



MINUTES

DATE: **Wednesday, March 9, 2016**

PLACE: Marin County Farm Bureau

520 Mesa Road, Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

1. A regularly scheduled meeting was called to order by Sally Gale Director, at 1:06pm.

Roll call of directors: Terry Sawyer, Bob Giacomini arrived at 1:30pm & Steve Doughty.

Associate Directors: George Clyde & Richard Plant

Staff: Nancy Scolari, Elise Suronen, Lynette Niebrugge & Michele Harris

Additional Attendees: Jim Jensen (Marin Agricultural Land Trust Stewardship Project Manager), Zack Mendes (Marin Agricultural Land Trust Stewardship Project Manager), Vanessa Wyant (Point Blue/STRAW Project Manager), Jennifer Walser (Natural Resources Conservation Service), Leslie Ferguson (State Water Resources Control Board Grant Manager), Victor Aelion (State Water Resources Control Board), Dennis Dierks (Landowner), Tom Gaman (Tomales Bay Watershed Council), Paul Modrell (Water Board), Barbara (Measure AA Bay Restoration).

ACTION ITEMS

2. MARIN RCD

Sally Gale opened the meeting by reading a letter of resignation from Hank Corda, effective 03/01/16. Bob expressed our regret at accepting his resignation. Hank was described as a terrific chair; his 25 year contribution to the Board will be sorely missed. He gave the board stability and had a long reach into the community. The Marin RCD expresses our deepest gratitude for his excellent leadership which has led only to benefit Marin County's landowners and the working landscapes.

A. Board decision to elect Marin RCD officers to fill the positions of President, Vice President, Secretary & Treasurer.

MOTION: Bob; SECOND: Steve; AYES: Unanimous (Bob, Terry & Steve); NOES: none; ABSTENSIONS: none, to elect Sally Gale as President, Steve Doughty as Vice President & Terry Sawyer as Treasurer.

B. Board decision to establish a subcommittee to review applications for directorship and bring candidates to an RCD Special Meeting for interview and appointment to the Marin RCD Board of Directors.

MOTION: Bob; SECOND: Terry; AYES: Unanimous (Bob, Terry & Steve); NOES: none; ABSTENSIONS: none, to establish a subcommittee to review applications for directorship and bring candidates to an RCD Special Meeting for interview and appointment to the Marin RCD Board of Directors. The Subcommittee will be Sally, Bob & Nancy.

3. MINUTES AND FINANCIALS

A. Board approval of Minutes.

MOTION: Steve; SECOND: Terry; AYES: Unanimous (Terry & Steve); NOES: none; ABSTENSIONS: none, to approve December minutes.

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- B. Board approval of RCD financial reports and bills to be paid.
MOTION: Steve; SECOND: Terry; AYES: Unanimous (Terry & Steve); NOES: none;
ABSTENSIONS: none, to approve RCD financial reports and bills to be paid. Including Lou Zanardi for \$18,197.98, The Barn for \$1,358 & Smile for \$128.33.
 - C. Board approval of cell phone reimbursement policy
MOTION: Terry; SECOND: Steve; AYES: Unanimous (Terry & Steve); NOES: none;
ABSTENSIONS: none, to approve of cell phone reimbursement policy of \$30 per month.
- 4. CONSERVING OUR WATERSHEDS: PHASE IV, V & MEASURE A**
- A. Board approval to execute Change Order #1 with Prunuske Chatham Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$46,355 to provide technical services for COW IV.
MOTION: Steve; SECOND: Terry; AYES: Unanimous (Bob, Terry & Steve); NOES: none;
ABSTENSIONS: none, to approve half of the change order increasing the contract to \$23,177.50 and bring back a more detailed budget to the board next month.
 - B. Board approval to execute Change Order #1 with Gold Ridge RCD for an amount not to exceed \$18,000 for technical services in the development of plans for COW IV projects.
MOTION: Steve; SECOND: Terry; AYES: Unanimous (Bob, Terry & Steve); NOES: none;
ABSTENSIONS: none, to approve half of the change order increasing the contract by \$9,000 and bring a detailed budget back to the board next month.
 - C. Board approval to execute Change Order #3 with Point Blue Conservation Science for an amount not to exceed \$16,000 for the Students and Teachers Restoring a Watershed Program to work on COW III projects.
MOTION: Steve; SECOND: Terry; AYES: Unanimous (Bob, Terry & Steve); NOES: none;
ABSTENSIONS: none, to approve to execute Change Order #3 with Point Blue Conservation Science for an amount not to exceed \$16,000 for the Students and Teachers Restoring a Watershed Program to work on COW III projects.
- 5. MARIN CARBON PROJECT**
- A. Request Board approval to execute Professional Services Contract to hire Sonoma RCD Project Manager for an amount not to exceed \$4,000 to assist Marin RCD staff in the development of a Rangeland Carbon Farming Template.
MOTION: Steve; SECOND: Terry; AYES: Unanimous (Bob, Terry & Steve); NOES: none;
ABSTENSIONS: none, to execute Professional Services Contract to hire Sonoma RCD Project Manager for an amount not to exceed \$4,000 to assist Marin RCD staff in the development of a Rangeland Carbon Farming Template.
- 6. SAN FRANCISCO BAY CLEAN WATER, POLLUTION PREVENTION AND HABITAT RESTORATION BALLOT MEASURE**
- A. Request Board approval of letter of support for San Francisco Bay Clean Water, Pollution Prevention and Habitat Restoration Ballot Measure.
MOTION: Terry; SECOND: Bob; AYES: Bob & Terry; NOES: Steve; ABSTENSIONS: none, to approve of letter of support goals described in San Francisco Bay Clean Water, Pollution Prevention and Habitat Restoration Ballot Measure.
- 7. GRANTS**
- A. Request Board approval to seek grant funding to complete Pine Gulch Pond #2 construction to accommodate maintenance requirements.
MOTION: Terry; SECOND: Bob; AYES: Unanimous (Bob, Steve & Terry); NOES: none;
ABSTENSIONS: none, Elise to follow up with the Permitting Agency by letter regarding Dennis's inability to keep in compliance with the contract.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

