

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

HELD ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH, 2025 AT 2:00 PM
SOLANO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISOR'S CHAMBERS
675 TEXAS STREET
FAIRFIELD, CA 94533

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Mike Lewis
H. Kent Hansen
Dick Vanderkous

OTHERS PRESENT: Steven Chappell, SRCD
Kevin Clark, DWR
John Eudy, SRCD Assoc. Dir.
Mike Frost, Frost Ranch
Marina Guzman, SRCD
Desmond Mackell, SRCD
Caitlin Perez, SRCD
Kelli Perez
Melissa Riley, DFW
Orlando Rocha, DFW
Jamel Stewart, DWR
Kathy Su, DFW

1. **Call to Order** ~ Mr. Lewis called the Suisun Resource Conservation District Board of Directors meeting to order at 2:03 PM.
2. **Public Comments** ~ Mr. Lewis asked if there were any public comments. Mr. Chappell reported the passing of Director Jim Waters.
3. **Open Session** ~ Mr. Lewis opened the Board of Directors meeting for September 10, 2025. Mr. Lewis asked for consideration of agenda Item 3a.
 - a) Approval of the August 13, 2025, Board Meeting Minutes ~ Mr. Lewis asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the Board meeting of August 13, 2025. A motion was made by Mr. Hansen and seconded by Mr. Vanderkous to approve; all were in favor and the motion carried.

4. Financial Reports ~

- a) Approval of Vendor Claims for August 2025 ~ Mr. Chappell reported the August 2025 SRCD General Fund vendor claims totaled \$125,120.80. Expenses were regular general fund operations, SRCD salaries, or reimbursable contract expenses. Claim #28 was for aerial Phragmites spraying for private landowners and DWR Tule Red site under a reimbursable contract. Mr. Chappell reported the August 2025 Lower Joice Island vendor claims totaled \$9,209.02. All expenses were normal LJI operational and salary expenses. Mr. Chappell reported the August 2025 Water Managers Program vendor claims totaled \$30,060.44. All expenses were Water Managers operational and salary expenses. Discussion ensued. Mr. Hansen moved to approve the vendor claim summaries as presented. Mr. Vanderkous seconded the motion, all were in favor, and the motion carried.

5. **Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) Report** ~ Mr. Orlando Rocha presented the DFW report.

Elk Season: The fundraiser bull was shot last month on August 16th. The bull was a 9x9 and weighed 693 pounds. The hunter is very pleased with the bull, they have scored the bull and say it will be the new world record, archery, nontypical Tule elk! They still have to go through the official drying period and then official scoring to see if that claim is true.

Regular public hunts resumed September 4th. All hunters have been successful so far. We are at the halfway point as of today. So far 19 animals have been harvested, leaving 19 animals in the coming weeks.

Flood Up: Grizzly Island has started flooding up and has flooded about 1,000 acres

already. We are seeing large flocks of Green Winged Teal, Mallard and Pintail, with more and more birds showing every day.

Grizzly Intake Project: Work on the Grizzly Ditch fish screen intakes has resumed.

Meetings: On August 26th we held our Region 3 public hunter meeting, this was an online meeting that was attended by hunters who were interested in updates from GIWA and Yolo Wildlife Areas. This annual meeting to updates hunters on work completed, future projects, and potential changes to the upcoming hunt seasons.

SRCD Landowner workshop, CDFW will be attending and giving an update on Suisun hunt numbers, completed and future projects.

Pumps: CDFW's newest pump #7, was repaired with additional support to the discharge pipe. This project was completed just in time for flooding to begin in our pond 12 closed zone.

6. Department of Water Resources Report ~ Mr. Jamel Stewart presented the DWR Suisun Marsh briefing packet.

The Progressive Daily Mean salinities in the Marsh ranged from 5.8-15.4mS/cm. Salinity monitoring station S-97 remained offline while Cygnus was at 16.3 mS/cm. At the end of August, the net Delta outflow was 5,490 cfs. As of September 7th, salinities in the Marsh ranged from 5.5-16.5 mS/cm, and Delta outflow had decreased to 5,102 cfs. There are no Suisun Marsh salinity standards for the month of August.

Delta Field Division (DFD) staff cleaned fish screens at Roaring River Distribution System on August 14, 15, 18, 20, 22, 25, 27 and 29. DFD staff also closed the East and West drains on August 21st to get stages higher for fall flood up.

The Morrow Island Distribution System had a clearance survey done for upcoming sediment removal work in the M-line ditch. Sediment was removed and vegetation was cleared around Morrow Island Land Co. turnout on August 26th. DFD staff closed the intake gates on August 27th at SRCD's request.

