

## **MINUTES**

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

HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 11, 2018 AT 2:00 PM  
RUSH RANCH  
3521 GRIZZLY ISLAND ROAD  
SUISUN CITY, CA 94585

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

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Dennis Becker, CDFW retired  
Steven Chappell, SRCD  
Tim Edmunds, SRCD  
Rhiannon Klingonsmith, DWR  
Kelli Perez, SRCD  
Melissa Riley, CDFW  
Ted Swift, DWR  
John Takekawa, SRCD  
Jeff Taylor, SRCD  
Laureen Barthman-Thompson, CDFW  
Larry Wyckoff, CDFW

**1. Call to Order ~** The Suisun Resource Conservation District Board of Directors called the meeting to order at 2:06 PM.

**2. Public Comments ~** None.

**3. Open Session ~**

**a) Approval of the June 13, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes ~**

A motion to approve the minutes from the June 13, 2018 Board meeting was made by Mr. Waters and seconded by Mr. Lenk; all were in favor and the motion carried.

**4. Financial Reports ~**

**a) Approval of Vendor Claims for June 2018 ~** Mr. Chappell reported that the June 2018 General Fund vendor claims total was \$66,076.44. Mr. Connolly made a motion to approve the June General Fund vendor claims for \$66,076.44, and Mr. Lenk seconded the motion with a numbering correction on the claims; all were in favor and the motion carried. Mr. Chappell reported the June 2018 LJI vendor claims for \$27,683.23 of normal expenses with clubhouse improvements and flapgate replacement. Mr. Connolly made a motion to approve the June 2018 LJI vendor claims for \$27,683.23, and Mr. Lenk seconded the motion; all were in favor and the motion carried. Mr. Chappell reported the June 2018 Special Revenue vendor claims total as \$21,101.66. Mr. Connolly made a motion to approve the June 2018 Special Revenue vendor claims total for \$21,101.66, and Mr. Lenk seconded the motion; all were in favor and the motion carried.

**b) For Board Consideration: FY 2016-2017 Draft Audit** Mr. Chappell presented the draft FY 16/17 SRCD audit to the Board. Mr. Chappell recognized Ms. Perez for all of her hard work in completing the audit with Cropper and Cropper Accounting Services. Mr. Connolly, as chair of finance committee reported on the draft audit. The SRCD CalPERS pension plan requires extra work and cost to comply with GASB 68 SRCD cost share liability assessment reporting. SRCD received a "clean audit report" and is in good financial condition. A Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) statement provides an overall view of SRCD. Budgeting is done on near-term cash, and SRCD has a positive fund balance. The SRCD's quarterly Solano County IFIS statements are more helpful than the annual audit, since these results come much later the current fiscal year. Discussion ensued. Mr. Connolly proposed to adapt the draft audit, and Mr. Lenk seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried and the FY16/17 audit report was adopted.

**c) For Board Consideration: To enter into a new five-year copier lease and maintenance contract ~ Wizix Technology** Mr. Chappell presented a new proposed 5-year copier lease and maintenance agreement with Wizix Technology. The agreement included a Savin C2504ex copier with maintenance for 60 months, toner, shipping, and removal of the old unit. The monthly cost is less than the current copier

lease. Mr. Waters proposed to adopt the motion, and Mr. Lewis seconded the motion; all were in favor and the motion carried.

**d) For Board Consideration: SRCD FY 2018/2019 Draft Budgets** Mr. Chappell presented the draft FY 18/19 budgets in June to the Board. The only change in the July version included a health care increase from an estimated 5% to an actual increase of 20.06% in all the SRCD program budgets. An adjustment was made to add the replacement costs for the Executive Director's Chevy Tahoe with >220,000 miles. This year's revenue will not completely offset the vehicle purchase, so the balance will be taken from the SRCD General Fund balance. Also, costs for cleaning of the SRCD offices was included in the budget. The Water Manager program and Lower Joice Island budgets were the same, except for Lower Joice Island, where we increased costs from \$4000 to \$12000 with added bulkhead costs. Mr. Connolly moved to approve the budget as presented, and Mr. Lenk seconded the motion; all were in favor, the budget was approved.

