



# 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, February 10, 2016

**Time:** 5:11 pm – 7:20 pm

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

**Directors Present:** Giovanni Ferrendelli (President), Michael Leacox, Garth Williams, Suellen Witham, and Mark Cady

**Directors Absent:** none

**Associate Directors Present:** none

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

**Others Present:** Heather Nichols, Sheila Pratt, Phil Hogan, Robin Schlosser, John Roncoroni

1. **Call Meeting to Order - Giovanni Ferrendelli, President:** The meeting was called to order at 5:11pm by President Ferrendelli. Welcome and introduction of John Roncoroni, UCCE Weed Science Farm Advisor for Napa County.
  2. **Approval of Agenda and Minutes:** ACTION: Approve the agenda as presented; MOTION: Leacox, SECOND: Witham. AYES: Unanimous (Ferrendelli, Cady, Williams). ACTION: Approve the Minutes for the January 13, 2016 Regular Meeting as presented; MOTION: Williams, SECOND: Leacox. AYES: Unanimous (Ferrendelli, Cady, Witham).
  3. **Public Comment:** None.
  4. **Approval and Payment of Claims:** ACTION: Approval of claims; MOTION: Williams, SECOND: Leacox. AYES: Unanimous (Ferrendelli, Cady, Witham)
  5. **Regular Reports (20 minutes):**
    - a. **NRCS Update:** Hogan, NRCS District Conservationist. Federal 2017 budget includes an increase of \$11 million nationally for conservation planning and programs. At the Woodland Field Office, there has been a lull in EQIP contracts, with only four obligated so far under 2016 Farm Bill programs. Hogan also discussed updates on local ground water management activities.
    - b. **Executive Director's Report and Upcoming Events:** Nichols, Executive Director. Nichols described the building's vagrancy problems and the response of Homeland Security forces. Ferrendelli acknowledged this as part of a larger community issue and would like her to notify the City of Woodland Police Department to make sure they are aware of the particular recent occurrences. Nichols will be attending a CARCD sponsored leadership retreat in Ukiah March 3-5. Nichols submitted an NRCS contribution agreement request for a carbon farm plan on a local ranch and a proposal for a CalRecycle Farm and Ranch Clean-up grant in Clarksburg. She announced the RCD was invited to submit a full proposal to the Delta Conservancy grant program. Nichols reported that the Westside Sac IRWMP Coordinating Committee is becoming increasingly active, and that the RCD is developing a spring workshop with UCCE to address nitrogen use and irrigation planning for walnut and almond orchards funded by the WRA of Yolo County.
    - c. **Board Member Reports and Comments:** None
  6. **New Business:**
    - a. **\*\* Recommend Robin Schlosser to the Yolo County Board of Supervisors as a Director:** MOTION: Witham, SECOND: Leacox. AYES: Unanimous (Ferrendelli, Cady, Williams).
    - b. **\*\* Recommend Mike Turkovich to the Yolo County Resource Conservation District Board as an Associate Director:** MOTION to approve Mike Turkovich as an Associate Director: Leacox, SECOND: Williams. AYES: Unanimous (Ferrendelli, Cady, Witham).
- \*\* Approve amendment to Employee Handbook to include a Cell Phone Usage Stipend:**  
*"CELL PHONE USAGE STIPEND The RCD recognizes that the performance of certain job responsibilities may be enhanced by or may require the use of a cellular phone. Employees who hold positions that include the need for a cell phone (see eligibility criteria below) may receive a cell phone stipend to compensate for business-related costs incurred when using their individually-owned cell phones. The RCD will not own cell phones for the use of individual employees. Upon supervisory approval, staff required to use his/her own cell phone will receive*



## 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)

a \$30/month stipend for personal cellular use. The stipend will be considered a non-taxable fringe benefit to the employee. An employee is eligible for a stipend if at least one of the following criteria is met:

- The job function of the employee requires considerable time outside of his/her assigned office or work area and it is important to the RCD that s/he is accessible during those times;
- The job function of the employee requires him/her to be accessible outside of scheduled or normal working hours;
- The job function of the employee requires him/her to have wireless data and internet access; and/or
- The employee is designated as an emergency contact person."

MOTION to approve amendments that include the above language from the Tehama County RCD's employee handbook Cady, SECOND: Leacox. AYES: Unanimous (Ferrendelli, Witham, Williams)

- CARCD Capacity building grant ask: CARCD's Conservation Strategies Group may be leading a legislative action for capacity building grants for RCDs. Leacox will look into the best way to approach Senator Wolk or her staff, in preparation for the ask.
- RCD Budget and Capacity Building: Mid-year budget and capacity building status is discussed in the Board Report.

### 7. Discussion (20 minutes):

- Board Director Application and commitment renewal forms: The board approved the use of the board director application and commitment renewal forms presented by Nichols. The board suggested that the commitment renewal forms be signed by all Directors and Associate Directors annually for the October meeting, starting this year. Forms will be sent out with the October meeting board packet materials.
- RCD project tracking and Executive Director Report improvements: The board liked the project and programs tracking document presented by Nichols. It can be updated quarterly. Cady suggested adding the project's cost center code. Ferrendelli requested a large map of Yolo County with project locations marked. Leacox offered to print the map. Witham offered to review the tracking document and identify strategic plan goals that are being met.

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

9. **Adjourn**: Meeting was adjourned at 7:20 pm by President Ferrendelli.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by: Garth Williams, Board Secretary, and Heather Nichols, Executive Director. Approved on March 9, 2016 by the Yolo County Resource Conservation District Board.

By:

 4-13-16  
Board Secretary, Garth Williams