



# Yolo County Resource Conservation District

221 West Court Street, Suite 1  
Woodland, CA 95695

phone: (530)-661-1688  
[www.yolorcd.org](http://www.yolorcd.org)

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS-REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

**Date:** Wednesday, May 11, 2016

**Time:** 5:05 pm – 7:17 pm

**Location:** Yolo County RCD Office, 221 West Court Street, Suite 1, Woodland, CA

**Directors Present:** Giovanni Ferrendelli (President), Michael Leacox (Vice President), Garth Williams (Secretary), Mark Cady, and Robin Schlosser

**Directors Absent:** none

**Associate Directors Present:** Mike Turkovich and Dwight Holford

**Associate Directors Absent:** Dave Gilmer, Ali Pahlavanian, Benjamin Leacox, Suellen Witham, and Rudy Lucero

**Others Present:** Heather Nichols, Sue McCloud, Phil Hogan, Jeanette Wrynski and Elisa Sabatini

1. **Call Meeting to Order - Giovanni Ferrendelli, President:** The meeting was called to order at 5:05pm by President Ferrendelli.
2. **Approval of Agenda and Minutes:** ACTION: Approve the agenda; MOTION: Williams, SECOND: Cady. AYES: Unanimous (Ferrendelli, Williams, Leacox, Cady, Schlosser). ACTION: Approve the minutes for the April 13, 2016 Regular Meeting; MOTION: Leacox, SECOND: Williams AYES: Unanimous (Ferrendelli, Williams, Leacox, Cady, Schlosser).
3. **Public Comment:** None
4. **Special Reports and Presentations:** RCD's work for the Westside Sac IRWMP Coordinating Committee: RCD Senior Program Manager Jeanette Wrynski explained the background of IRWMP, her work for the Coordinating Committee (CC), the CC's goals and objectives, and their first newsletter, annual report, and small grant program. Sabatini from the WRA of Yolo County, a member of the CC, spoke highly of the work Wrynski has done for the CC.
5. **Approval and Payment of Claims:** ACTION: Approval of claims; MOTION: Williams, SECOND: Cady. AYES: Unanimous (Ferrendelli, Williams, Leacox, Cady, Schlosser).
6. **Regular Reports:**
  - a. NRCS Update: Phil Hogan, NRCS District Conservationist. Hogan reported on land use trends including the rise in sales and prices of orchard and potential orchard ground, ag event center proposals, and soil mining on ag land for levee projects. EQIP contracts are being processed. Chamber of Commerce adopted agriculture as one of its missions. A career fair was hosted by FSA last week for college students from agricultural marketing and packaging programs. Hogan and Nichols spoke of career paths in agriculture and conservation.
  - b. Executive Director's Report and Upcoming Events: Heather Nichols. The RCD and a private donation are sponsoring two local high school students to attend Range Camp at Elkus Ranch this June. The Delta Conservancy and the Natural Resources Agency were given site tours of pending grant proposals. We will be transitioning over to QuickBooks at the start of the new fiscal year, and are discussing simplifying our budget with the County while maintaining project tracking internally. The CalRecycle proposal for Babel Slough was awarded. Yolo Land & Cattle would like to do some compost trials, and Nichols is working on developing a project with researchers, compost suppliers and the NRCS. Upcoming events include the Cache Creek Conservancy's Wine and Wilderness fundraiser on May 14, CLBL SLEWS Annual BBQ on May 17 at 4pm at the Farm on Putah Creek, Subsurface Drip Irrigation for Alfalfa field day on May 24<sup>th</sup> at River Gardens Farm, and Cache Creek Walk June 8-10 with the Cache Creek TAC. The first floor security system is transitioning its alarm response from a private security company to the Department of Homeland Security. The Board discussed appropriate security protocols for the non-federal RCD office space.
  - c. Board Member Reports and Comments: Ferrendelli is skeptical that non-federal tenants renting from Red Water Management were under obligation to report to Homeland Security, and that by not calling local authorities, we would receive reduced response time. He is concerned for staff safety. Nichols was asked to follow up on the issue.



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## 7. New Business:

- a. ACTION Approve new cost center and \$50,000 budget for SC01 CalRecycle grant for Babel Slough: MOTION: Cady, SECOND: Leacox. AYES: Unanimous (Ferrendelli, Williams, Leacox, Cady, Schlosser).
- b. ACTION Approve Inner Coast Range State Conservancy letter of support to CARCD: This action item was tabled for future discussion. Cady volunteered to research the topic further.

## 8. Discussion:

- a. Board input on request for comments on development proposals on ag and open space lands: The Board guided Nichols to continue to use her discretion in bringing requests for comments before the Board. The Board agreed that RCD recommendations, support and opposition of development proposals on ag and open space lands should be considered only where effects on natural resources is clear, and then only through the appropriate public review process. Individual landowner requests to support or oppose projects should typically not be considered by the RCD staff or Board members.
- b. Board Input for Upcoming Topics: none mentioned.

## 9. Confirm Next Regular Meeting Date and Location: Wednesday, June 8, 2016 at 5:05 pm at the Yolo County RCD Office.

## 10. Adjourn: Meeting was adjourned at 7:17 pm by President Ferrendelli.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by: Garth Williams, Board Secretary, and Heather Nichols, Executive Director. Approved on June 8, 2016 by the Yolo County Resource Conservation District Board.

By:

  
Board Secretary, Garth Williams