MINUTES

DATE:  Wednesday, December 12th, 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 9:05 a.m. wishing Director Bob Giacomini a speedy recovery.
Roll call of directors: Peter Martinelli, Mike Moretti
Associate Director: George Clyde, Honorary Associate Director: Richard Plant
Staff: Nancy Scolari, Elise Suronen, Sarah Phillips, & Darrylin Mollath.
Additional Attendees: Kristen Guy & Jonathan Wachter (Marin Agricultural Land Trust), Dave Sherwood (Rancher), John Parodi (STRAW)

ACTION ITEMS:

2. DISTRICT, MINUTES, FINANCIALS – 15 min.
   A. Board approval of regular meeting minutes.
      MOTION: Mike; SECOND: Peter; AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None
      to approve the minutes.
   B. Board approval of RCD financial report and bills to be paid.
      MOTION: Mike; SECOND: Peter; AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None,
      to approve the RCD financial report and bills to be paid.

3. CONSERVING OUR WATERSHEDS (COW) – 15 min.
   A. Board approval to execute Contract #C10-2018 with Sonoma Resource Conservation
      District to provide technical services and select a highest-priority pathogen-reduction
      project in Sonoma Creek for the COW: Updating Dairies and Ranches Sustainably grant.
      MOTION: Mike; SECOND: Peter; AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None,
      to execute Contract #C10-2018 with Sonoma Resource Conservation District to provide
      technical services in selecting the highest priority pathogen reduction projects in their
      district. Leslie Ferguson and Laurie Tall are the Contract Managers/Regional Water
      Board representatives for this project and will also provide project approvals.
   B. Board approval of Notices of Completion for Contract #C08-2018, Contract #C03-2018,
      MOTION: Peter; SECOND: Mike; AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None,
      to approve Notices of Completion for Contract #C08-2018, Contract #C03-2018, and

4. CARBON FARMING – 45 min.
   A. Board approval of Landowner Agreement Maintenance and Monitoring Section for the
      Compost Application practice.
      MOTION: Mike; SECOND: Peter; AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None,
      to approve Landowner Agreement Maintenance and Monitoring Section for compost
project #P05-2018 at this time and to continue the compost application policy
discussion at next month’s meeting. Points of discussion thus far include: compost
application that nurtures an existing seed bank vs a new one; some animal impact may
be good for incorporation of compost into soils; intentional grazing is an important tool;
good management related to grazing is important (4-6 inches in plant growth); plants
need rest to grow deeper roots; avoiding one field impacts other fields in a negative
way; need to know how many animals, type of livestock and how many when making
decisions; if we make this too hard for landowners, they will not participate; we need to
look at long term benefits of the practice which may take years; need to be careful so
that nutrients don’t wash away; animals may eat the compost; timing of application is
important – fall; properly composted material is very stable; the amount of compost
applied is just a sprinkle; should be spread in the morning on a non-windy day;
perennial vs annual might be an important consideration. Due to urgency of one project
is was recommended that MALT and RCD staff come up with a solution for Project
#PXX-2018 and continue the general policy discussion next meeting.

B. Board approval of silvopasture and windbreak designs and budgets for Project #P05-
2018.

MOTION: Peter; SECOND: Mike; AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None,
to approve silvopasture and windbreak designs and budget for Project #P05-2018.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS – 10:15 a.m.

5. Presentations & Highlights:

- **Urban Streams Program**: The USC conducted 2 (two) site visits and assisted 12
twelve) stakeholders with various tasks. USC attended a plethora of meetings, chaired
the quarterly Lagunitas TAC meeting, and coordinated a regulatory site visit for the
agencies. USC met with resource agencies at Devil’s Gulch to brainstorm projects and is
gearing up to start working on the Landowner Assistance Program projects to be
constructed in summer, 2019. Finally, USC teamed up with UCCE for another round of
interviews for the Japanese Knotweed Coordinator position. We are hopeful of having
that position filled by January, 2019 to help MKAT (Marin Knotweed Action Team)
continue its education and outreach needs in San Geronimo Valley. USC reported
participating in the willow planting project with Trout Unlimited and STRAW
yesterday.

Partner Updates – 15 min.

- **USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service** – Drew Loganbill is the new District
Conservationist!

- **Marin Agricultural Land Trust/SAP** – Kristin Guy reported on last monitoring visit
and wrapping up the MALT strategic planning effort. SAP is usually funding water
developments and fencing.

- **Students & Teachers Restoring a Watershed** – John Parodi reported that STRAW
projects are growing across the state. In Marin, close to finishing the Glen project (500
trees). Also using funds for silvopasture projects and experimenting with plant
protectors. Float tests can tell you if a seed is good or bad. We should do a tour of the
Glen Ranch!
RCD Program Updates – 15 min:

- **Conserving Our Watersheds Program (Construction Update):** Project #2018-02 (Olema winter storm flow project) is ongoing. Project #2018-01 headcut earthwork is complete except for minor fence modifications; riparian fence installation in process.

- **Carbon Farming Program:** Nancy is participating on the County’s Executive Steering Committee for Drawdown Marin, a comprehensive effort to select and implement climate change solutions in the County. We need a volunteer program for healthy soil projects!

- **Walker Creek:** Landowners are being contacted for potential opportunity to participate in the roads assessment. RCD staff is potentially looking into restoration grant opportunities.

- **Americano Creek:** Gold Ridge RCD will host a Healthy Soils Demonstration tour in December at the Jarrid Bordessa Dairy (see below). GRRCD is having a Board tour on December 20th and we are invited.

- **Stemple Creek:** On hold until spring.

- **Pine Gulch Creek:** No update

- **Media/Outreach:** None

- **Grant Opportunities:**
  - $169K. WCB – Carbon Farm Implementation (site visits, designs, planning, handbooks, outreach). Pending
  - $10,000. Seed Fund – Soils testing for 2018 carbon projects. Pending

- **Finance Committee:** A Finance Committee meeting was held on 12/04/18. Last/current/future FY budgets were discussed. Billing rates were reviewed.

- **District:** Darrylin is starting the FY17/18 Audit and working on Instagram postings.

- **Landowner’s calling for assistance:** 1 agricultural and 14 urban landowners requesting assistance.

6. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

   - Due 01/04/19. Sand Point Groundwater Basin modification public comments due.

7. **CORRESPONDENCE**

   - Ltr to Point Reyes National Seashore, providing comments on General Management Plan Amendment.

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** at 11:00am.