**5. Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) Report** ~ Ms. Riley read the DFW report. Staff is busy preparing for elk season, and the Rocky Mt. Elk Foundation is providing a grant for habitat improvements. Managed wetland maintenance activities are being conducted, including CWA project for swales in Pond 3 to improve drainage and circulation, and possibly opening two new areas for hunting. Exterior levee repairs were being completed on Hill Slough – contractor is placing materials to improve the access road to the breached levee location. USGS is finishing summer nest searching: as of June 22<sup>nd</sup>, results included 339 nests, 47 currently active, and including 176 mallards and 139 gadwalls. Crews will be moving to banding activities.

**6. Department of Water Resources Report** ~ Mr. Swift distributed the DWR Suisun Marsh briefing packet. There is no salinity standard for June. Current salinities in the Marsh are ranging from 3.1-10.8 mS/cm. Net delta outflow was 11,908 cfs, which is relatively high for this time of year, resulting in relatively low Marsh salinities. CVP and SWP exports were between 778 and 2,707 cfs. Roaring River Distribution System (RRDS) West Drain construction commenced on 1-15 June, and alternative access routes were in effect. Construction is set to be completed by 31 July. The Suisun Marsh Salinity Control Gates (SMSCG), are planned for operation in August, and flashboards will be installed during the first week of July. Mowing was completed on the Morrow Island Distribution System (MIDS), and pre- and post-emergent was applied. Goodyear Slough Outfall (GYSO) intakes were cleared on 13 and 18 June, and intakes will be cleared monthly as needed. Levee mowing has been completed, and pre- and post-emergent is applied as weather permits. The reservoir storage was reported with most at historical averages with the exception of Oroville (78%). Precip for the current year in the Northern Sierra is below historical average with warmer water but at about 40" or 80%, and the Southern Sierra is at 75-80% of the historical average.

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

**a) 2015 Suisun Marsh Preservation Agreement Update and PAI Grant Program Update** ~ Mr. Chappell reported that all is going well, and the SMP Principals meeting was skipped in June. There are no issues to report. An additional 12 PAI cost-share projects were reviewed, and 11 were approved, while three projects have been completed. The revised total PAI requests this year have been \$649,168 for the 75/25 program, \$149,519 for the 50/50 cost-share program, and \$188,410 for the JUF 75/25 program. The total estimated cost-share amount is \$987,000. The second meeting of the PAI Review Committee was held on 22 June, and the 11 approved proposals were approved by USBR and DWR. Mr. Lenk stated that the 2018 PAI exterior water control improvement project on property 805/806 Grey Island was within Reclamation District 2127 and the Reclamation District was unaware of a proposed project. Mr. Chappell recommended that the Reclamation District coordinate directly with the landowner on the proposed project.

**b) Suisun Marsh Plan Update** ~ Mr. Chappell reported on permit renewal and nothing new was reported. Wings Landing, Bradmoor, Hill Slough, and Tule Red restoration updates were discussed.

**c) USACE Permits -- RGP3 Renewal, LOP Permit Update** ~ Mr. Chappell reported that the April and May monthly application packages were approved. The June package was submitted at the end of the month with less than 10 applications. Early in July the 2018 LOP dredging permit was submitted to USACE, RWQCB and BCDC. Mr. Taylor helped submit this permit application, but dredging can't start before 1 August or until all the permits are issued.

**d) Water Manager Program Update** ~ Mr. Takekawa reported on the Water Manager Program. Portable pumps were deployed as clubs requested the support. SRCD prepared and submitted June requests for the Corp permit applications. The SCF Fun Shoot committee including Mr. Chappell, Mr. Takekawa, Mr. Bud Tonneson, and Mr. Bill Brush met on June 26<sup>th</sup> to discuss preparations for the July 27<sup>th</sup> Fun Shoot and assign tasks. Work on the Managed Wetland Assessment project continued with surveys completed on 99% of Priority 1 Areas, and 95% of Priority 2 Areas, and 40% of Priority 3 Areas. SRCD and CWA have reviewed the data and submitted to RMA, our modeling partner during the second week of July.

