

MINUTES

SUISUN RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING

HELD ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12TH, 2026 AT 2:00 PM
SOLANO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISOR'S CHAMBERS
675 TEXAS STREET
FAIRFIELD, CA 94533

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Tony Vaccarella
John Eudy
Mike Lewis

OTHERS PRESENT: Dennis Becker, SRCD
Steven Chappell, SRCD
Kevin Clark, DWR
Tim Edmunds, SRCD
Mike Frost, Frost Ranch
Desmond Mackell, SRCD
Caitlin Perez, SRCD
Kelli Perez, SRCD
Fred Riedel, SRCD
Melissa Riley, DFW
Brock Riggs, SRCD
Jamel Stewart, DWR
Jeff Taylor, SRCD
Laureen Thompson, DFW
Randy Weinrich, DFW

1. **Call to Order** ~ Mr. Vaccarella called the Suisun Resource Conservation District Board of Directors meeting to order at 2:03 PM.
2. **Public Comments** ~ Mr. Vaccarella asked if there were any public comments. Mr. Chappell reported that the November Board of Directors Meeting is rescheduled to November 18th as the regular meeting day falls on Veteran's Day and the County building will be closed.
3. **Open Session** ~ Mr. Vaccarella opened the Board of Directors meeting for August 12th, 2026. Mr. Vaccarella asked for consideration of agenda Item 3a.
 - a) Approval of the July 8th, 2026, Board Meeting Minutes ~ Mr. Vaccarella asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the Board meeting of July 8, 2026. A motion was made by Mr. Lewis and seconded by Mr. Eudy; all were in favor and the motion carried.

4. **Financial Reports** ~

- a) Approval of Vendor Claims for July 2026 ~ Mr. Chappell reported the July 2026 SRCD General Fund vendor claims totaled \$107,067.80. Expenses included regular SRCD office and general fund operations, SRCD salaries, and reimbursable contract expenses. Mr. Chappell reported the July 2026 Lower Joice Island vendor claims totaled \$15,532.67. All expenses were normal LJI operational, salary, and mobile mechanic services expenses. Mr. Chappell reported the July 2026 Water Managers Program vendor claims totaled \$32,144.44. All expenses were Water Managers operational and salary expenses. Mr. Chappell reported the July 2026 Special Revenue vendor claims totaled \$5,372.88, for the purchase of diesel for the portable pump program. This expense will be reimbursed through landowner pump bills through the portable pump program. Discussion ensued. Mr. Eudy moved to approve the vendor claim summaries as presented. Mr. Lewis seconded the motion, all were in favor, and the motion carried.

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

Ducks: Duck banding has been going smoothly. We have banded 74 mallards and 1 cinnamon teal! Additionally, USGS has joined us to add radio transmitters to 3 adult mallards.

Elk Season: The fundraising tag hunt began on the 1st of August. The hunter has specific bulls in mind but has not taken an animal yet. Our general hunts began yesterday on Tuesday, August 11th for antlerless. All hunters, including the two apprentice hunters, tagged out on the first day. They all

harvested nice and mature bulls from our herd. The second period begins tomorrow, August 13th for spike bull. After that, we will have a break from August 17th to September 3rd where staff will continue mowing and preparing for fall flood-up and waterfowl season.

Grizzly Island Wildlife Area: The intake project, also known as the fish screens, is officially completed. The duck stamp project in Pond 11 is also completed. Four new risers were installed, and swell work was also completed to make flood-up more efficient. In Pond 16, we are currently removing the interior levee to create more open water in the pond. Additionally, swell work and interior road work continue with new blinds being installed at Long Point. Staff on the Wildlife Area continue to mow as well. We plan to start flood-up by the end of the month, starting with Pond 11 and ponds on the Roaring River side.

Other: Grizzly Island and YOLO will be holding our fall public hunter meeting. Both wildlife areas will use this meeting to update hunters about conditions, work being completed, and future projects. To attend the meeting, email GrizzlyIsland@wildlife.ca.gov. The meeting will be held on Thursday, September 10th from 5:00-7:00pm.

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

Water Quality: The Progressive Daily Mean salinities in the Marsh for July 2026 ranged from 1.6-9.3/cm. Salinity monitoring station S-97 remained offline while Cygnus was at 9.6 mS/cm. At the end of July, the net Delta outflow was 5,511 cfs. As of August 10th, salinities in the Marsh ranged from 2.2-11.2 mS/cm, and Delta outflow had increased to 10,363 cfs. There are no Suisun Marsh salinity standards for the month of August. The salinity standard for September is 17.0 mS/cm.

DWR Facility Maintenance and Operations: No surveys or maintenance was performed at Roaring River Distribution System. At Morrow Island Distribution System, DFD staff concluded annual maintenance on July 9th, including mowing, grading, AB application, erosion repair as needed, and herbicide application. Environmental staff completed an environmental clearance for floating debris removal in front of the inlet at Goodyear Slough Outfall. DFD staff removed debris on July 15th. DWR submitted a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) application to apply herbicide in Goodyear Slough to address phragmites encroachment and water circulation issues. Herbicide application is scheduled to occur over the next few years in coordination with the SMPA agencies. DFD staff concluded annual maintenance on July 29th, including mowing, weed removal, and tree and bush trimming at Montezuma Day Use Area.

