



MINUTES

DATE: **Wednesday, June 13, 2018**

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

1. A regularly scheduled meeting was called to order by Bob Giacomini Vice President at 9:05 a.m.

Roll call of directors: Terry Sawyer & Mike Moretti.

Unofficial Associate Director: Richard Plant & George Clyde.

Staff: Nancy Scolari, Elise Suronen, Darrylin Mollath, Sarah Phillips & Lynette Niebrugge.

Additional Attendees: Jim Jensen, (Marin Agricultural Land Trust), Kristen Guy (Marin Agricultural Land Trust), Isaiah Thalmayer (STRAW), Zach Mendes (Marin Agricultural Land Trust), Jennifer Walser (NRCS), Carrie Lukacik (PCI), and Peter van de Burgt (PCI).

ACTION ITEMS

2. MINUTES AND FINANCIALS

A. Board approval of Regular Minutes and Special Minutes.

MOTION: Terry; SECOND: Mike; AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENSIONS: None to approve the minutes.

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

MOTION: Mike; SECOND: Terry; AYES: Unanimous; NOES: none; ABSTENSIONS: None, to approve RCD financial reports and bills to be paid.

3. RANCH ROADSIDE CLEAN-UP

A. Board approval to execute Contract #C05-2018 with the Conservation Corps, North Bay in the clean-up and planting of the Spicer Stemple Creek Clean-Up Project.

MOTION: Mike; SECOND: Terry; AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None, to approve to execute Contract #C05-2018 with the Conservation Corps, North Bay in the clean-up and planting of the Spicer Stemple Creek Clean Up Project.

4. CONSERVING OUR WATERSHEDS

A. Board approval of Marin RCD Landowner Authorization Agreement form for 2018 COW projects.

MOTION: Mike; SECOND: Terry; AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None, to pass Board approval of Marin RCD Landowner Authorization Agreement form for 2018 COW projects.

B. Board approval of riparian fence design and cost proposal for Project #2017-05 on a tributary to Nicasio Reservoir.

MOTION: Bob; SECOND: Peter; AYES: Unanimous; NOES: Bob; ABSTENTIONS: None, to pass Board approval of riparian fence design and cost proposal for Project #2017-05 on a tributary to Nicasio Reservoir that includes \$5.00 per linear foot labor for five strand barbed wire fence and contingency on material cost.

C. Board approval of engineers cost estimate in preparation of bid solicitation for Project #2018-03 in the Tomales Bay watershed.

MOTION: Mike; SECOND; Terry; AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None, ABSTENTIONS: None, to pass approval of engineers cost estimate in preparation of bid solicitation for Project #2018-03 in the Tomales Bay watershed.

5. MARIN PERMIT COORDINATION PROGRAM (PCP)

- A Board approval of Resolution #05-2018 of the Marin Resource Conservation District adopting an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act for the Marin Permit Coordination Program, and adopting a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program.
MOTION: Terry; SECOND: Mike; NOES: None; AYES: Unanimous; ABSTENTIONS: None to pass Board approval of Resolution #05-2018 of the Marin Resource Conservation District adopting an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act for the Marin Permit Coordination Program, and adopting a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program..
- B. Board approval of the 2018 Marin Permit Coordination Program.
MOTION: Mike; SECOND: Terry; NOES: None; AYES: Unanimous; ABSTENTIONS: None to pass Board approval of the 2018 Marin Permit Coordination Program.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

6. Presentations and Updates:-

- **COW Tour** – Elise presented a slide show summarizing the tour of the COW projects. The tour showcased the Parks Ranch and Long Meadow Ranch riparian pasture fence projects.

Partner Updates -

- **USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service**-Jennifer Walser mentioned that NRCS is in their final round of EQIP funding. She stated they have received 30 applications (for both counties) for projects on rangelands and dairies. She also explained at length the struggle NRCS is experiencing with the challenges of construction reimbursement in various counties (Marin vs Central Valley). She stated they may be reaching out to the MRCD for information on real life costs. Her final highlight is that their new permit program for species protection between DFW and NRCS has been approved.
- **Students and Teachers Restoring a Watershed** – Isaiah Thalmayer briefly filled us in stating that STRAW is in the middle of their maintenance season. They are presently working on 10 sights which include Glenn Ranch, Blake’s Landing, Raiser Ranch (replant), Lanatti Ranch, Murphy Ranch, Long Meadow Ranch and Cohen Ranch. He mentioned plants are looking good due to a favorable Spring. Other highlights include STRAW received a grant (Measure AA program/ parcel tax for restoration) to install a planting on San Pablo Bay and they are looking forward to Watershed Week where they engage all of their teachers.
- **Marin Agricultural Land Trust/SAP** –Jim Jensen shared that MALT is in the middle of their monitoring season, having completed 30 out of their 86 easement visits. He mentioned they have received at least 10 applications for projects in their Stewardship Assistance Program this year; some are partnered with NRCS or MRCD. Jim also added that Jonathan (MALT-Conservation Program Manager) is working on Carbon Farm Plans with Lynette (MRCD).

RCD Program Updates –

- **Urban Streams Program:** During the first two weeks of May, US Coordinator attended the monthly regulatory Marin Project Coordination meeting, conducted two site visits and coordinated more Japanese knotweed meetings. As well, USC has been asked by the Director of DPW in Corte Madera to help the town develop more ecologically sound practices for their flood control program. Sarah also shared that her program has been approved for two more years by the County of Marin.

- **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. Nancy provided an update on carbon farming at the Sonoma Marin Ag Roundtable
- **Conserving Our Watersheds Program:** Seven projects are in the design phase.
- **Americano Creek Watershed:** Gold Ridge RCD completed a Carbon Farm Plan in Valley Ford and applied for the Healthy Soils Initiative funding for compost application and riparian planting. The Valley Ford Cheese Co. rainwater catchment project will be constructed soon.
- **Media/Outreach:** Darrylin shared that we have created an Instagram page for the MRCD. She also inquired how the Board gets their “news”. Mike Moretti responded by saying, “Email”. The MRCD is interested in what the most efficient process of acquiring those emails would be. The Board suggested asking the Farm Bureau, Clover Sonoma and others for their email lists. The problem is adding landowners to our list without their knowledge. Lynette suggested we partner with another agency’s email with a link to ours email list.
- **Grant Opportunities:** Staff assisted 4 dairy producers with grant applications alongside UCCE staff. CEQA coverage will be required for each producer’s application and the RCD’s new PCP will be able to provide coverage. The County is recommending the Urban Streams position for two additional years! Staff coordinated with CA Association of RCDs on 2 applications to the Wildlife Conservation Board.
 - \$13K. NRCS Conservation Innovation – Rangeland Soils Monitoring. *Pending*
 - \$50K. Anonymous Foundation – Walker Creek Outreach and Seashore. *Awarded!*
 - \$25K. USDA NRCS – Biological and Permitting Services. *Pending*
 - \$239K. WCB – Carbon Farming designs, cost estimates and materials. *Pending*
 - \$436K. WCB – Carbon Farm Implementation. *Pending*
- **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 and updating the RCD mailing list.
- **Landowner’s calling for assistance:** 14 agricultural (9 MRCD Carbon, 1 Wildlife Conservation Board, 0 Healthy Soils and 4 Alternative Manure Applications) and 7 urban landowners requesting assistance.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- June 27. 9:30-5. Carbon Farming for RCDs. San Mateo.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

- None

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 at 11:30 p.m.