8. UPDATES/PROGRAMS/PRESENTATIONS

Guest Presentations:

- **Tomales Bay Grazing Waiver** – Paul Modrell reports the water board is monitoring water quality. The new waiver requires ranchers to track residual dry matter. The waiver affects 177 property owners, 380 Ag parcels & 108,000 acres. Currently enrolled are 99 landowners, 257 parcels and 74,144 acres. The water board is developing an improved communication & outreach strategy.
- **USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service** – No report.
- **Marin Agricultural Land Trust/SAP** – No report.
- **Point Blue Conservation Science/STRAW** – No report.

Program Updates:

- **Spring Tour:** Does anyone want a tour of Pine Gulch Ponds and carbon projects? Nancy will get a tour together for April
- **Marin Coastal Permit Coordination Program** – No activity.
Marin Carbon Project –STRAW conducted carbon plantings at two sites: a riparian buffer and windbreak/hedgerow. RCD staff arranged a carbon farm planning training day with Bay Area RCDs and NRCS staff. A follow up soils field day is now being organized for the end of April. Eight farms were selected for carbon farm planning assistance in 2015. MCP created a timeline to accomplish the 8 plans in 2016. Nancy attended Healthy Soils Initiative meetings with state staff to develop program funding.
- **Black Mountain Roads** – Monitoring was conducted to assess roads during rain events.
- **Urban Streams**– The USC, with MCSTOPPP, organized and carried out a 56 person workshop in partnership with RWQCB, PCI, STRAW and AmeriCorps. Assisted Gold Ridge RCD with educational materials for their school program, presented to DFW on what MRCD's doing to conserve water in Marin and sent 50 packets of information regarding flooding and creek-related emergencies to the SGV Stewards. USC continues to organize a partnership between PRNS, PRNSA and the MRCD in an effort to have a volunteer-run native plant nursery. Presented to the Muir Beach Advisory Group and the Fairfax Planning Commission and in partnership with MCSTOPPP, organized a successful workshop in MV with STRAW and PCI teaching about erosion control, water quality, permitting and rainwater harvesting. USC assisted Friends of Corte Madera Creek Watershed group with a restoration day. Finally, the USC has been and will continue to be focused on writing a grant to Dept Fish and Wildlife to implement the Landowner Assistance Program projects in San Geronimo Valley.
- **Pine Gulch Restoration Project** – A construction check was conducted on November 24th by CA Dept. Fish and Wildlife engineer and contract manager. Projects are now being buttoned up and a Final Report is near completion.
- **Americano Creek Watershed** – Flurry of Feathers: Birds of the Estero Americano: Ag Heritage Outing to occur March 26th 8:30am – 11am in Valley Ford.
- **Tomales Bay/Walker Watershed** – All construction is complete. Planting season is nearing completion.

- **Dairy Waiver** – Staff participated in a call to evaluate the Draft General Order for Waste Discharge Requirements for dairies, chickens, horses, goats, etc. A Draft document will be provided for public comment within the year.
- **Media/Outreach:** No activity.
- **Grant Proposals:** Nancy met with UCCE to discuss community needs for carbon, dairy, grazing etc. Sarah is working on a CA Dept of Fish and Wildlife grant for the three San Geronimo projects presented to the RCD Board two years ago.
- **District:** Hank provided Personnel Policy Manual for review. Nancy has been working with County staff on budgeting for the Urban Streams position. Support will be needed in March (Nancy will be away).
- **Landowner Requests:** All landowners who applied for the COW and Carbon Farm programs have been selected. Letters were sent out to applicants notifying them of the status of their applications.

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- March 23. Marin County BOS Budget Hearing.
- September 23. State of Bay Conference

10. CORRESPONDENCE

- None

11. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment for any matter not listed on this agenda, provided that no Board action is to be taken. All statements that require a response will be referred to staff to be placed on the next agenda.

12. MEETING ADJOURNED