



## MINUTES

DATE: **Wednesday, May 8th, 2019**

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 9:06 a.m.**  
Roll call of directors: Bob Giacomini, Peter Martinelli, Mike Moretti and Terry Sawyer  
Associate Director: George Clyde, Honorary Associate Director: Richard Plant  
Staff: Nancy Scolari, Elise Suronen, Erika Mikesh & Sarah Phillips.  
Additional Attendees: Eric Rubenstahl (Marin Agricultural Land Trust), Dave Sherwood (Rancher), Ariel DeLara (NRCS), Isaiah Thalmayer (STRAW), Kristen Guy (MALT) and Kallie Kuehl (MCDPW).
2. INFORMATION ITEM: Blake's Landing Irrigation Design - Albert Straus (owner) - Albert presented to the Board the details of his irrigation system. The Board was quite engaged per the details of pipe diameter, nozzles, age and function of the sprinklers. Elk in the Seashore was also discussed briefly.

### **ACTION ITEMS:**

3. DISTRICT, MINUTES, FINANCIALS – 15 min.
  - A. Board approval of regular meeting minutes.  
MOTION: Terry; SECOND: Peter; AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENSIONS: None to approve the minutes.
  - B. Board approval of RCD financial report and bills to be paid.  
MOTION: Terry; SECOND: Peter; AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None, to approve the RCD financial report and bills to be paid.
  - C. Board approval of Position Description for new RCD hire. MOTION: Peter; SECOND: Terry; AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None, to approve hiring for a new position. Board suggests to include the Carbon Sequestration Term and bio-diversity in job description, emphasize soil science, 5-year experience, and increase low end of salary range.
  - D. Board approval to hire grant writer. MOTION: Terry; SECOND: Mike; AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None, to approve to hire a grant writer with a more thorough description in the next meeting. Nancy will not pursue grants until board has more information about staffing. Isaiah suggests STRAW writes grants with MRCD.
4. CONSERVING OUR WATERSHEDS- 30 min.
  - A. Board approval of project design and Notice of Exemption for livestock walkway Project #2019-02. MOTION: Bob; SECOND: Mike; AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None, to approve project design and Notice of Exemption for livestock walkway Project #2019-02.
  - B. Board approval to execute contract #C06-2019 with Miller Pacific Engineering for geotechnical services for a waste transfer pipeline for project #2019-01.

MOTION: Bob; SECOND: Terry; AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None, to approve the execution of contract #C06-2019 with Miller Pacific Engineering for geotechnical services for a waste transfer pipeline for project #2019-01, contingent upon the project receiving AMMP funding, however the project may proceed sooner if the landowner chooses to provide geotechnical services as part of their matching contribution.

- C. Board approval to execute contract #C09-2019 with Prunuske Chatham Inc. for design services for project #2014-03B. MOTION: Bob; SECOND: Mike; AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None, to approval to execute contract #C09-2019 with Prunuske Chatham Inc. for design services for project #2014-03B.

5. SAN GERONIMO LANDOWNER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM – 30 min.

Sarah provided an overview of the program and projects. Kallie Kull, County of Marin, expressed appreciation of the County-RCD partnership and committed the donation of large wood for the project.

- A. Board approval to execute contract #C07-2019 with Gold Ridge RCD for construction management and biological services for the CA Dept Fish & Wildlife-funded SGV Landowner Assistance Program project #2017103. MOTION: Peter; SECOND: Mike; AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None, to approve, the execution of contract #C07-2019 with Gold Ridge RCD for construction management and biological services for the CA Dept Fish & Wildlife-funded SGV Landowner Assistance Program project #2017103.
- B. Board approval to select a consultant to provide biological services for the State Coastal Conservancy-funded SGV Landowner Assistance Program project #2017-07. MOTION: Bob; SECOND: Terry; AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None, to approve to select a consultant to provide biological services for the State Coastal Conservancy-funded SGV Landowner Assistance Program project #2017-07.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS – 11:30 a.m.**

6. Presentations & Highlights:

Partner Updates – 15 min

**NRCS – Ariel DeLara** reports:

- **Conservation Stewardship Program** –NRCS is encouraging participation. Deadline May 10<sup>th</sup>.
- **EQIP** - all range projects will require prescribed grazing.

**MALT – Eric Rubenstahl** reports MALT has been coordinating with Marin County Vegetation Mapping and getting them out to 6-7 ranches. This has been very beneficial as it has helped speed up ranch monitoring. Also, strategic planning is moving forward. Base metrics is a new approach MALT is utilizing.

**Students & Teachers Restoring a Watershed – Isaiah Thalmayer** reports maintenance season is in full swing with a focus on making sure irrigation is flowing and checking on plants on Cohen, Somar, Murphy, Glen, and Lanatti Ranches. Also, they are presently working on plantings for next year Millerton, Gilardi, McClelland, and Corda Ranches.

RCD Program Updates – 15 min.

- **Urban Streams Program:** The USC was invited to present at two regional conferences; SERCAL (CA's Society for Ecological Restoration) and SRF (Salmonid Restoration Federation) on the Urbans Streams Program being used as a replicable model elsewhere in

the state. USC also assisted 12 stakeholders. Many site visits are lined up for May and USC continues to get contracts set up for the two in-stream fisheries enhancement restoration projects to be constructed this summer in SGV!

- **Conserving Our Watersheds Program (Construction Update):** Project #2018-02 (Olema winter storm flow project) is finished! 3 projects in the CEQA, permitting and design phase. We would like button up a project that needs some help!
- **Carbon Farming Program:** Staff is participating in County's Drawdown Marin program. The design process is underway for two projects. Planting projects are delayed until 2019/2020 planting season.
- **Americano Creek:** No report
- **Stemple Creek:** Stemple Creek Cleanup project is on hold until spring.
- **Pine Gulch Creek:** One pond seems to be seeping; therefore, Marin RCD are assisting with Division of Water Rights Time Extension Request to delay appropriate water licensing. 1.5" seep per week. Likely need a pond liner.
- **Media/Outreach:** Nancy participated in a carbon farming panel at the Marin Farmers Market.
- **Grant Opportunities:**
  - \$169K. WCB – Carbon Farm Implementation (site visits, designs, planning, handbooks, outreach). *Pending but recommended!*
  - \$50,000. Anonymous. Regenerating Landscapes. *Pending*
  - North Coast Forest Watershed Coordinator Position. *Awarded!*
  - \$350,782. Walker Creek Estuary Study. Dept Fish and Wildlife. *Pending*
- **Finance Committee:** The committee reviewed staff retention concerns and the funding of future positions including a grant writer.
- **District:**
  - RCD Project database is on our website.
  - Let's go on a 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Tour for Board of Supervisors!
  - Staff talked to attorney about pending lawsuit regarding special district elections in California.
  - Staff will be meeting at a couple flooded road locations with landowners and the county of Marin in May.
- **Landowner's calling for assistance:** 2 agricultural and 12 urban landowners requesting assistance. We are receiving quite a few carbon farming requests from around the world.

### 1. ANNOUNCEMENTS & CORRESPONDENCE

- 5/24/19. 9am-Noon. North Coast Area Regional RCD Meeting. Hosted by Marin RCD at the Petaluma NRCS Office.

### 2. 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.

### 3. MEETING ADJOURNED

12:10 p.m.