

San Joaquin Valley Resource Conservation & Development Council

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OFFICERS

PHILIP ERRO
President
Westside Resource Conservation District

TONY AZEVEDO
1st Vice President
Kings-Excelsior RCD

MELISSA KELLY-ORTEGA
2nd Vice President
East Merced RCD

TOBY HORST
Secretary
Sierra Resource Conservation District

BRIAN HOCKETT
Treasurer
North West Kern
Resource Conservation District

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

- Chowchilla-Redtop RCD
- East Merced RCD
- East Stanislaus RCD
- Kings-Excelsior RCD
- North West Kern RCD
- Sierra RCD
- Tulare County RCD
- West Stanislaus RCD
- Westside RCD

COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

- Fresno County
- Kern County
- Kings County
- Madera County
- Merced County
- Stanislaus County
- Tulare County

Native American Tribes
Santa Rosa Rancheria
Tule River Indian Reservation

MEMBERS AT LARGE

- Central San Joaquin Valley
Community Action Consortium
- City of Wasco
- Community Services &
Employment Training, Inc.
- King's County Economic
Development Corporation
- San Joaquin Valley Leadership Forum
- Self-Help Enterprises

June 1, 2010

The Honorable Jeff Grover
County of Stanislaus
1010 10th Street, #6500
Modesto, CA 95354-0884

RE: San Joaquin Valley RC&D Council Implementing Projects

Dear Supervisor Grover:

At our recent San Joaquin Valley RC&D Council meeting in Modesto, the Council approved funds to upgrade and maintain our website, sponsor a workshop for ethnic farmers, and educate residents in small, rural communities about septic systems.

The Clean Air Farming Workshop for Southeast Asian, Hispanic, and African-American farmers will show these farmers how to reduce tillage, better manage pests to minimize spraying, and recycle materials instead of burning them. See the attached flier for the workshop.

The objective of the septic system education project is to reduce contamination of domestic well water by faulty septic systems. We will initiate this project in an unincorporated community named Monson in eastern Tulare County.

We are making a difference among our valley residents, and we appreciate your support. We urge participation of Stanislaus County Supervisors in our meetings. To facilitate this participation, we are requesting that your board name a designated representative to our council and an alternate representative.

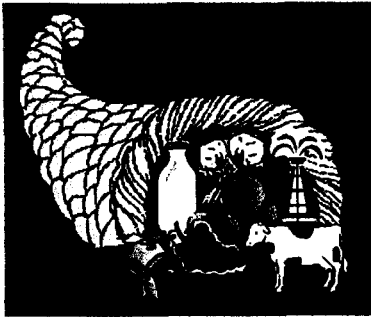
Our next Council meeting will be in Bakersfield on Thursday, July 22nd, location to be announced. We hope to see Stanislaus County represented there.

Best wishes,

Philip Erro
Philip Erro, President
San Joaquin Valley RC&D Council

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ATTACHMENTS AVAILABLE
FROM THE CLERK



San Joaquin Valley Resource Conservation & Development Council

WWW.SJVRCD.ORG

April 29, 2010

Thursday

10:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Stanislaus Agricultural Center
3800 Cornucopia Way
Modesto, CA 95358

MEETING AGENDA

10 AM

1. Introductions
2. Mission Statement
3. Ground Rules
4. Agenda
5. Minutes
6. Treasurer's report
7. Quick review of updated SJVRC&D Council Bylaws
8. Revision of Area Plan-- an overview
9. **Action Item**-- Authorization of \$1,000 to remake web site
10. Committee Reports:
 - Water Committee **Action Item**-- Authorization of \$2,000 for Septic Education Project
 - Air Quality Committee **Action Item**-- Authorization of \$2,000 for Clean Air Farming Workshop
11. Letter to Mayor of Redwood City explaining the impact on Kern County groundwater over drafting resulting from sale of Kern surface water rights to San Mateo County
12. Letter to Mr. Warren Buffet urging him to adopt Best Available Technology to reduce emissions from Burlington Northern Santa Fe locomotives in the San Joaquin Valley
13. Presentation: Water needs of fisheries and the Delta
14. Lunch: provided by SJVRC&D Council
15. Regional and national RC&D news: Washington DC trip

1 PM Adjourn

Mission Statement

The San Joaquin Valley RC&D Council will serve as a forum for the needs and interests of residents, business, and agriculture; provide economic resources to develop solutions in a comprehensive manner supporting and encouraging collaborative efforts to improve the quality of life.

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY RESOURCE CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

DRAFT---MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, October 22, 2009
Center for Irrigation Technology at CSU, Fresno
5370 N. Chestnut Ave.
Fresno, CA 93710

President Phil Erro called the meeting to order at 10:20 AM.

1. All those present introduced themselves. The following people were present:

Phil Erro, Pres., SJV RC&D Council	Toby Horst, Sec., SJVRC&D
Carolyn LoFreso, Kern Co. NRCS	Dick Moss, Provost & Pritchard
Brian Hockett, Treasurer, SJV RC&D	Debbie Poochigian, Fresno Co. Supervisor
MaryAlice Kaloostian, CA Senator Cogdill	Vince Moreno, Kings Co. NRCS
Jack Fry, Chowchilla-Redtop RCD	Bruce Champion, Fresno Co. NRCS
Hugo Calvillo, Tulare Co. NRCS	Susan Russell, Fresno Co.
Steve Haze, SJV Water Leadership Forum	Susan Perez, Merced Co. NRCS
Don Nielsen, 2 nd VP, SJVRC&D	Carole Combs, Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners
Norman Kuhr, Chowchilla-Redtop RCD	Kristi Johnson, Fresno Co. Planning
Nathan Higgins, Comm.Serv.Emp.Training	Gigi Gibbs, Fresno Co. Planning
Roberta Howe, Dept. Water Resources	Jean Hays, WILPF Save the Water
Ann Carruthers, WILPF Save the Water	Sarge Green, California Water Institute
Vince Roos, Congressman Costa	Debbie Tom, CA Assbly. Juan Arambula
Bob Stanfield, Madera Co. Water Comm.	Sam Vang, Fresno Co. NRCS
Jessi Snyder, Self-Help Enterprises	Dia Beigi, Fresno Co. Supervisor Case
Christann Roy, volunteer	Pete Vander Poel, Tulare Co. Supervisor
Conference call-in participants:	
Bobby Kamansky, Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners	Cindy Lashbrook, East Merced RCD

