



Yolo County Resource Conservation District

221 West Court Street, Suite 1
Woodland, CA 95695

phone: (530)-661-1688
www.yolorcd.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS-REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Date: Wednesday, September 13, 2017

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), and Mark Cady,

Directors Absent: Robin Schlosser, and Mike Turkovich

Associate Directors Present:

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

Others Present: Heather Nichols, Phil Hogan, Jim Spear, Jeff Stoddard, Fanny Ye, and Sheila Pratt

1. **Call Meeting to Order - Giovanni Ferrendelli, President:** The meeting was called to order at 5:05 pm by President Ferrendelli. Introduction of Jim Spear, NRCS Area 1 Conservationist, and Jeff Stoddard, California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW).
2. **Approval of Agenda and Minutes:** ACTION: Approve the agenda as presented; MOTION: Leacox, SECOND: Cady. AYES: Unanimous (Ferrendelli, Leacox, Cady). ACTION: Approve the minutes for the July 2017 Regular Meeting as presented; MOTION: Cady, SECOND: Leacox. AYES: Unanimous (Ferrendelli, Leacox, Cady). ACTION: Approve the minutes for the August 2017 Regular Meeting as presented; MOTION: Leacox, SECOND: Cady. AYES: Unanimous (Ferrendelli, Leacox, Cady).
3. **Public Comment:** None
4. **Special Presentation:** Jim Spear, NRCS Area 1 Conservationist. Jim discussed the USDA reorganization at the national level and the effect it will have on the states. The federal hiring freeze has led to a reduction of 500 NRCS staff positions nationwide with California down by 95 employees. Spear pointed out that partnerships with the RCDs, Point Blue Conservation Science, and Cooperation Extension have been essential to filling gaps in capacity to keep technical service available to farmers and ranchers.
5. **Approval and Payment of Claims:** ACTION: Approval of July and August claims; MOTION: Leacox, SECOND: Cady. AYES: Unanimous (Ferrendelli, Leacox, Cady).
6. **Regular Reports:**
 - a. **NRCS Update:** Hogan, NRCS District Conservationist. Hogan provided a summary of resource concerns addressed during their last fiscal year. Fanny Ye, Woodland Field Office Soil Conservationist gave an update on the rice and water bird program.
 - b. **Executive Director's Report and Upcoming Events:** Nichols, Executive Director. Dwight Holford is resigning as an associate director due to illness. Suellen Witham has also resigned. Robin Schlosser is working out of town more frequently and may need to start attending board meetings remotely. Nichols has spent most of the last month writing grant proposals. She has also reviewed changes in RCD's health care options with Wraith, Scarlett & Randolph Insurance, met with and reviewed the RCD's SIMPLE IRA Plans with financial advisor Fred Hymans, who has moved to Securities America. RCD staff will attend a Knights Landing community meeting with county staff to discuss upcoming maintenance activities on CSA-6 levee. The RCD purchased two, 12 month seats on ArcGIS software through ESRI's conservation program at a reduced cost. Nichols is working with Point Blue Conservation Science staff and Scott Stone to submit a CDFA Healthy Soils Program grant. The RCD was awarded a grant from the retailer Patagonia for \$12,500 for carbon farm planning. Sacramento Valley fall meeting is Oct 17th in Colusa. Jeff Stoddard (CDFW) said that the contract will be signed before he leaves for Redding.
 - i. **Financial Report:** detailed update from Sue is in the board packet. Dashboard was updated and includes development pursuits.
 - c. **Board Member Reports and Comments:** Good job on development pursuits.
7. **New Business:**



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- a. Approve Annual Work Plan for FY17/18: ACTION: Approval Annual Work Plan; MOTION: Cady, SECOND: Leacox. AYES: Unanimous (Ferrendelli, Leacox, Cady). Discussion: The plan focuses on capacity building, program development, and better long term planning for stability.
8. **Discussion:**
 - a. RCD Policy Updates: Nichols handed out copies of RCD's current policies. RCD has all legally required policies, however, there are a number of policies that will be reviewed and updated in the near future to address the evolving needs of the district.
9. **Confirm Next Regular Meeting Date and Location**: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 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: Mark Cady, Board Secretary, and Heather Nichols, Executive Director. Approved on October 11, 2017 by the Yolo County Resource Conservation District Board.

By:


Board Secretary, Mark Cady