



## MINUTES

DATE: **Wednesday, August 14th, 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 9:10 a.m.**

Roll call of directors: Terry Sawyer and Mike Moretti, Absent: Bob Giacomini, Peter Martinelli  
Associate Directors: George Clyde & Richard Plant.

Staff: Nancy Scolari, Elise Suronen, & Darrylin Mollath.

Additional Attendees: Dave Sherwood (Rancher), Isaiah Thalmayer (STRAW), Kristen Guy (MALT), Drew Loganbill (NRCS), Eric Rubenstahl (MALT), Dylan Voeller (NPS), Jeff Creque (CCI), Leslie Ferguson (RWQCB), Jan O'Hara (RWQCB), Rene Leclerc (RWQCB), and Pat Samuel (California Trout).

### **ACTION ITEMS:**

**2. DISTRICT, MINUTES, FINANCIALS**

**A. Board approval of regular meeting minutes.**

MOTION: Terry; SECOND: Mike; 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: Mike; AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None, to approve the RCD financial report and bills to be paid.

**3. CARBON FARMING**

**A. Board approval of cost proposals for Project #2019-07 in the Tomales Bay watershed to install fencing and a water development. MOTION: Mike; SECOND: Terry; AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None, to approve cost proposals for Project #2019-07 in the Tomales Bay watershed to install fencing and a water development.**

**B. Board approval of cost proposal for Project #2019-06 in the San Antonio watershed to install a water development cost proposal. MOTION: Terry; SECOND: Mike; AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None, to approve cost proposal for Project #2019-06 in the San Antonio watershed to install a water development cost proposal contingent upon RCD & landowner to split equally \$1,187 (\$593.50 each).**

**C. This is the beginning of an ongoing topic. Jeff Creque is present to educate the Board on Carbon Farming. Sally Gale, President, chooses to move this item to Informational Items, following the next Action Item.**

**4. CONSERVING OUR WATERSHEDS**

**A. Board approval of cost proposal for Project #2019-03 in the Tomales Bay watershed to install a waste transfer system. Staff suggests to TABLE this item to obtain more estimates and possibly meet with the TAC again. MOTION: Terry; SECOND: Mike to AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None, to TABLE Board approval of cost proposal for Project #2019-03 in the Tomales Bay watershed to install a waste transfer system.**

## INFORMATIONAL ITEMS – 11:00 a.m.

### 5. Partner Updates

- **Carbon Cycle Institute – Jeff Creque** spurs discussion around the Carbon Farm Process. Jeff's topics include:
  - Reading *Soils and Men: A Yearbook of Agriculture 1938* describing the nation's dependence on the RCDs.
  - NRCS practices used for carbon farming, sequestration and GHG reductions. Biochar agroforestry, riparian systems and paludiculture (harvesting Biomass from wetlands) were discussed.
  - Example of a Carbon Farm Plan. Using soil survey-nutrient balance in soil health.
  - Establishing grazing plans. The definition of an ecological site. Calculating carbon potential and the benefits of carbon sequestration
- **Tomales Bay Grazing Waiver – Rene Leclerc**, SF Bay Regional Water Quality Control, gives us a quick update of the Tomales Bay Grazing Waiver which included review and update of pathogen data. 61% of 117 enrollees have submitted annual reports; would like 90%. Focus of their outreach is educating land owners to reach out to the RCD's and to develop rapport. Grazing waiver program is expanding to Petaluma River.
- **Introducing CalTrout-** Patrick Samuels, Bay Area Program Manager. CalTrout is conducting temperature monitoring in Walker Creek. They are also working with Walker Creek Ranch on educational activities.

### Partner Updates

- **USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service** – Petaluma Field Office Staff
  - Received 13 applications for EQIP totaling \$850k. All were funded.
- **Marin Agricultural Land Trust/SAP** – MALT Stewardship Staff
  - 46/88 easements have been monitored.
- **Students & Teachers Restoring a Watershed** – Isaiah Thalmayer, Restoration Mgr.
  - 58 restoration days scheduled next year
  - Oaks and rangeland health research information offered for future meeting.
- **Point Reyes National Seashore** – Dylan Voeller
  - GMP amendment is out. Please comment by Sept 23.

### RCD Program Updates

- **Conserving Our Watersheds Program (Construction Update):** One project is under construction, two are trying to line up for construction; one is hung up in the permitting phase and is awaiting AMMP proposal announcements. ***COW IV & V grants completed (two more cows out to pasture) and >10 years of work completed!***
  - \$2.6M in grants matched with \$1.4M from NRCS, Point Blue, MALT, PRNS
  - 156 Best Management Practices Completed at 50 locations across 53% of the watershed
- **Urban Streams Program:** The USC assisted 10 residents/stakeholders in Marin whereas one landowner received a site visit in Nicasio. USC met with CA Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to discuss priority actions for coho salmon recovery in Lagunitas Creek and submitted a letter to CDFW on behalf of the Lagunitas TAC regarding net pen releases. USC carried out another successful native plant propagation class on July 27<sup>th</sup> that was well-

attended (20 total) and attended a community meeting in San Geronimo Valley on Marin County's proposed project at Roy's Redwoods. USC attended and commented at the Marin County Planning Commission meeting regarding the Final Supplemental EIR in SGV on cumulative impacts from development on salmonids. Finally, USC has worked and focused mostly on getting the Landowner Assistance Program projects ready for implementation, addressing the hiccups as they come.

- **Carbon Farming Program:** Staff is participating in County's Drawdown Marin program. Staff is gearing up to implement three projects this year. One previously implemented project will be maintained. Soil samples will be collected in September prior to implementation of projects.
- **Stemple Creek:** Stemple Creek Cleanup project is happening the week of August 12<sup>th</sup>!
- **Pine Gulch Creek:** One pond is seeping; therefore, Marin RCD is assisting with Division of Water Rights Time Extension Request to delay appropriate water licensing.
- **Media/Outreach:** Stemple Creek Clean Up press release!
- **Grant Opportunities:**
  - \$45,000. Anonymous. Regenerating Landscapes. *Awarded!*
  - \$350,782. Walker Creek Estuary Study. Dept Fish and Wildlife. *Pending*
  - \$10K. Workshops at Farmers Markets for beginning farmers. *Pending*
- **Finance Committee:** Finance Co meeting was rescheduled to 08/15/19 where a new FY budget and Cost Share Policy will be reviewed.
- **District:**
  - Darrylin will soon be a notary!
  - Let's go on a 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Tour for Board of Supervisors - FALL
  - Staff met with landowners and the County of Marin at the Franklin School Rd flood site.
  - Darrylin is closing FY18-19 and scheduling for CPA and Audit.
- **Landowner's calling for assistance:** 1 agricultural and 10 urban landowners requesting assistance.

#### 6. ANNOUNCEMENTS & CORRESPONDENCE

- Tomales Bay Association's Fundraising Dinner on August 16<sup>th</sup> starting at 5pm at Inverness Yacht Club
- Salmonid Restoration Federation Coho Confab on Klamath River August 23-25
- Final 2019 Native Plant Propagation Class Saturday, August 31<sup>st</sup> at the Red Barn (Pt Reyes Seashore) from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm.

#### 7. 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.

#### 8. MEETING ADJOURNED at 12:15 p.m.