2. Brian Hockett read the SJVRC&D Council mission statement.
3. Ground Rules: a) Spell out abbreviations and acronyms. b) Respect what others have to say, and let them speak.
4. Agenda: President Erro asked if anyone wanted to add to or change the agenda. No additions or changes were offered.
5. Minutes: Attendees were given time to read the minutes of the July 23, 2009 Council meeting. Carole Combs requested the spelling of her name and the name of her organization be corrected in the July 23rd minutes. Brian Hockett moved that the minutes be approved as amended; Toby Horst seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The minutes were unanimously approved.
6. Treasurer's Report: Council Treasurer Brian Hockett reported that our bank balance was \$2,659.50 as of July 23, 2009. See the attached Treasurer's Report. President Erro pointed out

that the USDA Area NRCS office entered a cooperative agreement to grant the San Joaquin Valley RC&D Council \$5,000 to reimburse the Council for operating and project expenses, making the total effective balance \$7,659.50. There was no further discussion. Don Nielsen moved the Treasurer's report be approved; Supervisor Poochigian seconded the motion. The motion carried.

7. President Erro circulated a groundwater protection petition. In response to the sale of 14,000 acrefeet of surface water rights from a Kings County farm to an urban development in San Bernardino County, the petition requested that the Kings County Supervisors adopt an ordinance or other legal device that would prohibit farmers from selling surface water rights from their land and then pump local groundwater after selling surface water rights outside of the San Joaquin Valley. Toby Horst said he supported the petition and recounted that he had testified on behalf of the Sierra RCD in favor of a Fresno County ordinance that was enacted to prohibit groundwater pumping by farmers who sold their surface water rights to parties outside the county. Steve Haze stated that Madera County had an ordinance that prohibited pumping groundwater to sell it outside the county. Twelve people from Madera, Fresno, and Tulare Counties signed the petition.

8. Committee reports:

Water Committee— Bobby Kamansky, Dave Warner, Sarge Green, and Brian Hockett Jessi Snyder of Self-Help Enterprises reported that the Committee had decided to conduct a survey in small, under served rural communities to detect septic system problems and to educate residents in communities that have problems how to care for their systems to avoid groundwater contamination. Jessi circulated copies of septic system education pamphlets that Self-Help Enterprises has used in the recent past to educate people in rural communities like Plainview and Munson in eastern Tulare County how to repair and maintain their septic systems. Communities can decide whether they want to continue to use individual septic systems that are well maintained, build a collective septic systems, form sewage districts, or connect to existing municipal waste water treatment facilities. As data is accumulated about water well contamination in these communities through the survey and feedback from residents during the education outreach effort, areas of groundwater contamination can be identified. A follow-on project would be to identify sources of groundwater contamination and to recommend corrective action to clean up well water used for drinking.

Bobby Kamansky of the Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners intended to report on a groundwater recharge project near Earlimart but lost conference phone contact. President Erro filled in for Bobby. He reminded those present how the HWY 99 freeway where it descends 40 feet below grade at Earlimart fills up with Deer Creek flood water during big storms. The local irrigation district cannot use these huge winter storm flows and dumps them into the freeway depression. Because of nitrates and other contaminants draining from nearby farms into the groundwater under the city, Earlimart's well water does not meet drinking water standards. The project Kamansky envisions would use those storm flows of Sierra snow melt water to recharge the aquifer underlying the City of Earlimart. The city's well water would be diluted to a better quality than mandatory drinking water standards, and farmers next to the city could pump their well water to retrieve some of the high quality water in the aquifer to clean their soil profiles to increase crop yields. A key element to assuring clean recharge water is using engineered wetlands in the recharge basins to remove sediment, bacteria, fungi, and other contaminants in flood flows before that water infiltrates into the aquifer. Kamansky believes best management practices can be developed for the design and operation of recharge basins in the San Joaquin

Valley and that critical elements of the Earlimart recharge basin can be replicated.

Jack Fry said the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Rural Development program could help finance this groundwater recharge project. President Erro agreed and said that Mike Carnes and Lisa Butler of the NRCS Rural Development office in Visalia had participated in the most recent Water Committee meeting. Someone else asked if milestones and standards would be used to measure the success of the Earlimart recharge project. President Erro said Kamansky was designing milestones and standards into the project. Tulare County Supervisor Peter Vander Poel asked if the City of Earlimart had be included in the planning of the project. President Erro said he presumed the city had given input to the project but said Bobby Kamansky would know specifically how and offered to introduce Kamansky and Supervisor Vander Poel by email.

Air Quality Committee – Ron Harben, Johnnie Siliznoff, Ted Strauss, Sam Vang, and Ken Grimes
Sam Vang, who works with Southeast Asian farmers, said that a permanent trellis system for Asian long bean production in conjunction with drip irrigation and careful pesticide spraying could save water, improve air quality, and deliver more profits to farmers. He said the NRCS offices in Merced, Fresno, and Tulare Counties have demonstrated the trellis system to Asian farmers in those counties. He said a workshop is being planned for April, 2010 to teach clean farming practices to Asian, Hispanic and Afro-American farmers. President Erro said the Air Quality Committee was gathering information on smart spraying and other ways to reduce air contamination from pesticide application; multi-task tillage to reduce dust and diesel emissions from tractor trips through fields; alternatives to burning wooden stakes and bean vine guide strings; and ways for custom equipment operators to perform clean tillage and spraying on the 5 acre farms Southeast Asian farmers typically rent.

By-Laws – Phil Erro, Brian Hockett, Toby Horst & Don Nielson

Council President Erro proposed that Article II: Structure, Section 1: Structure of Governing Body be changed to say that “The governing Council consists of a representative **and/or an alternative representative** from each Sponsor Organization. **(Bold words are the change.)**

Those present approved the change by unanimous voice vote.