Goodyear Slough Outfall DFD staff conducted a clearance survey for upcoming removal of floating debris in front of the inlet. DFD staff also cleaned intakes on August 6th. The Suisun Marsh Salinity Control Gates suspended tidal operations for Summer-Fall Delta smelt Action on August 25th. Tidal operations resumed on September 5th due to the 7-day extension of the Summer-Fall Delta smelt Action under the Incidental Take Permit. Montezuma Day Use Area had landscape maintenance performed by DFD staff. Discussion ensued.

California reservoir capacity in August ranged from 53-79% of average in the northern Sierra and 29-94% in the southern Sierra. For the new water year, precipitation year to date was 106% of average for the northern Sierra and 80% for the San Joaquin area.

7. Suisun Resource Conservation District Reports ~

- a) 2015 Suisun Marsh Preservation Agreement ~Mr. Chappell participated in the quarterly E-CAT meeting on September 9th. Mr. Chappell attended the Applicant's Compliance Team meeting on August 19th; everything is up to date. Mr. Chappell reached out to SRCD's water attorney to review the draft SRCD letter for the update of the SF Bay Delta Water Quality Control Plan. Discussion ensued.
- b) 2025 PAI Program Update ~ Mr. Chappell provided an update of the PAI programs. Several approved clubs for 2025 construction season have begun submitting paid invoices or completed projects. SRCD will process their reimbursement request once post project inspections are completed. A reconciliation of remaining funds will be completed at the end of this calendar year to determine next year's available remaining funding for the program. Discussion ensued.
- c) Suisun Marsh Plan Update ~ There have been no changes with the Suisun Marsh Plan Implementation. Mr. Chappell and Mr. Mackell attended Principle's meetings on August 14th and will be attended September 11th. August 12th was the Adaptive Management Advisory Team (AMAT) meeting. There was second AMAT meeting on August 20th to discuss habitat restoration site monitoring programs and data analysis. All required environmental compliance reporting is current. Discussion ensued.
- d) USACE Permits ~ RGP 3 and RGP 47 updates. SRCD continues to administer the RGP 3 permit. The August Regional General Permit 3 (RGP 3) package was submitted on September 1st and was approved on September 4th. The new 5-year dredging permit was issued as a RGP 47. Dredging work window opened August 1st. The 2025 BCDC Marsh Development Permit was signed on September 3rd. SRCD will make a presentation at the Fall Landowner Workshop to discuss the new RGP 47 Dredging permit and BCDC permitting requirements. Discussion ensued.
- e) Water Manager Program Update ~ Mr. Mackell presented the Water Manager Program update. All water managers met with the Solano County Mosquito Abatement District to coordinate fall flood-up activities with the vector control unit. They have been providing weekly flood schedule updates.

Mr. Taylor helped complete and send out the August RGP 3 application package and collected pre, during, and post-construction photos of permitted activities. He

worked with landowners to finalize the dredging permit for this year's activities. He helped dredge and reinstall fish screens and has deployed and monitored dissolved oxygen sensors in Boynton and Goodyear sloughs. All landowners in Mr. Taylor's region of the Marsh have received their chemical deliveries for invasive plant management.

Mr. Edmunds has assisted with fish screen maintenance and reinstallations and has collaborated with landowners to complete our aerial phragmites spray program. He has taken the lead on chemical purchases and deliveries and has acted as the point person coordinating flights with the helicopter pilot for the project. Additionally, he has been responsible for submitting chemical use reports to the County for compliance.

Ms. Guzman has worked with landowners along Boynton Slough to coordinate fall flood-up and avoid low dissolved oxygen fish impacts. She has also been working with DWR and CDFW to coordinate flood up logistics along the shared Roaring River water supply. She has helped the team with fish screen maintenance and reinstallation and has been conducting exterior levee inspections at clubs that are dredging.

Ms. Collins has continued to support the Bird Returns project, working with enrolled landowners and biologists from the Audubon Society. She is working on finalizing our SRCD annual report. She has contributed to securing grant funding for fish screen maintenance and is helping to organize our upcoming landowner workshop. She has provided routine updates to our website and has provided GIS expertise to support our aerial phragmites program.

- f) Lower Joice Island Update ~ Mr. Mackell presented the Lower Joice Island update.

Mr. Mouton has been busy preparing Lower Joice Island for the upcoming duck season. He has been mowing ponds and performing maintenance on equipment. Work on the south end of the island is complete, and he is close to finishing pond work in the north as we get ready to flood. He also hosted USGS researchers who came out to monitor elevation tables located within the managed wetlands.

- g) Summary of Past & Future Meetings, Tours, and Presentations ~ Mr. Chappell reported most clubs are starting to flood up. The Fall Landowner Workshop is scheduled for September 17th and will be sponsored by SCF. 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 Director's Committee ~ No report.

9. Meeting Adjournment ~ A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Vanderkous, seconded by Mr. Hansen; all were in favor and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 2:51 PM.