

**SUISUN RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING**

HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2018 AT 2:00 PM  
SOLANO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISOR'S CHAMBERS  
675 TEXAS STREET  
FAIRFIELD, CA 94533

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:** **Tony Vaccarella**  
**Arnold Lenk**  
**Mike Lewis**  
**Jim Waters**

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Dennis Becker, SRCD Associate Director  
Steven Chappell, SRCD  
Tim Edmunds, SRCD  
Mike Frost, Frost Construction  
Michal Koller, DWR  
Phelan McKinney, SRCD  
Kelli Perez, SRCD  
Melissa Riley, DFW  
Orlando Rocha, DFW  
John Takekawa, SRCD  
Lauren Barthman-Thompson, DFW

**1. Call to Order** ~ The Suisun Resource Conservation District Board of Directors called the meeting to order at 2:11 PM.

**2. Public Comments** ~ A member of the public asked if the ruling on the Pt. Buckler court case reported in the newspaper would be discussed at today's meeting? The Board responded that it was not on the meeting agenda and would not be discussed.

**3. Open Session** ~

**a) Approval of the December 13, 2017 Board Meeting Minutes** ~

A motion to approve the minutes from the December 13, 2017 Board meeting was made by Mr. Lenk and seconded by Mr. Lewis; all were in favor and the motion carried.

**4. Financial Reports** ~

**a) Approval of Vendor Claims for December 2017** ~ Mr. Chappell reported the December 2017 General Fund vendor claims total as \$188,931.52. Mr. Lenk made a motion to approve the December General Fund vendor claims for \$188,931.52 and Mr. Waters seconded the motion; all were in favor and the motion carried. Mr. Chappell reported the December 2017 LJI vendor claims for \$6,550.54. Mr. Lenk made a motion to approve the December 2017 LJI vendor claims for \$6,550.54 and Mr. Lewis seconded the motion; all were in favor and the motion carried. Mr. Chappell reported the December 2017 Special Revenue vendor claims total as \$26,870.98. Mr. Lenk made a motion to approve the December 2017 Special Revenue vendor claims total for \$26,870.98, and Mr. Lewis seconded the motion; all were in favor and the motion carried.

**b) Second Quarter FY 17/18 Budget Summary Review** ~ Mr. Chappell reviewed the revenue and expenditures for each of the departments of the SRCD General Fund and Special Revenue Fund for the second quarter of fiscal year 17/18.

**5. Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) Report** ~ Mr. Rocha presented the DFW report for Grizzly Island Wildlife Area. Waterfowl hunting has been consistent with 1,464 birds harvested since last month's report. GIWA has had 3,987 hunters to date for 6,297 ducks with an average of 1.58 ducks / hunter (88 geese – up from last year, mostly white-fronted geese). Top birds in the bag changed from shovelers last month, to teal and wigeon this month. The junior waterfowl hunt was held on December 27, and had a total of 17 junior hunters (10 with reservations). The Joice Island pig hunt applications are again being taken online and are due on February 14<sup>th</sup>. The pond 11 pump is now running and flooding the ponds enabling DFW to open 3 of the blind sites. Discussion ensued.

**6. Department of Water Resources Report** ~ Mr. Michael Koller distributed the

DWR Suisun Marsh briefing packet and reviewed the contents starting with the Delta Tributary average flows and Suisun Marsh salinity conditions for the month of December 2017 and thru the first week of January 2018. Mr. Koller reviewed for the Board, a DWR Suisun Marsh facilities operation update, discussed the below average 2017 winter precipitation amounts and reservoir levels for prior and current month. Some discussion ensued.

## **7. Suisun Resource Conservation District Reports ~**

### **a) 2015 Suisun Marsh Preservation Agreement Update and PAI Grant Program Update ~**

Mr. Chappell reported that the SMP Principals meeting is scheduled for January 11<sup>th</sup>. SRCD just received the reimbursement from DWR for the 3<sup>rd</sup> batch of PAI completed projects. The release of the 2018 PAI Cost Share Program will be held until the renewal of the Regional General Permit 3 is complete. SRCD will review the 2017 Program application for any needed revisions to address Board approved changes or clarifications in the PAI Program Policy and Procedures.

**b) Suisun Marsh Plan Update ~** Mr. Chappell stated all is quiet. DWR is currently preparing a Public Access Assessment Study, as a condition of the BCDC permit for the Tule Red Restoration project. SRCD will be active in its development to ensure it is protective of private landowner's interests and wildlife resources. Mr. Chappell has requested the establishment of a quarterly meeting with BCDC for improved coordination and communications. DWR, DFW, DSC, and SRCD will participate.