Mr. Chappell, Mr. Takekawa, and Mr. Taylor attended a meeting at the Morrow Island Land Company on June 27<sup>th</sup> to discuss plans for their 2018 wetland management. On July 2<sup>nd</sup> SRCD completed assistance in Diversion Reports online to the Delta Watermaster. SRCD Water Managers worked with the Delta Watermaster to contact all clubs who had not submitted 2017 reports, and we provided updates. The Watermaster

suggested that there were several landowners lacking 2016 reports, and those may be subject to fines up to \$500 per day. SRCD also tried to indicate where ownership has changed, and their database had not been updated. On June 20<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Chappell, Mr. Takekawa, and Mr. Taylor met with at Tetra Tech with the partners working on the DO Water Quality studies. A summary update was provided, and discussion included setting a schedule for completing the project. On June 28<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Takekawa met with Ms. Paradis, Solano County Parks Ranger to discuss improving facilities and habitats at Belden's Landing boat launch. SRCD agreed to work with Solano County Parks on a proposal to improve the facilities and focus public use in an area that already had extensive use. On July 6<sup>th</sup>, SRCD met with Parks Manager Chris Drake and initiated development of a grant proposal. Mr. Takekawa had a call on July 3<sup>rd</sup> to discuss shorebird management in the Marsh with Monica Iglecia of Manomet Bird Observatory. She agreed to provide a talk at our September Landowner Workshop and to discuss options for complementary shorebird surveys and management. On July 6<sup>th</sup>, Karen Backe of USGS provided a training session on use of a RTK GPS survey unit. The Real-Time Kinematic GPS units provide elevations within 1-2" of vertical accuracy, allowing detailed information that can be used for habitat management.

The next landowner workshop will be held on September 5<sup>th</sup> focused on the recent results of the applied studies in the Marsh. We have invited Dr. Karin Kettenring from Utah State University to Phragmites control and management. Thanks to the Suisun Conservation Fund for offering to support their travel to attend. Mr. McKinney provided drafts of the newsletter for comments.

**e) Lower Joice Island Update** ~ Mr. Takekawa provided the Lower Joice Island update. We completed the septic system renovation on 27 June. The work was completed under budget. Good Samaritan Electric installed the electrical and two outdoor floodlights for the main dock. Equipment repairs continued for the upcoming work season. Wetlands Construction completed excavator bucket repair on July 10<sup>th</sup>.

On June 27<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Chappell, Mr. Takekawa, Mr. Mouton, and Mr. Mike Kelly toured Lower Joice Island to prepare a plan for summer work. We agreed to start the work on 15 July. During late June, all of the gates on the island were closed to complete dry-down of the ditches in the club. Mr. Takekawa met with Ambrose Solar from Vacaville on July 11<sup>th</sup> to discuss the current solar system and possible updating to improve its performance. Repairs of the current system were scheduled for Friday July 13<sup>th</sup>.

**f) Summary of Past & Future Meetings, Tours, and Presentations** ~ Mr. Chappell reported that the Fun Shoot is soliciting donations, and we are putting together the program. Mr. Chappell will be meeting with regulatory agencies in a fieldtrip August 17<sup>th</sup>. The Central Valley JV will meet at Grizzly Ranch on August 9<sup>th</sup>. The Landowner meeting will be at PF Smith's off 680 on September 5<sup>th</sup>.

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

**a) Agency Committee** ~ Mr. Lenk reported that FEMA staff had demobilized last month, and now CalOES has stepped in, but there has been no response. The fires last fall and the summer have caused a backlog problem, and there is no progress on funding for Jan 2017 flood issues. Discussion ensued.

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

**c) Personnel Committee** ~ For Board Consideration: Update SRCD Personnel Policy ~ Modified SRCD Work Schedule. Alternative work schedules – Maxiflex time allows provides the ability for working longer than 8h in a day but no more than 80 h in a 2-week period. Also, a 5-4/9 is provided for every other Friday off. Each of the work schedules may be offered on a case-by-case basis if approved in writing by the Executive Director. The proposal is geared to efficiency. The policy changes are in the handout. Mr. Waters asked about uniformity for each department (all or none) and that was not indicated by the review by the counsel. Mr. Waters requested a written confirmation from the County attorney, and the update was continued to the next meeting for that information could be obtained. That written confirmation will be requested.

**d) Finance Committee** ~ Mr. Connolly provided his report earlier.

**e) Associate Directors Report and Public Relations Committee** ~ No report.

## **9. Adjourn ~ 3:42 PM**