The draft Annual Plan and draft Area Plan were distributed to those present in a meeting packet.

Brian Hockett moved that these draft documents be posted on the San Joaquin Valley RC&D web site. The motion carried.

9. Presentations: The San Joaquin Valley contains two hydrological basins: the Tulare Lake Basin in the southern part of the valley and the San Joaquin River Basin in the northern part.

Mr. Richard Moss of Provost and Pritchard Consulting gave a presentation on “The Future Water Supply in the Tulare Lake Basin”. The Tulare Lake Basin has 3,000,000 acres of irrigated farm land on which 250 different crops grow. The Kings River delivers an average annual runoff of 1.66 million acrefeet. The combined average annual runoff of the Kaweah River (St. Johns River, aka Cross Creek), Tule River, and Kern River is 1.25 million acrefeet. Annual water use in the Tulare Lake Basin is more than 12 million acrefeet. The amount of groundwater pumped in the basin annually varies between 2.8 and 8.0 million acrefeet. The average annual supply of water from the State Water Project is 1.2 million acrefeet, while the average amount imported Federal Central Valley Project water is 2.9 million acrefeet. Biological opinions have reduced the average annual supply of state water by 240 thousand acrefeet and the average annual federal supply by 325 thousand acrefeet. The San Joaquin River restoration project will reduce the average annual

supply for Central Valley Project Friant water by 250 thousand acrefeet. A reduction in groundwater use will be necessary to avoid inelastic subsidence (irreversible collapse of water bearing strata resulting in a lower elevation of cropland). Groundwater adjudication or negotiated settlement may be the way groundwater pumping is controlled. Climate change will bring earlier spring runoff, a decrease in snow accumulation and less snow melt water in the summer, and more summer groundwater pumping to meet an increase in agricultural, urban, and environmental water use because of higher summer temperatures. The eight counties of the San Joaquin Valley have developed a water management plan to address water supply, flood control, water quality, and environmental water needs. Kern County water banks include Kern Water Bank, the Pioneer Project, Semitropic Water Storage District Water Bank, and the Arvin Edison Water Storage District Banking Project. Other water banking includes the Madera Water Bank, Pixley Irrigation District Water Bank, North Kern Storage District's Banking Program, and Fresno Irrigation District's Groundwater Bank. New water conveyance within the Tulare Lake Basin is also being planned: an increase in Friant-Kern Canal capacity; additional east-west capability; Friant-Kern Reverse Flow capability; interties between North Kern Water Storage District, Shafter-Wasco Irrigation District, and Semitropic Water Storage District; interties between Lower Tule River Irrigation District, Pixley Irrigation District, and Delano-Earlimart Irrigation District; and interties between Fresno Irrigation District, James Irrigation District, and Westlands Water District. Waste water reuse is also contemplated. The probable future of our water: major reductions of imported water will continue; big fixes are too many years out and will not materialize because of environmental concerns; reliance on groundwater will increase even in wet years, and subsidence will become significant; groundwater controls will take a large acreage of cropland out of production; and short-term drought will impact permanent crops because of unreliable surface water and no groundwater.

Sarge Green of the California Water Institute gave a presentation on the San Joaquin River Basin. The surface water in this basin consists of: the Mokelumne/Consumnes Rivers, the Calaveras, Stanislaus, Tuolumne, Merced, and Chowchilla/Fresno Rivers, and the Upper San Joaquin River. The groundwater is overdrafted in the East San Joaquin, Chowchilla, and Madera Basins, somewhat overdrafted in the Delta-Mendota Basin, close to balanced in the Merced Basin, and balanced in the Modesto and Turlock Basins. Integrated Regional Water Management Plans (IRWMPs) are being developed for Madera, Merced, Westside, East San Joaquin and East Contra Costa.

10. Regional and national resource conservation and development news-- Brian Hockett said our council would participate in the Leadership Forum in Washington in March, 2010 and the Pacific Rim conference later in 2010.
11. Posthumous tribute to John Popp: a SJVRC&D Council Certificate of Appreciation was presented to Susan Russell, sister of John Popp. Mr. Popp prepared the Council application for USDA recognition.

Norman Kuhr moved the meeting be adjourned; Sarge Green seconded the motion, and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 1:40 PM.

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY RESOURCE CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

DRAFT---MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, January 28, 2010
University of California, Fresno
550 E. Shaw Ave.
Fresno, CA 93710

President Phil Erro called the meeting to order at 10:20 AM.

1. All those present introduced themselves. The following people were present:

Phil Erro, President, SJVRC&D Council	Toby Horst, Webmaster, SJVRC&D
Brian Hockett, Treasurer, SJV RC&D	Bob Puls, Tulare County RCD
Rich Haberman, drinking water specialist	Steve Haze, Sierra RCD/SJV Leadership Forum
Ann Carrothers, Women's ILPF	Jean Hays, Women's Int'l League Peace Freedom
Gary Lasky, Sierra Club	Bill Brooks, Central Coast RC&D Council
Sarge Green, Westside RCD	Jay Herbrand, Merced-Mariposa Asthma Coalition
Breanne Slimick, Self-Help Enterprises	Hugo Calvillo, Nat.Resources Conserv.Serv.
Ted Strauss, Nat.Recourses Conserv.Serv.	Ron Harbin, CA Assn. Resource Conserv. Districts
Brian Newton, Tulare County Audubon	Doug Rayner, Kings/Excelsior RDD
Melissa Kelly Ortega, Merced-Mar.AC	Anthony Azevedo, Kings/Excelsior RCD
Robert Merrill, geologist	Kimberly Kaufmann, Congressman Radonovich
Jim Cooper, water treatment specialist	Ken Johnson, CA Department of Water Resources
Curtis Tarver, Nat.Resources Conserv.Serv.	Patrick Turner, Fresno Co.Econ.Opportunity Com.
Christann Roy, Volunteer	Ara Azhderian, San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water
Pete Vander Poel, Tulare Co. Supervisor	Authority

Conference call-in participants:

Tony Azevedo, VP of East Merced RCD, Gary Ford, NRCS Madera, Shannon at Senator Jeff Denham's office.

