



EL DORADO AGRICULTURAL WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT CORP

PROTECTING OUR PRECIOUS RESOURCE

JANUARY 2018

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Watershed Connection

A publication for members of the El Dorado Subwatershed Coalition

A member of the Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition

Presidents Message

By Dedrian Kobervig

Officers:

Dedrian Kobervig
President
Crystal Creek Farm
530-644-7014

Norm Krizl
Vice President
Krizl Vineyard

Bob Witters
Secretary/Treasurer
Crystal Springs
Vineyard

Directors:

Tom Heflin
Rainbow Orchards

Kirk Taylor
Smokey Ridge Ranch

Carolyn Mansfield
Goldbug Farms

Ann Johnson
Walker Vineyard

Merv de Haas
Irrigated Pasture

Dear Members,

I would like to thank everyone who responded to the Board's request to object to the changes the State Water Board is proposing to the Eastern San Joaquin Water Quality Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) General Order. This newsletter will go to print before we know the State Water Board's decision but the consensus is that the State Water Board will go ahead with the changes it is proposing despite agriculture's objection to them.

We are now sharing our office space with the non-profit Ag In The Classroom. It has been a win-win situation for both our organizations as we now split rent and utilities which reduces our yearly costs.

With your 2018 invoice you will be receiving your 2018 Farm Evaluation forms. Currently, we are required to submit Farm Evaluation summaries to the State once every five years. Completion of your Farm Evaluation is mandatory for membership in the coalition. Please complete and return with your payment. Since we are required to complete these only once every five years you will not have to fill it out again until 2021.

The State Water Board acreage fees have increased this year to 86 cents per acre. When the program started in 2004 State Water Board fees were 12 cents per acre. You will see this increase on you 2018 statement.

The Board hopes to see you at our annual meeting on Monday, February 26th at 5:30 P.M. in the Planning Commission Board Room. Please note we have vacancies on the board and would love your help and participation to fill them. The meeting days and times are included in this newsletter. Fresh voices, new ideas and new faces are always welcome. If you are interested in sitting on the board please contact me.

Sincerely,

Dedrian Kobervig
530-644-7014
dkobervig@gmail.com

Summary of the Expected Changes to Irrigated Lands

The *Watershed Coalition News*, a publication of the Coalition for Urban Rural Environmental Stewardship (CURES) gave a summary of the expected changes.

Despite a concerted push by the agricultural community and water quality coalitions, several provisions are likely to be adopted as written by the State Water Board on February 7, 2018. The major proposed changes include:

- ◆ Requiring all coalition members to annually monitor domestic wells on their parcels that serve residences, shops or other facilities beginning in 2019. When a domestic well exceeds the nitrate drinking water standard, the laboratory analyzing the water sample must provide notice to the Regional Water Board within 24 hours. Growers are required to notify users of the well water if results exceed the nitrate drinking water standard. Unlike the first draft Order, water quality coalitions will not be involved in following up with members to ensure sampling is completed. Rather the Regional Water Board will be charged with the responsibility.
- ◆ Irrigation is added to the existing Nitrogen Management Plan (now called the Irrigation and Nitrogen Management Plan or INMP) with requirements to record total water applied to a crop and estimated Evapotranspiration (ET) each year.
- ◆ All members, regardless of groundwater vulnerability designation, must have their INMP certified by a professional (Certified Crop Advisor (CCA), agronomist, etc.), or complete a self-certification course. The INMP is kept in farm records and only needs to be produced should there be a Regional Water Board inspection.
- ◆ All members must eventually submit an INMP Summary Report that includes selected information from the INMP such as nitrogen applied and yield. For growers in low vulnerability areas, the requirement begins in 2021.
- ◆ Frequency of submitting the annual Farm Evaluation (FE) is being extended in the revised order to once every five years for growers in high vulnerability areas. After the 2018 FE is turned in to the coalition, the next report is not due until 2021, then every five years after that date.

For a complete copy of *The Watershed Coalition News* go to:
<https://curesworks.org/pdfs/wcn/WCNWinter17.pdf>

Ag. Water Quality Member Update

Treasurer's Report.....

By Bob Witters

The 2017 year end report indicates that we are under budget by \$5,236.00. This was primarily due to a reduction in contract services. Lesa Osterholm agreed to switch from a monthly fee to an hourly rate about mid-year. Inflationary increases pushed our operational costs up, but that's not new to anyone. The good news is our budget for 2018 is balanced and there appears to be no pressure to change our due structures for 2018. However, we will decide our dues structure at our annual meeting.

As of December 31, 2017

Income	
Member Dues	\$42,576
Expenses	
Computer/Internet	\$1,176
SVWQC	\$9,827
Contract Services	\$16,303
Government Fees	\$70
Insurance	\$2,064
Operations	\$7,900
Total Expenses:	\$37,340
Income/Loss:	\$5,236
Assets	
Checking Account Balance	\$8,081
Savings Account Balance	\$36,452
Total Assets:	\$44,533

We have three board member's whose terms end this year (2018) and two vacant positions that need to be filled. Board member's terms run for three years. Please call Dee Kobervig at 530-644-7014 if you're interested in being on the board. Your help and input are needed!!!

Officers of the Board

President
Dedrian (Dee) Kobervig (2018)
Christmas Trees

Vice President
Norm Krizl (2019)
Vineyards

Treasurer
Robert (Bob) Witters (2021)
Vineyards

Secretary
Vacant Position
Sarah Murray is presently taking the minutes

Board of Directors

Merv de Haas (2018)
Pasture

Tom Heflin (2018)
At Large

Carolyn Mansfield (2019)
Orchards

Kirk Taylor (2019)
Specialty Crops

Ann Walker Johnson (2021)
Vineyard



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P. O. Box 286, Placerville, CA 95667-0286

2018 Meeting Dates

El Dorado Agricultural Water Management Corporation
EDC Agricultural Department 311 Fair Lane, Placerville

Annual Meeting of Members

**Monday, February 26, 5:30pm - Planning Commission Board Room
2850 Fairlane Court, Placerville**

Board of Directors Meetings

Monday, February 26, 6:30pm - Planning Commission
Monday, April 16, 3:30pm
Monday, June 18, 3:30pm
Monday, August 20, 3:30pm
Monday, October 15, 3:30pm
Monday, December 17, 3:30pm

Executive Committee Meetings

Monday, March 19, 3:30pm
Monday, May 21, 3:30pm
Monday, July 16, 3:30pm (if needed)
Monday, November 19, 3:30pm

Technical Advisory Committee Meeting

To be called on a "as needed basis"