



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 BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Date: Wednesday, January 18, 2023

Time: 5:10 to 6:50 pm

Location: (Hybrid): Yolo County RCD Office, 221 Court Street, Suite 1, Woodland CA

Directors Present: Mark Cady (President), Mike Turkovich (Vice President), Miranda Driver, Anya Perron-Burdick (Secretary)

Directors Absent: Eric Willson, Jake Campos (Associate Director)

Others Present: Heather Nichols, Lani Fulcher, Nick Gallagher, Tanya Meyer, Conor Higgins

- 1. Call Meeting to Order and Introductions** – The meeting was called to order at 5:10 pm by Mark Cady (President).
- 2. **Approval to Restate Resolution 2021-01:** ACTION: Approve Resolution 2021-01 for an additional 30 days to continue to allow virtual meetings because the YCRCD has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency and finds that state and local officials continue to recommend social distancing. MOTION: Ms. Perron-Burdick; SECOND: Ms. Driver; AYES: Unanimous (Cady, Driver, Peron-Burdick, Turkovich).
- 3. Approval of Agenda and Minutes:** ACTION: Approve the January agenda as presented. MOTION: Mr. Turkovich; SECOND: Ms. Perron-Burdick; AYES: Unanimous (Cady, Driver, Peron-Burdick, Turkovich) ACTION: approve the minutes of the December meeting as presented. MOTION: Mr. Turkovich; SECOND: Ms. Peron-Burdick; AYES: Unanimous (Cady, Driver, Peron-Burdick, Turkovich).
- 4. Public Comment:** This is time reserved for the public to address the RCD Board on matters not on the agenda (Gov. Code 54954.3(a)). There was no public comment.
- 5. Ratify/Approve Expenditures (List of Checks) and Wire Transfer of Funds:** Mr. Turkovich reviewed expenditures. ACTION: Ratify/approve expenditures as presented; MOTION: Ms. Peron-Burdick; SECOND: Ms. Driver; AYES: Unanimous (Cady, Driver, Peron-Burdick, Turkovich).
- 6. Special Presentation:** Conor Higgins gave a presentation overview of the Sutter-Yolo Mobile Irrigation Lab. The program provides irrigation evaluations, pump testing, and farmer education to promote water and energy conservation. There is no cost to the grower, and it is offered in Yolo, Yuba, Sutter, and Colusa counties, in English, Spanish, and Punjabi. Participant growers receive pressure and flow testing, distribution uniformity rating, measurements of plugs and leaks, as well as recommendations for system improvements and maintenance. As it is not peak irrigation season yet, Conor is continuing irrigation evaluations, increasing outreach and workshops, coordinating free pump efficiency testing, and participating in training.
- 7. Regular Reports:**

- a. NRCS District Conservationist's Report: Mr. Nick Gallagher, the interim District Conservationist, reported on his first few weeks on the job and his outlook for the near future. Beyond cleaning and organizing 30 years' worth of items, Mr. Gallagher dealt with a significant water leak which flooded the offices. Mr. Gallagher noted their staff are excited to be working in a high-functioning operation including the addition of a new engineer from the Pathways Conversion program. Future funding looks good with more money coming to the NRCS and a high percentage coming to California. There will be a small amount this year with a large increase next year. The mission of NRCS is to address conservation concerns—environmental problems—and currently most inquiries involve people needing funding. Right now, the focus is on climate, irrigation, and tractors. Mr. Gallagher concluded with the inquiry as to what the Board would like to hear from him in future reports. He received positive feedback to continue similarly at future meetings.
- b. RCD Executive Director's Report: Ms. Nichols noted that staff pivoted over the last few weeks to planning, reporting, invoicing, grant-writing and training while the creeks, hills and fields soak in the much-needed water. There is time to tour the watershed, sites, and projects if they are accessible. Field days with SLEWS are delayed and the major restoration project at Grizzly Slough on a flood plain adjacent to the Cosumnes River is under several feet of water now and in a holding pattern. The habitat corridors project on the Yolo Bypass Area closed out December 31st and should be benefitting from the Fremont Weir overtopping. She reported on new leadership at both Yolo Land Trust and CARCD. Ms. Nichols updated the status of two recent WCB applications—the CARCD block grant consideration was delayed and the North Regional Pond habitat enhancement proposal for \$1.4 million was submitted. Future proposals for Cal Fire funding include a wildfire program involving fuels reduction. Ms. Nichols reported that the search is continuing to fill working group positions in the Natural and Working Lands Group as part of the Yolo County Climate Action and Adaption Plan. The goal is to ensure that three positions are filled by people with an agricultural/farm/ranch experience so that the agriculture voices are heard at the Climate Action Commission discussions.
- i. Monthly financial report: Ms. Nichols reported that the financial audit is near completion; and Perry, Bunch & Johnston are working on the State Controller's Report which is due January 30. Quarterly invoicing is near completion and she hopes to have quarterly financials for the February meeting; by that time RCD will be through half of the year. While income payments were slow over the holidays, the biggest quarter invoice was paid very recently and she has assurances that other payments will be received in the next few weeks.
- c. Board member reports and comments: There were no Board member reports or comments.

8. New Business:

- a. ** Approve new cost center FSC01: Community Clean Air Program for inclusion in Annual Budget for FY2022-23 for \$3,800.00: MOTION: Ms. Peron-Burdick; SECOND: Mr. Turkovich; AYES: Unanimous (Cady, Driver, Peron-Burdick, Turkovich).
- b. ** Approve new cost center PL16: Rainwater Ranch for inclusion in Annual Budget for FY2022-23 for \$4,770: MOTION: Ms. Peron-Burdick; SECOND: Mr. Turkovich; AYES: Unanimous (Cady, Driver, Peron-Burdick, Turkovich).
- c. ** Approve new cost center PL18: Good Humus for inclusion in Annual Budget for FY2022-23 for \$4,070: MOTION: Ms. Peron-Burdick; SECOND: Mr. Turkovich; AYES: Unanimous (Cady, Driver, Peron-Burdick, Turkovich).



Yolo County Resource Conservation District

221 West Court Street, Suite 1
Woodland, CA 95695

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

9. Confirm Next Meeting Date and Location: Wednesday, February 15, 2023 at 5:05pm.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by: Anya Perron-Burdick, Board Secretary, and Heather Nichols, Executive Director. Approved on February 15, 2023 by the Yolo County Resource Conservation District Board.

By:

Secretary, Anya Perron-Burdick