**c) USACE Permits ~ RGP3 & LOP Update ~** Mr. Chappell reported that the permit renewal recently has been his primary focus. On the 20<sup>th</sup> of December, the USACE sent a consistency determination letter to BCDC for the RGP 3 renewal. BCDC placed this item on the Commission agenda for consideration and there were no issues raised. BCDC chief counsel stated that BCDC would be able to write a concurrence letter starting on January 8 to allow the permit to be issued in a few days. Mr. Taylor and Mr. Chappell reviewed the draft RGP3 permit and provided updates and comments to the Corps. The RGP 3 401 Certification fee was recommended by Regional Water Quality Control Board staff to be \$400 the first year and \$200 annually for the remaining four years. Mr. Taylor and Mr. Chappell met with State Lands staff to deliver the State Lands lease report for the 2017 dredging activities. State Lands staff is going to review SRCD's lease and if possible to reduce the volume of information required in future reports. Some discussion ensued.

### **d) Consider Request for SRCD to Support the Water Supply and Water Quality Act of 2018 Bond ~**

Mr. Mateo Crowe, coordinator for the November ballot initiative requested that the SRCD Board consider supporting the Water Supply and Quality Act of 2018. The November bond is \$8.87B. The June ballot also has \$4B park bond, which SRCD has not been requested to take a position. Mr. Chappell was aware the CWA had taken a position of support for this Bond, so he asked Mr. Mark Hennelly (CWA VP Leg Affairs) for information as to why CWA supported it. In the Board meeting package, Mr. Chappell provided CWA's information and Mr. Crowe for

consideration and discussion. Mr. Chappell also requested that Mr. Bill Gaines with Gaines and Associates review the Bond initiative and provide an analysis. Discussion ensued. There are significant funds directed toward San Francisco Bay Wetlands Restoration and Flood Management. The Bond also states that no funds can be expended for new Delta water conveyance facilities including water storage facility. It is unclear if Suisun is included in some of these allocations, although any supplemental fresh water flows for fisheries in the Delta will directly benefit Suisun Marsh. Lastly, the proposed Pacific Flyway Center has \$20M in the Bond and a \$4M endowment. Mr. Lenk expressed concern that the Bond could be modified prior to passage to strip away current restrictions. Mr. Chappell stated it was his understanding that the package was negotiated by Legislature and was set, but he will ask Mr. Gaines for clarification if it could be changed. Mr. Lenk stated he would like more time for a better review of the measure before considering support. The Board agreed to delay an action. Mr. Chappell said he would ask Mr. Gaines to attend the next Board meeting to discuss the Bond further. No action was taken and the item will be carried forward to a future Board meeting for consideration.

**e) Water Manager Program Update** ~ Mr. Takekawa reported on the draft Suisun RCD website, due to funding from the Department of Conservation Financial Assistance Grant. He reported on completion of integration of our email system to Microsoft365 Exchange. He noted Mr. Love is finishing the Geomorph update, Mr. Taylor compiled the draft Fall 2017 Water Quality Report, and Mr. Edmunds submitted the monthly Chemical Use Report. SRCD staff conducted the Audubon's Christmas Bird Count at Lower Joice Island on December 18. Mr. Takekawa submitted the public notice for the public works pre-qualification application requirement. Water manager truck repairs were estimated as \$2,600, he is working on developing a draft replacement schedule for future discussion. Finally, the Annual SF Bay Midwinter Aerial Waterfowl Survey is scheduled for this week.

**f) Lower Joice Island Update** ~ Mr. Takekawa reported on some of the LJI Caretaker's work activities, which included Hunt Group support; continued maintenance work on facilities systems, equipment, and grounds; restoration of the popped Bancroft blind in the north unit, and sanitation system maintenance. The sale of JD 350 Dozer to Pete Smith was finalized with final disposal scheduled for late January. He is working on LJI commuter boat problems, and the Massey-Ferguson is still at Wetland Construction waiting for maintenance. Mr. Takekawa also looked at sources for construction barges to review and compare maintenance costs of existing barge. Mr. Takekawa reported the LJI Hunt Group success in January was at 81 ducks for 36 total hunters. That's a bird average of 2.25 compared with 1.05 in December.

**g) Summary of Past & Future Meetings, Tours, and Presentations** ~ Mr. Chappell reported attending a Pacific Flyway Center meeting on Tuesday January 9, and stated that the project is moving forward with the land exchange of Mendoza and Bent Barrel duck clubs now owned by DFW, and part of DFW Garibaldi is now owned by the Pacific Flyway Center. Mr. Chappell stated that the retirement lunch for

Operations Manager Bruce Wickland is set for February 21<sup>st</sup> at Rush Ranch – Mike Souza will be barbequing. Some discussion ensued.

**8. Suisun Resource Conservation District Committee Reports ~**

a) **Agency Committee** ~ No report.

b) **Legal Committee** ~ No report.

c) **Personnel Committee** ~ No report.

d) **Finance Committee** ~ No report

e) **Associate Directors Report and Public Relations Committee** ~ Associate Director Dennis Becker stated that Brian Hunter, former CDFW Regional Manager, passed away in October. Mr. Hunter lost his house in the Napa fires 5 days prior to passing.

**9. Closed Session** ~ Conference with Legal Counsel – One case – Potential Litigation (Gov. Code Section 4956.9 (c)). Open session was closed at 3:48 PM.

**10. Reconvene** ~ Board reported no action was taken in Closed Session.

**11. Adjourn** ~ Meeting adjourned at 4:25 PM.