



MINUTES

DATE: **Wednesday, March 14, 2018**

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 President at 9:05am.** Roll call of directors: Mike Moretti, Terry Sawyer, Bob Giacomini, & Peter Martinelli. Associate Director: George Clyde. Unofficial Associate Director: Richard Plant. Staff: Nancy Scolari, Elise Suronen, Darrylin Mollath, & Sarah Phillips. Additional Attendees: Jonathan Wachter (Marin Agricultural Land Trust), Kristen Guy (Marin Agricultural Land Trust), Jim Jensen (Marin Agricultural Land Trust), Carrie Lukacic (Prunuske Chatham Inc), Peter van de Burgt (PCI), Jennifer Walsh (USDA-NRCS), Isaiah Thalmayer (STRAW), Erik Young (Trout Unlimited), Dylan Voeller (U.S. National Park Service) and Jerry Meral (National Heritage Institute).

ACTION ITEMS

2. MINUTES AND FINANCIALS

- A. Board approval of Regular Minutes.
MOTION: Mike; SECOND: Terry; AYES: Unanimous; NOES: none; ABSTENSIONS: none to approve the minutes.
- B. Board approval of RCD financial reports and bills to be paid.
MOTION: Sally; SECOND: Peter; AYES: Unanimous; NOES: none; ABSTENSIONS: none, to approve RCD financial reports and bills to be paid.

3. RCD ENDORSEMENTS

- A. Board is requested to endorse the California Water Bond Initiative of 2018.
MOTION: Peter; SECOND: Terry; AYES: Unanimous; NOES: none; ABSTENSIONS: none, to approve the Marin Resource Conservation District endorsement of the California Water Bond Initiative of 2018.
- B. Board is requested to endorse Proposition 68: California Clean Water and Safe Parks Act.
MOTION TO TABLE: Terry, Second: Peter. Terry Sawyer requests more analysis of the Act by Conservation Strategies Group.

4. RESOLUTIONS

- A. Board approval of Resolution Number 01-2018 of the Board of Directors of the Marin Resource Conservation District approving and authorizing execution of contract with the CA State Coastal Conservancy for the Restoring Coho Habitat in San Geronimo Creek Project.
MOTION: Mike; SECOND: Bob; AYES: Unanimous, NOES: none; ABSTENTIONS: none, to approve of Resolution Number 01-2018 of the Board of Directors of the Marin Resource Conservation District approving and authorizing execution of contract with the CA State Coastal Conservancy for the Restoring Coho Habitat in San Geronimo Creek Project
- B. Board approval of Resolution Number 02-2018 of the Board of Directors of the Marin Resource Conservation District approving and authorizing execution of a contract with the CA Department of Fish and Wildlife for the San Geronimo Valley Landowner Assistance Program-Restoring Coho Habitat Project.
MOTION: Mike; SECOND: Bob; AYES: Unanimous, NOES: none; ABSTENTIONS: none, to approve of Resolution Number 02-2018 of the Board of Directors of the Marin Resource

Conservation District approving and authorizing execution of a contract with the CA Department of Fish and Wildlife for the San Geronimo Valley Landowner Assistance Program-Restoring Coho Habitat Project

- C. Board approval of Resolution Number 03-2018 of the Board of Directors of the Marin Resource Conservation District approving and authorizing execution of a contract with the CA Department of Fish and Wildlife for the Walker Creek Watershed Assessment and Erosion Prevention Planning Project.

MOTION: Mike; SECOND: Bob; AYES: Unanimous, NOES: none; ABSTENTIONS: none, to approve of Resolution Number 03-2018 of the Board of Directors of the Marin Resource Conservation District approving and authorizing execution of a contract with the CA Department of Fish and Wildlife for the Walker Creek Watershed Assessment and Erosion Prevention Planning Project.

- D. Board approval of Resolution Number 04-2018 of the governing body of the Marin Resource Conservation District, declaring that governing body members and volunteers shall be deemed to be employees of the district for the purpose of providing workers compensation coverage for said certain individuals while providing their services.

MOTION TO TABLE: Bob; SECOND: Terry; Board of Directors request more analysis.

5. PINE GULCH PONDS & INSTREAM

- A. Board approval to execute \$3,036 contract #C05-2018 with Conservation Corps, North Bay to maintain the Pine Gulch Riparian Restoration site.

MOTION TO TABLE: Bob; SECOND: Terry; Board of Directors request more information.

6. MARIN PERMIT COORDINATION PROGRAM

- A. Board approval to award a contract to complete archaeological review on four (4) 2018 restoration projects.

MOTION: Peter; SECOND: Bob; AYES: Unanimous, NOES: none; ABSTENTIONS: none, to approve to award Tom Origer & Assoc to complete an archaeological review on three (3) 2018 restoration projects.

- B. Board review and approval of Marin Permit Coordination Program Initial Study for the 30-day agency and public review.