2. Brian Hockett read the SJVRC&D Council mission statement.
3. Ground Rules: a) Spell out abbreviations and acronyms. b) Respect what others have to say, and let them speak.
4. Agenda item # 11 moved up to this position as Steve Haze needed to leave early.
Letters to legislators regarding bills to facilitate water transfers within the San Joaquin Valley (See attachments.) Recently the Mojave Water Agency purchased 14,000 acrefeet of Kings County Dudley Ridge Water District surface water rights from Sandridge Partners for \$77 million for urban development. The Jackson Ranch, also in the Dudley Ridge Water District, is proposing to sell 1,700 acrefeet of surface water rights for urban development in Irvine, CA.

Regarding Senate Bill 1759 authored by Senators Feinstein and Boxer and House Resolution 3750 authored by Congressmen Costa and Cardoza, they do not explicitly prohibit the selling of surface water rights to parties outside of the San Joaquin Valley. Steve Haze drafted letters to the two senators and two congressmen stating that the San Joaquin Valley RC&D Council could

not support the bills without language in them that would safeguard San Joaquin Valley surface water rights, prohibit the privatization of water rights, and keep farmland and surface water rights connected.

After substantial discussion, President Erro asked the Council to either approve or reject the letters. Toby Horst moved that the Council approve the letters and send them to the legislators. Steve Haze seconded the motion. The motion carried.

5. Agenda: President Erro asked if anyone wanted to add to or change the agenda. No additions or changes were offered.
6. Minutes of the October 22, 2009 Council meeting were mistakenly left out to the packet of documents given to meeting participants but had been posted to the Council web site. President Erro gave a brief overview of the minutes and said Council members could change them or approve them as written at the April Council meeting.
7. Treasurer's Report: Council Treasurer Brian Hockett reported that our bank balance was \$3,811.07 as of January 19, 2010. See the attached Treasurer's Report. Treasurer Hockett reported that the \$800 from Tulare Co. RCD is strictly for an interactive module in the SJVRC&D website where forms and educational materials will be posted. Toby Horst moved to accept the Treasurer's report, and Bob Puls seconded the motion. The motion carried. Curtis Tarver of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service mentioned that there could be an NRCS match of a Council in-kind contribution of \$5000-\$7500 and perhaps a temporary employee for 6-9 months to help the Council. He will work with Treasurer Hockett and President Erro. President Erro also mentioned a donation of office space, cabinets and desks.
8. President Erro led a discussion on the possibility of buying a laptop computer and printer for the SJVRC&D Council. Patrick Turner moved to purchase a laptop and printer, and Tony Azevedo seconded the motion. The motion carried.
9. Revision of Bylaws and Annual Plan – Council members were urged to read the Bylaws and Annual Plan. They were given until Thursday, February 18, 2010 to make changes to the Bylaws. Changes can be emailed to philiperro@sbcglobal.net. The revised Bylaws will be posted to the Council web site and a hard copy distributed at the next council meeting.
10. Election of SJVRC&D Council First Vice-President and Second Vice-President.
Tony Azevedo of the Kings/Excelsior RCD was nominated for the office of First Vice-President. President Erro asked for other nominations from Council members but none was offered. Mr. Azevedo's qualifications were then reviewed and found adequate. He was elected First Vice-President on a voice vote. Melissa Kelly Ortega was nominated to be Second Vice-President. When Council members were asked for other nominations, they did not make any. There was a discussion about Melissa Kelly Ortega's qualifications, because she was not the designated representative of a Council Sponsor as officers of the Council are required to be by the Bylaws. Curtis Tarver of the Area NRCS office said he was sure we could find a way to qualify Ms. Kelly Ortega to be Second Vice-President. One way would be for the Merced-Mariposa Asthma Coalition, which she represents, to become a sponsor of the Council and designate her as its representative. Another alternative would be for Ms. Kelly Ortega to

become the designated Council Representative of a resource conservation district. Confident that we would find a way to qualify Ms. Kelly Ortega as an officer of the Council, President Erro put her election to a vote. She was elected by a voice vote. President Erro then asked for nominations for Secretary of the Council, but there were none.

11. Committee reports:

Water Committee

Breanne Slimick of Self-Help Enterprises reported on the Septic System Education Project. The communities of Hatch and Midway in Modesto have septic tanks systems that are dysfunctional, and Modesto has sewer lines that go past these communities. By conducting a survey, Self-Help Enterprises is trying to tailor septic education to these communities and figure out solutions to their problems. Self-Help plans to use surveys in Tulare County as well. The survey will also help identify problems for the Public Health Departments of both Tulare and Stanislaus Counties. The survey the SJVRC&D Water Committee will use to identify septic system problems will also uncover evidence of contamination of domestic water wells. A follow up project will be to clean up contaminated domestic wells and prevent future septic contamination. Clean drinking water for the rural families is essential to protect their health. In various small, rural communities the Water Committee will explore the possibilities of using individual septic systems, community septic systems, or connecting to existing nearby sewer systems to solve sanitation and drinking water quality problems.

Patrick Turner of the Fresno County EOC reported on the Deer Creek Recharge Project. Wildlife habitat will be put in recharge basins to attract wild life, particularly water fowl. This is near the Pixley Wildlife Refuge. Community Services Employment Training of Tulare runs Summer Youth Projects in which they reforest a waterways. They will be working with Bobby Kamansky on projects similar to the Deer Creek Recharge Project.

Air Quality Committee

Melissa Kelly Ortega reported that she will monitor clean air advocacy web sites as well as the USDA NRCS, San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, and California Air Resources Board web sites to gather information on clean air actions and events, financial incentives to upgrade to cleaner equipment, and new air pollution laws and regulations. She will compile and organize this information to present it on our Council's web site.

President Erro reported on the other Air Committee project, a Clean Air Farming Workshop for Asian, Hispanic, and African-American farmers to be held in June. There will be five ethnic groups: Hmong, Lao, Cambodian, Hispanic, and African-American. These five groups will rotate through five instruction stations. All participants will get the same instruction translated instantly into their native language. Oral presentations and field demonstrations will be presented on multi-task tillage, fertilization and pest treatment analysis (as a Pest Control Advisor would do), farm chemical safety, fertilizer and pesticide application, and recycling instead of burning materials. The workshop will take place on a small farm and will last about 6 hours.

