



## MINUTES

DATE: **Wednesday, September 14, 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 9:31am.**

Roll call of directors: Bob Giacomini, Steve Doughty (left at 11:43am), Terry Sawyer & Mike Moretti. Associate Directors: George Clyde & Richard Plant. Staff: Nancy Scolari, Lynette Niebrugge & Michele Harris. Additional Attendees: Eric Rubenstahl (Marin Agricultural Land Trust Stewardship Project Manager), Zack Mendes (Marin Agricultural Land Trust Stewardship Project Manager), Vanessa Wyant (Point Blue/STRAW Project Manager), Jim Jensen (Marin Agricultural Land Trust Stewardship Project Manager), Jeff Stump (Marin Agricultural Land Trust Director of Conservation), John Parodi (Point Blue Conservation Science Restoration Manager), Jeff Creque Carbon Cycle Institute Director, Greg Andrews (Marin Municipal Water District), Ariel De Lara (Natural Resources Conservation Service). Kristina (Volunteer NRCS).

### ACTION ITEMS

**2. MINUTES AND FINANCIALS**

A. Board approval of Minutes.

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

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

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

C. Board approval of Marin RCD Fiscal Year 2016/17 Budget.

MOTION: Bob; SECOND: Terry; AYES: Unanimous (Mike, Terry, Bob & Steve); NOES: none; ABSTENSIONS: none, to approve of Marin RD's Fiscal Year 2016/17 Budget.

D. Board approval of a Draft Marin RCD Reserves and Investment Policy.

MOTION: Bob; SECOND: Steve; AYES: Unanimous (Mike, Terry, Bob & Steve); NOES: none; ABSTENSIONS: none, to approve of Draft Marin RCD Reserves and Investment Policy with the exception of the Investment section and to call it a Reserves Policy.

E. Emergency Item: To approve Murphy project not to exceed \$5,000.

MOTION: Bob; SECOND: Steve; AYES: Unanimous (Mike, Terry, Bob & Steve); NOES: none; ABSTENSIONS: none, to approve Murphy project not to exceed \$5,000.

**3. DISTRICT**

A. Board approval or Resolution 02-2016 to participate in an effort to assess the feasibility of creating a North Coast RCDs Joint Powers Authority.

MOTION: Bob; SECOND: Mike; AYES: Unanimous (Bob, Terry, Mike & Steve); NOES: none; ABSTENSIONS: none, to approve to continue to assess the feasibility of creating a North Coast RCDs Joint Powers Authority as long as it doesn't take a lot of Staff's time.

#### 4. FENCE AND PLANT POLICY

- A. Board direction in establishing a policy for creek projects that would provide financial services only to landowners who agree to both fencing and planting.  
MOTION: Mike; SECOND: Steve; AYES: Unanimous (Mike, Terry, Bob & Steve); NOES: none; ABSTENSIONS: none, to take each project case by case and to have the staff and TAC play a role in communicating & educating the landowners about planting options.

#### 5. CONSERVING OUR WATERSHEDS

- A. Board approval to execute Contract Amendment with Gold Ridge RCD in the amount of \$13,426 to hire Jason Hoorn to provide construction management services.  
MOTION: Bob; SECOND: Steve; AYES: Unanimous (Mike, Terry, Bob & Steve); NOES: none; ABSTENSIONS: none, to approve to execute Contract Amendment with Gold Ridge RCD in the amount of \$13,426 to hire Jason Hoorn to provide construction management services.
- B. Board approval to execute \$42,000 MOU for engineering services for eight COW projects.  
MOTION: Steve; SECOND: Bob; AYES: Unanimous (Mike, Terry, Bob & Steve); NOES: none; ABSTENSIONS: none, to approve to execute \$42,000 MOU for engineering services for eight COW projects.
- C. Board approval of Point Blue Conservation Science Student and Teachers Restoring a Watershed planting designs and cost proposals for three projects.  
MOTION: Terry; SECOND: Mike; AYES: Unanimous (Mike, Terry, Bob & Steve); NOES: none; ABSTENSIONS: none, to approve of Point Blue Conservation Science Student and Teachers Restoring a Watershed planting designs and cost proposals for three projects.

#### INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

##### 6. UPDATES/PROGRAMS/PRESENTATIONS

###### Guest Presentations:

- **Marin Agricultural Land Trust/SAP – Jim Jensen** – Jim reports that they continue to monitor the easement properties.
- **USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service – Ariel De Lara** – Ariel reports that the engineering backlog is down to about 1 ½ years. People can still apply for this batch period. He brought volunteer Kristina who has her master's in Watershed Science & Policy.
- **Point Blue Conservation Science/STRAW** – Vanessa Wyant – Vanessa reports that they are starting their monitoring season.
- **Coastal Monitoring Program/MMWD – Greg Andrews** – Greg reports that he would like to get together with RCD staff and possible landowners to access their properties to survey fish and track the status of salmon for the state. Possibly to also look into grant funding with the RCD.
- **Carbon Farming – Jeff Creque** – Jeff reports that the state legislature last week just passed \$7.5M to CDFA for on farm carbon projects. Currently there are 35 carbon practices identified by NRCS.

###### RCD Program Updates:

- **Urban Streams Coordinator** – The USC conducted two site visits and assisted others via email and phone. USC attended the regular monthly county permit coordination meeting (Marin Project Coordination). Additionally, USC met with the County Community Development Agency and Dept. Public Works to begin discussions to streamline permitting and interdepartmental coordination. Finally, USC has been working with many partners to address San Domenico's eroding fire roads. Please see full report for more information.

- **Finance Committee:** A Reserves/Investment Policy is drafted for board review. A Fee for Service Policy is put on hold pending approval of other board policies. See Finance Committee Minutes.
- **Marin Carbon Project** –Five carbon farm plans are in progress and will be completed by the end of October. A rangeland carbon farm plan template is currently under review by NRCS partners.
- **Black Mountain Roads** –Tasks remaining: fencing and minor erosion control work.
- **Americano Creek Watershed** – Proceeding with carbon farm planning. One dairy is in the design stage for a rainwater catchment system.
- **Conserving Our Watersheds:** Two projects were completed. One project is underway. Two are planned to start in September.
- **Pine Gulch Instream Flow:** \$400k proposal was submitted to the Wildlife Conservation Board.
- **Media/Outreach:** None.
- **Grant Proposals:** Staff submitted a \$400k proposal to install liners at two Pine Gulch ponds. CDFA Dairy Cares has awarded Marin and Sonoma RCDs \$50k to assist dairies with compliance with the dairy waiver.
- **District:** We are now interviewing for a Rangeland Specialist position. Staff are now closing books for the fiscal year.
- **Landowner Requests:** 8 request for technical assistance within the urban streams program.

## 7. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Sept 22<sup>nd</sup>. 1-5pm. State of the Bay Tour of Millerton Ranch
- Sept 23<sup>rd</sup>. 8am-5pm. State of the Tomales Bay Conference. Inverness Yacht Club.
- Sep. 24<sup>th</sup>. 9am-1pm. Paddle the Bay and BBQ.
- Sep. 24<sup>th</sup>. 10am-12pm. Plant Propagation Series, Class IV, Location TBD.
- Sep. 27. A day in the life of a rancher on parklands. Nicasio School 6:00pm
- Oct. 11. Marin Conservation League. Nancy will present on the implementation of conservation practices on ranches. Bay Model 6:00pm
- Oct. 25. Hopes and dreams. Nicasio School 6:00pm
- Oct 29. Bolinas Museum Ag Tour. Carbon Farming Tour presented by RCD and MALT; and potential art debut
- Nov 2-3. Dairy Quality Assurance Program/RCD/CDFA Workshops for dairy waiver compliance. Point Reyes Station and Petaluma.

## 8. CORRESPONDENCE

- County DPW letter requesting participation to identify priorities in bridge retrofits.

## 9. 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.

## 10. MEETING ADJOURNED 12:32pm