreement.

Mr. Currey will continue to refine the long range plan and bring back a more formal agreement with emphasis with working with SRCD.

This item was filed.

c. RCD Financial Assistance Program – Review and discuss the Department of Conservation's Draft Financial Assistance Program Guidelines and Consider Objectives for a Grant Application.

Mr. Currey discussed the grant options available to RCD's intended to improve and enhance a District's abilities to achieve their mission and discussed the two tiers of guidelines identified by the State Department of Conservation. He would like to accomplish updating the website, determine how to deliver services better and insure compliance.

Mr. Bei noted with the recent ditch rate increase, landowners want something in return.

This item was filed.

11. DRCD Staff Reports

District Manager's Report

Mr. Currey reported the following:

- Ditch invoices were mailed on December 1, 2016, and money is coming in;
- Ditch maintenance spraying was completed in November and appears good with his review. Excavation contract should be finalized shortly and debris removal inspection will be after the upcoming storm;
- Landowners request for access to DRCD's easement for a PG&E powerline;

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- The information gathered at the CARCD annual conference.
- The Chinese Ministry of Agricultural, Rural Energy and Environmental Agency's tour of Dixon RCD in regard the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program; and
- Possible grant application to quantify the groundwater recharge potential of NRCS EQIP practices.

12. **Directors Report - None**

13. **Communications - None**

14. **Upcoming Events - None**

15. **Announcements**

The next Dixon RCD Business Meeting will be **January 11, 2017, at Noon.**

16. **Adjourn Meeting**

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



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