12. Presentation: Mr. Ara Azhderian of the San Luis Delta-Mendota Water Authority on the "Prospects of importing water into the San Joaquin Valley in the near-term and long-term" Between 1995 and 2010, the biggest impediment to receiving Northern California water in the

San Joaquin Valley has been state and federal regulations intended to protect fish and wildlife resources. Four hundred billion dollars of economic activity, one-third of California's annual gross domestic product, is supported by the state and federal pumping plants in the south Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. The federal Central Valley Project (CVP) was designed in the 1930s, and the State Water Project (SWP) was designed in the 1960s. The CVP was designed to deliver 90% of its water to agricultural customers and 10% to cities. The SWP was designed to deliver 90% of its water to cities and 10% to farms. Neither system was designed to support the environment. The San Francisco Bay Area, Central Coast, and Eastern California desert as well as the San Joaquin Valley and Southern California get Northern California water from the Delta. One-third of the Northern California watershed never reaches the Delta. Of the Sacramento River water exported from the Delta, 1,406 thousand acrefeet (TAF) go to the Delta-Mendota Canal and 1,571 TAF go to the South Coast (compared to 1,193 TAF of Colorado River water going to the South Coast). Eighteen percent of Northern California water entering the Delta is diverted to the S.F. Bay Area, Central Coast, San Joaquin Valley, Eastern California desert, and South Coast (on average about 5 million acrefeet (MAF) per year), 76% flows to the ocean (on average about 22 MAF per year), and 6% is used in the Delta. In the mid-1990s state and federal agencies tried unsuccessfully to balance the water needs of the environment and humans through the Cal-Fed process. By the late 1990s, the provisions of the 1992 Central Valley Project Improvement Act (CVPIA) took effect, re-allocating 400 TAF to managed wetlands, 800 TAF to fisheries and wildlife habitat, and 400 TAF to Trinity River Restoration- a total of 1,600 TAF from agricultural and urban uses. From 1991 to present there have been Endangered Species Act requirements and court rulings that have restricted exports from the Delta. Over 3.5 MAF of managed CVP and SWP water have been dedicated to the environment. Over the past 15 years, more than \$5 billion have been invested through the Cal-Fed and CVPIA processes in the environment. Until the Biological Opinion (BO) of 2007, the south of Delta (SOD) agricultural contracted water supply was 1,800 TAF; that was 100% of the historical CVP agricultural water contract. After the 2007 BO, the SOD agricultural water supply diminished to 1,170 TAG or 65% of the historical agricultural water contract; after the 2008 BO, the SOD agricultural water supply went down to 830 TAF or 46% of the historical contract; and after the 2009 BO, the SOD agricultural water supply was squeezed to 630 TAF or 35% of the historical contract water supply. Farmers on the west side of the San Joaquin Valley can expect a maximum 35% allocation of CVP contract water in the near-term. Mr. Azhderian said that in the present climate of environment versus human water struggles, it is impossible to project long-term CVP agricultural water supplies.

13. Regional and national RC&D news:

Brian Hockett reported that at the federal level there is enough money for RC&D Program. The process will take congressional action to insert funding for this program in the Fiscal Year 2011 budget. He will check to see how it applies to the council.

President Erro announced that the next council meeting will be dedicated to water and July and October will be dedicated to air quality. The next meeting will be Thursday, April 29, 2010.

14. The meeting was adjourned at 1:40 PM.

Union Bank Balance for

San Joaquin Valley RC&D

Beginning Balance as of 1/28/2009

\$3,811.07

Revenue:

Member donation - Self Help Ent.	\$200.00
Member donation - NWKRCD & KCBOS	\$400.00
Member donation - Westside & Stanislaus RCD's	\$400.00
Member donation - Tulare, E. Merced & Chow RCD Agreement #65-9104-7-744	\$600.00
	\$2,169.89

Revenue sub-total

\$3,769.89

Expenses:

Fred West, CPA - 1099 for Sandy Wright	\$60.00
Franchise Tax Board - filing fee for Annual Return	\$10.00
Franchise Tax Board - penalty	\$50.00
Secretary of State - filing fee for Statement of Info	\$20.00
Fred West, CPA - Tax form prep - Fed. & State	\$250.00
Phil Erro - computer, printer, Word, ink & case	\$1,122.74
Web Domain - CrystalTech	\$13.43
Phil Erro - Leadership Forum expenses	\$1,043.80
Phil Erro - airfare	\$540.80

Expense sub-total

\$3,110.77

Current balance as of 4/23/2010

\$4,470.19

**SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY
RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
BYLAWS
2010**

Explanation of changes from 2004 version Bylaws:

The 2004 version only mentioned sponsors of the San Joaquin Valley RC&D Council like the Resource Conservation Districts and granted the sponsors voting rights. It did not mention individuals as members of the Council. The 2010 version of the Bylaws acknowledges individuals as members of the Council and gives them the right to participate in Council meetings, serve on committees, act as liaisons with other organizations, and express opinions on Council matters.

The 2004 version restriction the actions of the committees to investigation and did not allow committees to make decisions. The 2010 Bylaws empower committees to identify and develop projects and with Council approval of the projects, make the necessary decisions to implement them.

The 2010 Bylaws allow officers to serve indefinitely at the pleasure of the Council instead of serving two year terms, as required by the 2004 Bylaws.

Any revisions to the 2010 Bylaws can be made at the Annual Meeting in January of 2011.

**SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY
RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
BYLAWS
2010**

February 19, 2010

ARTICLE I: NAME

Section 1: Name of Area

The name of this Area is the "San Joaquin Valley Resource Conservation and Development Area", hereafter referred to as the "Area."

Section 2: Geographic Definition of the Area

The geographic definition of the Area shall be designated on the San Joaquin Valley Resource Conservation and Development Area Map, hereafter referred to as "The Map". Boundaries on the Map may change in accordance with national Resource Conservation & Development policy. The Map is included as Exhibit 1 of these bylaws.