The Suisun Marsh Salinity Control Gates began tidal operations on July 1st to comply with Summer-Fall ITP requirements. Gate 3 was out of operation from July 27th - August 1st due to a log that had become entangled in the cable. The log was removed and Gate 3 was returned to service.

California reservoir capacity as of August 10th ranged from 81-93% of average in the northern Sierra and 62-99% in the southern Sierra. For the new water year, precipitation year to date was 97% of average for the northern Sierra and 88% for the Southern Sierra.

7. Suisun Resource Conservation District Reports ~

- a) 2015 Suisun Marsh Preservation Agreement ~ Mr. Chappell and Mr. Mackell attended the SMPA 5-year review meeting on July 15th will attend the August 13th meeting tomorrow. Mr. Chappell, Mr. Mackell, and Mr. Taylor will attend the August 18th Applicants Compliance Team meeting. Discussion ensued.
- b) 2026 PAI Program Update ~ Mr. Chappell provided an update on the PAI program. Mr. Mackell has been in contact with all the landowners who have applied incomplete application to discuss next steps and additional needed information to complete eligibility determination. Since Last Board meeting 4 projects were moved forward for approval, with 3 additional project on one property still under review.
- 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 July 9th and Mr. Chappell and Mr. Taylor will attend the August 13th meeting. Mr. Chappell attended the August 11th Adaptive Management Advisory Team meeting, which had 3 presentations of scientific studies results being completed in the Suisun Marsh. Discussion ensued.
- d) USACE Permits ~ RGP 3 and RGP 47 updates~ Mr. Chappell reported that SRCD continues to administer the RGP 3 and RGP 47 permits. The July 2026 RGP 3 package was submitted Aug 3rd and was approved on August 10th. The 2026 RGP 47 dredging permit has been approved by the USACE and RWQCB, but we are waiting for the BCDC approval to issue the 2026 Marsh Development Permit for participating landowner signatures. Twelve clubs have applied for dredging this year. Discussion ensued.
- e) Water Manager Program Update ~ Mr. Mackell presented the Water Manager Program update.

All three Water Managers continue to operate our portable pump program, including

site inspections, installation and removal. They have been working with landowners to ensure any summer work is included in our RGP 3 packages and distributed invasive weed control chemicals to folks enrolling in our phragmites program. They also met with DU to discuss prospective NAWCA project proposals.

Mr. Taylor submitted the monthly RGP 3 package on 8/4, helped with an ongoing PAI project, and helped Brock become familiar with the Fairfield Suisun Sewer District water delivery system. He helped install a bulkhead on Lower Joice Island, conducted our hazmat inspection at the SRCD office, and coordinated a Union Pacific RR site access of inspection. He is also preparing for our water quality monitoring station installations next week and coordinating a fall meeting with mosquito abatement technicians for fall flood up.

Mr. Edmunds has been organizing our phragmites spray operations for this summer, including aerial surveys, spray/flight plans, coordinating with the helicopter pilot and preparing for our drone spraying. He has coordinated repairs of damaged fish screens and is beginning to coordinate fall flood-up schedules for clubs impacted by a damaged screen.

Mr. Riggs has been coordinating multiple PAI projects, worked on BCDC permits, is coordinating fall flood-up schedules on Roaring River and with the Fairfield Suisun Sewer District. He cleaned multiple fish screens, attended the RD 1607 (Van Sickle) meeting, and collected water level data for Delta Conservancy projects.

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

Mr. Mouton has been working on building up low spots along the exterior levee, including around the clubhouse where we have been having significant overtopping. He helped install a bulkhead on the Montezuma side of the island, delivered propane to the island, changed all the fluids on the dozer, and troubleshoot issues with the excavator. We are preparing for flood the south wetland unit in early September for the DWR fish food subsidy study and he is working to get all work done before our targeted flood date in early September.

g) Summary of Past & Future Meetings, Tours, and Presentations ~ Mr. Chappell reported a successful 22nd SCF Fun Shoot event on July 31st. Mr. Chappell and Mr. Mackell attended the DWR, ICF, and UC Davis managed wetland bi-monthly meetings. Mr. Chappell attended the July 22nd Delta Conservancy Board Meeting. Mr. Chappell gave a presentation at Solano County Water Academy on July 29th at Rush Ranch. 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 ~ The annual audit is scheduled to start field work in Mid-November. Mr. Vaccarella signed the auditor's engagement letter.
- e) Associate Director's Committee ~ No report.

9. Closed Session ~ Mr. Vaccarella reported that the Open Session would be closed and the Board would enter into a closed session. Mr. Chappell read the Agendas Closed Session notice into the record, Conference with Labor Negotiators pursuant to Government Code section 54957.6: Agency designated representatives: Directors Tony Vaccarella, H. Kent Hansen, John Eudy, Mike Lewis, and Dick Vanderkous. Unrepresented employees: Executive Director, Operations Manager, Administrative Assistant, Water Managers, and Lower Joice Island Resident Caretaker.

10. Reconvene ~ The open session was reconvened at 3:08. Mr. Vaccarella reported from the closed session that the Board would approving the SRCD Personnel Committee Chairman's recommendations for SRCD Staff's salary considerations. A motion was made by Mr. Lewis to adopt the recommendations and seconded was made by Mr. Eudy; all were in favor and the motion carried.

11. Adjourn ~ A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Lewis, seconded by Mr. Eudy; all were in favor and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 3:12 PM.