



AGENDA

DATE: **Wednesday, January 14, 2025**

PLACE: **Marin Farm Bureau Conference Room, 520 Mesa Road, Point Reyes Station, CA 94956**

REMOTE OPTION: Members of the public may participate remotely by Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87864206727> or by phone: +16699009128,,87864206727# meeting ID: 878 6420 6727. Please contact Elise Suronen at (415) 663-1170 ext. 314, or sarahs@marinrcd.org if you have concerns about accessibility. *(Note that we may move agenda items in this meeting to meet time constraints of participants.)*

1. Regular meeting opens at **9:00 a.m.** Roll call, introduction of guests, including a new guest, Greg Richardson, The Nature Conservancy's new Point Reyes Project Director.

ACTION ITEMS: 9:15 - 10:15 a.m.

2. DISTRICT/ADMIN: (30 min)

- A. Board approval of FY24 Marin RCD Audit. ~*Paul Kaymark and Stacy Macias, Nigro & Nigro Accountants*
- B. Board approval of regular Meeting Minutes. ~*Cora Richard, Bookkeeper*
- C. Board approval of the Financial Report. ~*Cora Richard, Bookkeeper*
- D. Board approval to request \$125,000 from the County of Marin to support Marin RCD programs and to partially offset operational costs not covered by state or federal grants. ~*Nancy Scolari, Executive Director*
- E. Board approval to form Ad Hoc Measure A Committee to plan for 2030 Measure A renewal. ~*Nancy Scolari, Executive Director*
- F. Board approval of Marin RCD ballot responses in the election of CARCD Board members, Bylaws and Resolutions. ~*Jerry Meral, Marin RCD Director*

3. INFORMATIONAL: (10:15-10:45 a.m.)

- **Marin Biomass Update/Presentation** ~*Chad White, Marin Biomass Project Manager*

Partner Updates: 3 min each

- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)– Petaluma Field Office Staff
- Marin Agricultural Land Trust (MALT) – MALT Stewardship Staff
- Point Blue & Students & Teachers Restoring a Watershed (STRAW)– Point Blue Staff
- All Hands Ecology (AHE) - Jim Jensen, Tomales Bay Land Steward and Preserve Mgr
- Marin Farm Bureau - Farm Bureau Representative
- The Nature Conservancy - Greg Richardson, Point Reyes Project Director

RCD Program Updates (See staff report for details):

- **Nicasio and Water Expansion** - *John Dolcini, Marin RCD Associate Director*

- **Federal Funding Unfrozen:** The County of Sonoma has been provided with a USDA Contract. The Marin RCD will be a subcontractor to the County. The project funds will be provided directly to producers this year.
- **Biomass Project:** The Marin Biomass Project has completed a draft final report titled “The Marin Biomass Study: Pathways to Improved Biomass Utilization and a More Regenerative Economy.” It has been shared with the multi-stakeholder Marin Biomass Collaborative and is undergoing their review. Public release is planned for next month. Upon release of the Study, the team will launch outreach focused on key findings and recommendations.
- **Conserving Our Watersheds Program (COW):** COW MILC is the most recent Nonpoint Source Pollution Water Board grant. Projects at dairies in the Stemple Creek watershed have been ranked by the Technical Advisory Group and design work is underway. The grant also funds practices in Drakes Bay watershed of the National Seashore and those projects are expected to constitute manure pond decommissioning at those outgoing dairies. An application for COW GIRL phase IX was resubmitted to the Water Board in December.
- **Urban Streams Program:** Welcome Back! Sarah Phillips is back as of Dec. 8th. Activities for December, upon return, have included lots of catching up on the USC Prgm with Gerhard, reviewing and responding to six (6) months of emails and calls, coordinating meetings to get back in the flow on various projects and proposed contract agreements (Zone 10 and Tomales Bay). Sarah started to plan the Lagunitas TAC’s annual field trip and is providing support to Marin Water in conducting spawner surveys in San Geronimo Creek.
- **Carbon Farming Program:** The team is working on an update to the Project Application Portal on the RCD website to accommodate for upcoming project funding. STRAW Implementation season is underway, and the team is gearing up to visit and support at least 1 restoration day with students this winter.
- **Permit Coordination Program (PCP):** Several projects including the RCD’s Conserving Our Watershed Program and Carbon Farming as well as Green Gulch Farm’s Streamflow Enhancement projects completed CEQA this fall. Staff is currently reviewing a Vegetation Treatment Plan for Martin Griffin Preserve before a CEQA determination is presented to the board in 2026.
- **Justice Equity Diversity Inclusion (JEDI):** JEDI Committee met 12/2 to discuss updates in JEDI work, the direction of the group, and the inclusion of JEDI focused language in the Strategic Plan. Michelle, Sarah and Nancy then met with Amy Stork to discuss incorporating this feedback into the Plan. The group will continue to meet regularly.
- **Media/Messaging/Outreach:** We are working on a new newsletter for January. The RCD was also mentioned in the Point Reyes Light both in the Editors Note and in an article entitled, “*Dairy ponds refashioned as ranchers depart park*” - this is referenced on our website.
- **Funding Opportunities:** RCD staff is in communications with CalTrans regarding mitigation funds to fix one of the Pine Gulch Creek Instream Flow Enhancement ponds. RCD staff is also looking into a design proposal to be submitted to CA Dept of Fish and Wildlife for Lagunitas Creek. Gerhard submitted a water quality proposal to the State Water Resources Control Board to continue the Conserving Our Watersheds Program.
- **Finance Committee:** The Committee met in December to review the audit which is presented at this meeting.

- **District:** FY24 financial audit was completed (thank you Cora!). A Draft Strategic Plan was completed but will be delayed due to further editing. A holiday party was hosted (thank you Fiona!). Software migration is in the works for timekeeping and HR services.
- **Landowner Assistance Provided:**
 - Urban Streams: 20 individuals requested assistance and were consulted, 5 educated, 0 site visits.
 - COW: Only 1 or 2 consultations besides program applicants this period
 - CE: 2

4. 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.

5. MEETING ADJOURNED