Section 3: Name of Governing Body

The name of the governing body of this Area shall be the "San Joaquin Valley Resource Conservation and Development Council", hereafter referred to as the "Council".

ARTICLE II: STRUCTURE

Section 1: Structure of Governing Body

Section 1: A. Make-up of Governing Body, the Council

The Council shall consist of up to 28 Sponsor Organizations as listed on the Sponsor List.

Section 1: B. Components of the Council

The Council shall be composed of the Sponsor organizations, each of which is represented by a Council Representative or Alternate Representative at Council meetings; the Executive Committee, consisting of the officers of the Council; Committees, both standing and ad-hoc; and non-voting members, being individuals who participate in Council business.

- Council Sponsorship: The Council shall be responsible for directing activities in the Area. The governing Council consists of a Representative or an Alternate Representative from each Sponsor Organization. Each Sponsor organization whose dues are paid has one vote in Council business.
- Executive Committee: The Executive Committee shall consist of the officers of the Council. Only Council officers are empowered to vote on Executive Committee business. Council Representatives or non-voting members may serve on the Executive Committee occasionally at the request of the officers but shall not have the right to vote on Executive Committee business. The Executive Committee shall be charged with the responsibility of implementing the policy of the Council and assisting the Coordinator with day to day activities, as needed.
- Standing and Ad-hoc Committees: Committees may be established by the Council to carry out work of the Council and shall report their findings to the Council.
- Non-voting members are individuals who are encouraged to contribute to Council meeting discussions, conduct approved Council business, advise the Council, join Council committees, serve on

the Executive Committee at the discretion of Council officers, sign petitions as members of the Council, and reach out and coordinate with other organizations on behalf of the Council but may not vote on Council business or be a Council officer.

ARTICLE III: SELECTION OF SPONSORS

Section 1: Sponsor Organizations

The Council will consist of a maximum of eleven (11) Resource Conservation Districts, eight (8) members at large, two (2) Tribal Governments, and one representative from each of the seven (7) County Boards of Supervisors, all from within the Area. Non-participating Sponsors may be replaced by a two thirds vote. A vacancy may be filled (while maintaining the diversity of the group) by a two-thirds vote.

Section 2: Designation of Council Representatives

Each Sponsor Organization shall designate one Representative and one Alternate Representative to serve on the Council. Each Sponsor has one vote. A Council Representative shall be a management employee or be duly elected or appointed by the governing body of the designating Sponsor Organization.

Section 3: Terms of Office as Council Representatives

Council Representatives shall hold office at the discretion of their respective Boards, or until a change of status with the Sponsor Organization occurs. Council Representatives may hold office for any number of consecutive years, unless directed otherwise by their respective Boards. Nothing in these Bylaws shall prevent a Sponsor Organization from changing its designated Representative or Alternate Representative as that Sponsor Organization deems appropriate.

Section 4: Loss of Eligibility

When a Sponsor Organization is replaced, its Council Representative and Alternate Representative lose eligibility to serve on the Council. Additionally, a Council Representative's status with his or her Sponsor Organization may change, and that change may disqualify the Council Representative to hold office. In the event that a Council Representative or Alternate Representative loses his or her eligibility to be a Council Representative or Alternate Representative, he or she shall not continue as a Representative or Alternate Representative.

ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS

Section 1: Election of Officers

Council Representatives shall elect officers of the Council. Nominees to be officers must be Council Representatives. The election shall take place at the Annual Meeting.

Section 2: Term of Elected Officers

The term of each Officer of the Council shall commence upon election at the Annual Meeting. Each officer shall hold office for one calendar year, or until the next consecutive Annual Meeting, whichever shall occur first.

Section 3: Term Limits

Officers shall hold office as many terms as the Council elects them at Annual Meetings.

Section 4: Filling a Vacancy

In the event that the President or other Officer ceases to be available or eligible for office, the remaining Sponsors of the Executive Committee shall elect a new President or other Officer; and then shall call a meeting of the Council to ratify the election of the Executive Committee, or to formally elect a new President or other Officer to serve the remainder of the Term.

Section 5: Duties of Officers:

President: The President shall be the chief elected officer of the Council, charged with the duty of coordinating all its functions, subject to the orders of the Council. The President shall preside at meetings, appoint committee chairpersons, serve as ex-officio member of all committees, and shall perform all other duties consistent with this office.

First Vice-President: In the absence of the President, the First Vice-President shall perform all the duties of the President and any other duties assigned.

Second Vice-President: In the absence of the President and the First Vice President, the Second Vice-President shall perform all the duties of the President and any other duties assigned.

Secretary: The Secretary shall be responsible for the minutes of the organization, issuing notices, keeping roll of all Sponsors, and be custodian of the records of the Council.

Treasurer: The Treasurer shall be responsible for implementing and overseeing the financial policies and processes as established by the Council.

Section 6: Executive Committee of the Council

The Executive Committee of the Council shall consist of the Officers of the organization, namely, the President, the First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, the Secretary and the Treasurer. At the discretion of the Officers, Council Representatives and non-voting members may participate in Executive Committee meetings to effectively implement web outreach and other activities.

Section 7: Powers of the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall act on the Council's business between regular meetings of the Council. The Executive Committee shall seek ratification of all their actions by the Council at its next regular meeting.

ARTICLE V: POWERS AND LIMITS OF THE COUNCIL, STANDING COMMITTEES AND AD-HOC COMMITTEES

Section 1: The Council

The Council shall establish the mission, vision, and goals of the organization. The Council officers and pertinent committees shall develop the area plan and annual plan, formulate Council policy, and set rules, all subject to Council approval, for the orderly conduct of Council activities and business. Council decisions are required for appropriation of Council funds; changes in goals, plans, and policies; and approval of Council projects. When developments occur between Council meetings that would adversely or positively affect the goals, plans, or policies of the Council, the Council president and fellow officers shall poll the Council Representatives of sponsor organizations in good standing to discern their stand on such developments. When a majority of the sponsors who respond to the poll either in favor of or in opposition to proposals, legislative actions, or other similar developments, Council officers shall be empowered to communicate the Council position to the organization or individual responsible for such proposals or actions.

