

MARIN RESOURCE



CONSERVATION DISTRICT

**MINUTES**

DATE: **Wednesday, April 13, 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 9:32am.**

Roll call of directors: Terry Sawyer, Bob Giacomini, Steve Doughty

**New Director is sworn in!** Mike Moretti

Associate Directors: George Clyde & Richard Plant

Staff: Nancy Scolari, Elise Suronen, Lynette Niebrugge, Sarah Phillips & 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), Jason Hoorn (Gold Ridge RCD Project Manager), Michelle Cooper (Marin Agricultural Land Trust Stewardship Project), Heather Furmidge (Resident/Point Blue Volunteer), Eric Rubenstahl (Marin Agricultural Land Trust Stewardship Project).

**ACTION ITEMS**

**2. MINUTES AND FINANCIALS**

A. Board approval of Minutes.

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

B. Board approval of RCD financial reports and bills to be paid.

MOTION: Steve; SECOND: Terry; AYES: Unanimous (Terry, Bob & Steve); NOES: none; ABSTENSIONS: none, to approve RCD financial reports and bills to be paid.

**3. DISTRICT**

A. Board Member Vacancy: Interview Applicant Mike Moretti; Consider Appointment; and Make Appointment, if appropriate.

MOTION: Bob; SECOND: Steve; AYES: Unanimous (Bob, Terry & Steve); NOES: none; ABSTENSIONS: none, to appoint Mike Moretti as the newest Board Member.

B. Board approval of Resolution 2016-01 proposing an election be held within the District and requesting the Board of Supervisors to consolidate with any other elections conducted on said date, and requesting services by the Marin County Elections Department.

MOTION: Bob; SECOND: Steve; AYES: Unanimous (Bob, Terry & Steve); NOES: none; ABSTENSIONS: none, to approve 2016-01 proposing an election be held within the District and requesting the Board of Supervisors to consolidate with any other elections conducted on said date, and requesting services by the Marin County Elections Department.

C. Board approval to designate the position of Marin RCD Secretary.

MOTION: Bob; SECOND: Steve; AYES: Unanimous (Bob, Terry & Steve); NOES: none; ABSTENSIONS: none, to approve to designate Michele Harris to the position of Marin RCD Secretary.

- D. Board approval of finding and recommendations in response to Marin Civil Grand Jury 2015-2016 report on Web Transparency Report Card: Bringing Marin County's Local Governments to Light.  
MOTION: Bob; SECOND: Steve; AYES: Unanimous (Bob, Terry & Steve); NOES:  
ABSTENSIONS: none, to approve of finding and recommendations in response to Marin Civil Grand Jury 2015-2016 report on Web Transparency Report Card: Bringing Marin County's Local Governments to Light.
- E. Board decision to comment on Marin County Noxious Weed Ordinance.  
MOTION: Bob; SECOND: Steve; AYES: Unanimous (Bob, Terry & Steve); NOES: none;  
ABSTENSIONS: none, to ask Ag Commissioners Office to extend the comment period and to come and address the Board with concerns.
- F. Board decision to comment on San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board's General Waste Discharge Requirements for Confined Animal Facilities.  
MOTION: Bob; SECOND: Steve; AYES: Unanimous (Bob, Terry & Steve); NOES: none;  
ABSTENSIONS: none, to approve sending no comments on the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board's General Waste Discharge Requirements for Confined Animal Facilities.

#### 4. CARBON FARMING

- A. Request Board approval to approve Scope of Work to hire Rangeland Consultant to complete 1-2 carbon farm plans.  
MOTION: Steve; SECOND: Bob; AYES: Unanimous (Bob, Terry & Steve); NOES: none;  
ABSTENSIONS: none, to approve Scope of Work to hire Rangeland Consultant to complete 1-2 carbon farm plans.

#### INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

##### 5. UPDATES/PROGRAMS/PRESENTATIONS

###### Guest Presentations:

- **Black Mountain Roads Project** – Jason Hoorn reports that the Black Mountain Project was awarded for \$403,546 and we currently have about \$30,000 left in the project to be completed and the project ends on 3/31/17. Black Mountain has about 1200 acres. An estimated 6184 cubic yards of sediment savings.
- **USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service** – Jennifer Walser reports that the NRCS is getting audited by the National Civil rights Team next month and read the Civil Rights Act to us. They are in the 4<sup>th</sup> round of funding and should select about 15 projects in the next 2 weeks.
- **Marin Agricultural Land Trust/SAP** – Jim Jensen reports they have a new employee Eric Rubenstahl who will be helping out with the SAP Stewardship Program. They are also ready to close on the Gallaher Ranch.
- **Point Blue Conservation Science/STRAW** – Vanessa Wyant reports - they are closing out the planting season. They have planted 7 of our projects and we will have a presentation from Vanessa soon.

###### Program Updates:

- **Finance Committee:** Nancy will be calling a meeting of the finance committee to review the District's financial standing, financial policies and FY 16-17 Budget.
- **Spring Tour:** Elise to email everyone to set a date.
- **Marin Coastal Permit Coordination Program** – No activity.
- **Marin Carbon Project** – A soil monitoring field day for RCD/NRCS staff is being organized for May 12th. One carbon farm plan is in progress and the second will be executed in mid-April. Marin RCD may partner up to hire a rangeland specialist. SCC

grant is coming to close. The Final Report is being compiled. MCP is meeting with Gov Brown Senior Advisor.

- **Black Mountain Roads** – Only 2 work tasks left in this contract: fencing and minor erosion control work.
- **Urban Streams Coordinator**– In the months of February and March, the USC conducted 2 site visits, assisted many residents and submitted a \$482,531 grant proposal to the CA Dept of Fish and Wildlife to fund 3 Landowner Assistance Program projects. The USC presented to the Fairfax Planning Commission and the Muir Beach Advisory Board. The collaborative native plant nursery at Pt. Reyes National Seashore is moving forward and more site visits are scheduled for April and May.
- **Americano Creek Watershed** – The Carbon Farm Planning process is open for applications <http://goldridgercd.org/projects.html> Gold Ridge is reaching out to landowners in the Estero for rain catchment projects which will be posted online. A summary of the Flurry of Feathers/Moody Dairy outing was a success.
- **Pine Gulch Restoration Project** –FINAL REPORT was completed and submitted!
- **Tomales Bay/Walker Watershed** – COW III FINAL REPORT is complete! All construction is complete. Planting season is nearing completion. Ten projects under going planning, permitting and design phase for COW IV.
- **Media/Outreach:** *The Soil Health Movement & Carbon Farming Locally*, Sonoma Marin Farm News.
- **Grant Proposals:** Sarah submitted a \$482,531 CA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife grant for 3 San Geronimo projects, presented to the RCD Board two years ago.
- **District:** Marin RCD received an A- on Civil Grand Jury Investigation on website transparency report card! RCD staff attended training on Prevailing Wage and Labor Compliance reporting. Lynette is in training to obtain her NRCS Conservation Planning Certificate with Kristan Flynn’s help.
- **Landowner Requests:** None received.

## 6. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- May 24<sup>th</sup>. Marin County BOS. Support our Urban Streams Coordinator, Sarah Phillips!!!!
- Due Friday, April 29<sup>th</sup>. San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board is accepting comment on General Waste Discharge Requirements (General WDRs) for Confined Animal Facilities.
- The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) recently announced the formation of a new office – the Office of Environmental Farming and innovation – where their climate smart agriculture initiatives will be coordinated.

## 7. CORRESPONDENCE

- None

## 8. 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.

## 9. MEETING ADJOURNED – 11:45am