



AGENDA

DATE: **Wednesday, May 9, 2018**

PLACE: Marin County Farm Bureau, 520 Mesa Road, Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

1. Regular meeting opening at **9:00 a.m.** Roll call and introduction of guests.

ACTION ITEMS

2. DISTRICT, MINUTES, FINANCIALS – 10 min.

- A. Board approval of regular meeting minutes.
- B. Board approval of special meeting minutes.
- C. Board approval of RCD financial report and bills to be paid.

3. CONSERVING OUR WATERSHEDS (COW) – 30 min.

- A. Board approval of riparian fence design for Project #2017-05 on a tributary to Nicasio Reservoir.
- B. Board approval of design and cost for Project #2018-02 in Olema Valley.
- C. Board approval of design and cost for Project #2018-01 in San Geronimo Valley.

4. CARBON FARMING PROGRAM – 15 min.

- A. Board approval of Technical Advisory Committee to rank proposed 2018 carbon farming projects.
- B. Board approval of an educational outreach effort to promote Carbon Farm thinking in the West Marin community using behavior design.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS – 10:00 a.m.

5. Presentations & Updates:

Presentations – 15 min.

- The Fibershed Project – Rebecca Burgess, Founder and Executive Director
- COW Tour – Elise Suronen, Marin RCD Conservation Program Manager

Partner Updates – 15 min.

- **USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service** – Petaluma Field Office Staff
- **Marin Agricultural Land Trust/SAP** – Jim Jensen, Stewardship Manager
- **Students & Teachers Restoring a Watershed** – Isaiah Thalmayer, Restoration Manager

RCD Program Updates – 15 min:

- **Urban Streams Program:** The USC was appointed as lead for tackling the Japanese knotweed issue in San Geronimo Valley and has been leading meetings which include a plethora of land managers in Marin County. USC attended the annual Salmonid Restoration Conference and was able to pursue funding for studies of coho salmon use on Tomales Bay which is currently moving forward. The USC supported the Marin

Municipal Water District in a smolt survey on Lagunitas Creek and provided a presentation at one of Supervisor Rodoni's meetings in San Geronimo Valley. USC is currently working with Trout Unlimited and CA Dept of Fish & Wildlife on the question of installing more large wood structures for salmonids in Devil's Gulch.

- **Pine Gulch Ponds & Instream Flow Enhancement Project:** Licenses must be prepared to follow up on permits. Changes of Petitions are required.
- **Carbon Farming Program:** To date 10 CFP have been completed; 5 are underway and 1 is in the waiting room. A total of 6 plans will be written in 2018. The Seashore will not permit planning to occur on the ranches prior to the completion of their environmental review process however carbon farming practices may occur on a sitespecific basis. Staff assisted with organizing soil samples for processing and coordinating lab delivery. Another farm was awarded funding from Healthy Soil Initiative!
- **Conserving Our Watersheds Program:** Six projects are in the design phase.
- **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:** Carbon Project was in the New York Times, "Can Dirt Save the Earth".
- **Grant Opportunities:** Staff will be assisting dairy producers with grant applications alongside UCCE staff. CEQA coverage may be required for each producer's application. The County is considering continuation of Urban Streams for one year. Staff is considering 3 applications to Wildlife Conservation Board and possibly one to State Coastal Conservancy for climate resiliency projects (due in May).
 - \$13K. NRCS Conservation Innovation – Rangeland Soils Monitoring. *Pending*
 - \$152K. CA Dept. Fish and Wildlife – Walker Roads. *Awarded!*
 - \$50K. Anonymous Foundation – Walker Creek Outreach and Seashore. *Pending*
 - \$25K. USDA NRCS – Biological and Permitting Services. *Pending*
 - \$5K. CDFG – Assistance to Alternative Manure Management Applicants. *Awarded*
- **Finance Committee:** A rebate program description was created and submitted to an attorney to prepare for a Department of Industrial Relations formal determination to exempt prevailing wage requirements when using a rebate program.
- **District:** Darrylin is working on our Annual Report.
- **Landowner's calling for assistance:** 4 agricultural (1 willow thinning, 3 Healthy Soils and Alternative Manure Applications) and 6 urban landowners requesting assistance.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- May 11. Sonoma Marin Ag Roundtable. Petaluma Veteran's Memorial Hall. Register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/marinsonoma-agriculture-roundtable-tickets-44893248916>
- May 18. WCB deadline for proposals.
- May 24. North Coast Area RCD Meeting. Ferndale

7. CORRESPONDENCE

- Marin RCD letter submitted to Assemblyman Levine in support of ranching in the Park.
- CCd on Letters of Support for Urban Streams Position to County Administrator: Marin Conservation League, Friends of Corte Madera Creek, Trout Unlimited

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