Section 2: Standing & Ad-hoc Committees

Standing and Ad-hoc Committees shall be established by the Council, as needed, to carry out the work

of the Council. The functions of the committees shall be to make investigations, conduct studies or hearings, receive public input, make recommendations to the Council, conceive projects and programs, write grant proposals, and do other activities delegated by the Council. Standing and Ad-hoc Committees shall be authorized to make minor decisions as needed to carry out approved activities. In the event that these committees need expenditures authorized or other decisions made between Council meetings, the Executive Committee shall have the authority to make such decisions.

Section 3: Composition

Standing and Ad hoc Committees may include residents of the Area not elected to the Council in addition to Council Representatives. The President or Committee Chairman may select members of Standing and Ad-Hoc Committees.

Section 4: Limits of Authority

Standing and Ad-Hoc Committees are information gathering, project generating, and implementing bodies. Committee actions shall be within the bounds of Council decisions. Committee decisions with respect to conceiving and implementing Council work shall neither supersede Council decisions authorizing such work nor countermand Council policy.

ARTICLE VI: MEETINGS

Section 1: Council Meetings

Council meetings shall be held on a regular basis, at least quarterly. The Executive Committee shall determine the schedule, time and location.

Section 2: Executive Committee Meetings

Executive Committee meetings shall be held approximately one month prior to Council meetings and more often at the discretion of the President.

Section 3: Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting shall be held each year during the month of January

Section 4: Attendance

If a Council Representative is unable to attend a scheduled meeting, the Alternate Representative shall take his or her place.

Section 5: Quorum

A quorum of the Council shall be a majority of the Council Representatives and/or Alternate Representatives present. A quorum of the Executive Committee shall be a majority of the officers present. "Present" shall be defined as physically present at the meeting, participating by telephone, participating by voice and video conference, or participating by other means that enable Council Representatives and Committee members to understand, comment on, and vote on business being conducted at the meeting.

Section 6: Majority Action

Decisions or acts of the Council and/or Executive Committee shall be determined by a majority vote of a quorum of the Council and/or Executive Committee, unless otherwise defined in these bylaws.

ARTICLE VII: ENGAGEMENT OF THE PUBLIC

Section 1: Sponsorship notification

Sponsors shall be notified in writing by email and/or by postal mail at least two weeks before each regular meeting of the Council.

Section 2: Member notification

Members shall be notified in writing by email and/or postal mail at least two weeks before each regular meeting of the Council.

Section 3: Community notification

Press Releases of Council meetings shall be distributed to the Maddy Daily, Great Valley Center, and other web based news media as well as area newspapers prior to each regular meeting of the Council.

Section 4: Public Workshops

The public shall be invited to participate in portions of regular meetings and in workshops on subjects of importance throughout the Area.

ARTICLE VIII: FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS

Section 1: Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of the Council shall be from October 1 to September 30 of the following year.

Section 2: Funds

The Council shall estimate the amount of monies needed each year to operate the organization. A budget for each fiscal year will be developed no later than 60 days prior to the beginning of the fiscal year for submission to the Sponsors.

ARTICLE IX: DUES

Section 1: Annually, the Council shall determine the dues to be requested of each sponsor and due date when adopting the budget at the Council meeting nearest and prior to the end of each fiscal year.

ARTICLE X: DUTIES OF THE COUNCIL

Section 1: Purpose

The Area and its governing Council are organized to provide a means for local leadership to coordinate and utilize the facilities and techniques available under current federal, state and local programs; and any new programs as may be instituted, to aid in planning and carrying out a balanced program of natural resources, economic development and educational opportunities to meet local, state and national needs.

ARTICLE XI: DISSOLUTION

Upon Dissolution or winding up of this association, its assets remaining after payment, or provision for payment, of all debts and liabilities of this association shall be distributed to a nonprofit fund, foundation, association, conservancy or corporation which is organized and operated exclusively for charitable purposes and which has established its tax exempt status under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

ARTICLE XII: INDEMNIFICATION

The Council may adopt a resolution authorizing the purchase and maintenance of insurance on behalf of any Sponsor Organization, Sponsor or agent of the Council against liability, other than for violating provisions of the law relating to self-dealing.

ARTICLE XIII: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The current edition of Roberts Rules of Order shall be the final authority in all questions of parliamentary procedure when such rules are not inconsistent with the RC&D program regulations or these bylaws.

ARTICLE XIV: AMENDMENTS

Section 1: Notification

Notification of proposed changes to these bylaws, or to the Map in Exhibit 1, must be submitted in writing to the Council Sponsors one-month before a vote is scheduled.

Section 2: Vote

These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote at any regular or special meeting after notice as required by Section 1 above.

Section 3: Distribution of information

Copies of changes on the Map or in these Bylaws shall be sent, as adopted, to the Sponsor Organizations.



San Joaquin Valley Resource Conservation & Development Council

WWW.SJVRCD.ORG

OFFICERS

PHILIP ERRO

President

Westside Resource Conservation District

TONY AZEVEDO

1st Vice President
Kings-Excelsior RCD

MELISSA KELLY-ORTEGA

2nd Vice President
East Merced RCD

TOBY HORST

Secretary

Sierra Resource Conservation District

BRIAN HOCKETT

Treasurer

North West Kern
Resource Conservation District

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Chowchilla-Redtop RCD
East Merced RCD
East Stanislaus RCD
Kings-Excelsior RCD
North West Kern RCD
Sierra RCD
Tulare County RCD
West Stanislaus RCD
Westside RCD

COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Fresno County
Kern County
Kings County
Madera County
Merced County
Stanislaus County
Tulare County

Native American Tribes

Santa Rosa Rancheria
Tule River Indian Reservation

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Central San Joaquin Valley
Community Action Consortium

City of Wasco

Community Services &
Employment Training, Inc.