MOTION: Peter; SECOND: Terry; AYES: Unanimous, NOES: none; ABSTENTIONS: none, to approve the Marin Permit Coordination Program Initial Study for the 30-day agency and public review.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

7. Partner Presentations & Updates -

- **USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service** – Jennifer Walsh reports they are currently behind schedule on most projects. She shared that NRCS is being encouraged to be more customer service oriented and less effort on showcasing their conservation efforts. Jennifer mentions their office may be closed again in two weeks, depending on the balancing of the budget in Congress.
- **Marin Agricultural Land Trust/SAP** – Jim Jensen introduced Kristen Guy who is the new conservation planner on their staff. Jim also shared that MALT is working on an easement for the Taylor/McKeen Ranch and one in Nicasio. Jim mentioned MALT would like to sponsor a local Marin High School student to attend Range Camp this summer.
- **Students and Teachers Restoring a Watershed** – Isaiah Thalmayer briefly shared that STRAW has just completed plantings with 7 classes of students. They have a grass planting project on Evans Ranch coming up and he just completed a visit to the Corda Ranch (with Lynette) considering a potential project on tributary work.
- **The Point Reyes National Seashore** – Dylan Voeller briefly shared that the comments they received from the public regarding their General Management Plan have been

posted to their website. He also shared they have received a Freedom of Information Act request regarding everything to do with ranching in the seashore.

- **Trout Unlimited** – Eric Young reported that TU volunteers were pleased to be able to help on Sally Gale’s Ranch planting willows. He also shared how TU is active in 70 Marin County classrooms with an education outreach providing trout eggs and aquariums.

RCD Program Updates –

- **Urban Streams Program:** The USC met with land/resource managers in Marin County to begin a collaborative approach toward eradicating Japanese knotweed from the Lagunitas Creek watershed. USC also created a new urban creek maintenance guidance document and provided a presentation to Gallinas Watershed Council and Miller Creek Watershed Stewards about urban streams maintenance. USC conducted one steelhead spawner survey with MMWD staff and is working with SPAWN and a resident on a reach-scale, instream habitat improvement project. Finally, USC attended two workshops in February; a soil bioengineering workshop with the SF Regional Water Quality Control Board and a workshop organized by MCL about fire and fuel management in Marin.
- **Carbon Farming Program** – 9 carbon farm plans are complete. 2 are underway. MCP selected 4 new carbon farm plans, 5 plans will be written in 2018. RCD staff is working with the Seashore in the development of practices for carbon farm plans within the Park. The MCP Implementation Task Force is reviewing carbon project selection criteria to present to the RCD Board for approval.
- **Conserving Our Watersheds Program:** No report.
- **RCD Project Tracker** – RCD staff has been uploading information to track RCD projects. A presentation will be provided at a future meeting.
- **Americano Creek Watershed** – Gold Ridge RCD is working with Carbon Cycle Institute and Organic Valley on a Carbon Farm Plan in Valley Ford. The Valley Ford Cheese Co. rainwater catchment project will be constructed soon.
- **Media/Outreach:** “Private Residence in San Geronimo Is Site of Coho Salmon Restoration Project” by G. Clyde in Farm Bureau News. “CA Funds Alternative Manure Management Projects”, BioCycle Magazine. “West Marin Ranch gets grant to reduce Greenhouse Gas”, Marin IJ.
- **Grant Opportunities:** RCD was asked by an Anonymous funder to submit a proposal. A proposal was submitted to provide outreach and information to landowners in the Walker Creek watershed in addition to assisting ranchers in the seashore with conservation mapping. A second proposal was submitted to USDA NRCS to fund technical services across Sonoma and Marin RCDs. Staff is considering a few other grant opportunities for dairy manure and soil health projects. The County is deliberating continuation of Urban Streams.
 - \$195k. CA Dept. Fish and Wildlife – USC, San Geronimo. *Awarded!*
 - \$152k. CA Dept. Fish and Wildlife – Walker Roads. *Pending*
 - \$200k. State Coastal Conservancy – USC, San Geronimo. *Awarded!*
 - \$50K. Anonymous Foundation – Walker Creek Outreach and Seashore. *Pending*
 - \$25K. USDA NRCS – Biological and Permitting Services. *Pending*
- **Finance Committee:** A meeting was held on March 7th to review the annual audit, future grant opportunities and existing grant programs. A rebate program will be investigated.
- **District:** Completed Annual Audit. Initiated Annual Report for website publishing. Nancy presented to the Rotary Club of Ross Valley.
- **Landowner’s calling for assistance:** 0 agricultural and 0 urban landowners requesting assistance.

C. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- February 6 & 8. Glenn Ranch Revegetation by STRAW.
- February 24th Raingarden Workshop in Woodacre. Time TBD.

D. CORRESPONDENCE

- None.

E. PUBLIC COMMENT

- None

F. MEETING ADJOURNED at 12.05 p.m.