LOWER MOKELUMNE RIVER WATERSHED STEWARDSHIP

STEERING COMMITTEE

December 20, 2013 Meeting

Committee Members Present

Matt Bronson (One Path) Matthew Hoffman (LWC)

Margaret Smither-Kopperl (USDA NRCS PMC) Shirley Fowler (USDA NRCS PMC)

Chris Storm (Vino Farms) Kathy Grant (City of Lodi)

Lodi Rules

Joe Spano

Staff

John Brodie

Call to Order, Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 12:01pm. Those in attendance introduced themselves.

Agenda

The agenda was approved with one addition under New Business

Minutes

The minutes of the November 8, 2013 meeting were approved as transmitted.

New Officer(s) Elections

Mr. Bronson appointed a nominating committee that would meet via email to discuss possible candidates for chairmanship of the Committee. Mr. Bronson’s term is expiring, and he lacks the time needed to commit to the position.

Meeting Date Change

The group ratified discussion at the November meeting to move the meeting dates to the first Friday of the month so John can attend the MokeWISE meetings. He will keep the group informed of activities on the MokeWISE steering committee and workplan. The next Stewardship Committee meeting is scheduled Friday February 7, 2014.

Old Business

1. Irrigated Lands Program Update—John B. reported the Regional Board re-inserted language into the draft order that would require the Coalition/RCD to submit the names of violators. John reported initial reaction from a majority of RCD Board members is that they would resign before turning in the names non-compliant members and the reason they are out of compliance. It could mean another group will step in to be the “3rd party” or local growers might be forced to secure individual coverage.
2. SLEWS/FARMS Leadership Update—John reported on the recent FARMS field day at the USDA NRCS Plant Materials Center (PMC). Students helped with weed removal and planting native grass seed along the Mokelumne River levee, conducted photo monitoring, and cleaned wood duck boxes.
3. Watershed Users’ Guide—There was no update to report at this time. Ms. Grant noted that the documents were going to print, with a run of approximately 15,000 copies.
4. Ecosystem Service Pilot project—the project continues to move forward. EBMUD is a regular participant with some local growers and John B. participating as they are able.
5. Community Outreach
6. Watershed Open House—Dr. Smither-Kopperl is interested in hosting an agricultural education day/watershed open house at the PMC. She will work with John to determine a date in late March or early April.
7. NSJWCD—No report

New Business

1. Chairman’s Farewell—Mr. Bronson thanked the Committee members for their participation during his two years. Mr. Bronson said he enjoyed meeting and working with so many interesting people during his tenure.

# Next Meeting Schedule

The next meeting of the Lower Mokelumne River Watershed Stewardship Steering Committee is scheduled February 7, 2014 at a site to be determined.