King's County Economic
Development Corporation

San Joaquin Valley Leadership Forum

Self-Help Enterprises

April 29, 2010

The Honorable Jeff Ira, Mayor
Redwood City
P.O. Box 391
Redwood City, CA 94063-0391

RE: DML proposal to import Kern County water to Redwood City

Dear Mayor Ira,

The San Joaquin Valley Resource Conservation and Development Council is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to conserving resources to assure a sustainable future for our region. The DMB Associates proposal to export 8,400 acrefeet of San Joaquin Valley surface water to Redwood City concerns our Council very much. For over 80 years San Joaquin Valley water districts and local governments have developed and imported surface water to offset the over drafting of our groundwater. The loss of 8,400 acrefeet of Kern County surface water will inevitably lead to increased groundwater pumping to maintain water supplies for farms and cities and will exacerbate the depletion of groundwater in Kern County and throughout the San Joaquin Valley.

This proposed 35 to 70 year transfer of surface water out of the San Joaquin Valley comes on the heels of a permanent transfer of 14,000 acrefeet of surface water from Kings County to San Bernardino County and a proposed permanent transfer of 1,700 acrefeet of Kings County surface water to Orange County. Added to these transfers of surface water, an 8,400 acrefeet transfer from Kern County to San Mateo County will significantly increase the depletion of our regional ground water. Our Council opposes the 8,400 acrefeet transfer of surface water to San Mateo County on the grounds that it diminishes the economic sustainability of the San Joaquin Valley. Please urge your City Council to vote against this proposed water transfer.

Yours truly,

Philip Erro, President
San Joaquin Valley RC&D Council
philipperro@sbcglobal.net
(559) 449-8125



RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COUNCILS FY 2009 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Councils are the leadership entities associated with RC&D areas. RC&D Councils help plan and carry out activities that increase conservation of natural resources, support economic development, and enhance the environment and standard of living in local communities. RC&D Councils are non-profit entities that work in partnership with the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service through a federal coordinator.

RC&D Council members are volunteers and include local, civic, appointed, and elected officials. Because RC&D areas are locally organized, sponsored, and led, the program provides an ideal way for residents to join together and decide how to improve life in their communities. RC&D Councils help identify and address these unmet needs. Currently, 375 RC&D Councils serve 180 million people in 2,693 counties in all 50 states, the Caribbean, and the Pacific Islands Area.

A few of the many RC&D accomplishments in FY2009:

- 676 new businesses were created
- 5,921 businesses were expanded or retained
- 401 businesses were financially assisted with funds totaling \$25.9 million
- 7,060 jobs were created and 4,778 retained
- Improvements were made on 2,420,000 acres of wildlife habitat, 400,000 acres of lakes, and 7,731 miles of streams
- 1,040,000 people acquired new knowledge or skills
- 3,200,000 economically or socially disadvantaged people were helped nationwide
- Formation of 129 cooperatives was facilitated
- \$283.9 million in external grant funds was obtained for projects
- Agri-tourism activities were developed on 927 farm or ranch operations
- 704 farms or ranches were assisted through direct farm-to-consumer marketing – community supported agriculture groups, restaurants, stores, or farmers markets
- 631 instances of Tribal Nations served
- Over 601,701 acres of agricultural land were preserved or protected
- Water quality projects at 1,871 animal agricultural operations were assisted
- Construction or rehabilitation of 17 flood control structures
- Over 6,100 workshops, tours, and seminars were conducted on agriculture, aquaculture, forestry, and wildlife issues
- Over 2,900 training sessions on leadership development, grant writing, business development, non-profit management and environmental education were held
- More than 500 natural resource related school curricula and programs were developed

RC&D Councils in eight states implemented renewable energy projects, including biofuels from soybeans, ethanol production from corn, and energy production from other biomass, solar, water, and wind sources.

Funds provided to RC&D Councils through Congressional appropriations provide technical assistance and support for one federal coordinator per RC&D Council. In turn, councils seek outside funding to address local needs identified in council-formulated area plans for conservation and economic development. In FY09, RC&D Councils were able to raise an average of \$5.40 in funding (from private foundations and government grants) for every \$1.00 provided by Congress. In recent years, however, program funding has remained level and inflation has thus gradually decreased the level of council services provided to local communities. Many RC&D Councils no longer have full-time coordinators, and some program assistant positions have also been eliminated.

The RC&D program is currently funded at \$50.73 million for FY10.

The National Association of RC&D Councils requests that the following report language be added to the FY2011 Agriculture Appropriations Bill:

The 375 Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Councils currently authorized play an important role in rural development and natural resource conservation. The USDA has indicated that on average it takes \$173,100 to support an RC&D Council with a full-time coordinator. The Committee therefore provides \$50.73 million to maintain the current operations of existing Councils.



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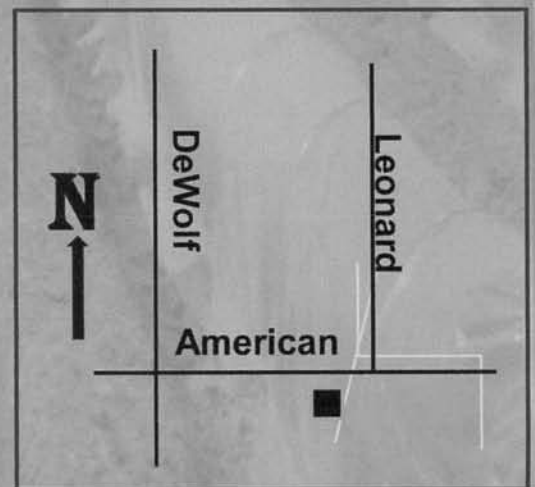
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Comida sana, Provechos robustos
Qoobloo huvsi, Tau tuspeev zoo
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- Multi-task tillage
- Pest Management
- Pesticide safety

**HEADSET AND TRANSLATION TO:
SPANISH, HMONG, LAO, CAMBODIAN**

Date: June 8, 2010
Time: 8:00AM – 2:30PM
Location: Cherta Farms, Inc
8269 American Ave
Del Rey, CA 93616



For more information contact:
San Joaquin Valley RC&D: Phil Erro Phone: (559) 252-2191 ext.112