



AGENDA

DATE: **Wednesday, November 10th, 2021**

PLACE: **Marin RCD Office, 80 4th Street, Suite 202, Point Reyes Station, CA 94956**

(Please let us know in advance if you plan on being physically present at our office so that staff can be available to sanitize and set up a computer station for you)

REMOTE OPTION: Due to the COVID-19 health emergency - and to protect our Board Members, staff, and members of the public - the regularly scheduled board meeting will be held remotely. Members of the public are encouraged to participate remotely by Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81172149361?pwd=V0doK21odm80akVMQ0FpdHV4R1N2UT09>

or by phone: +16699009128,,81172149361#,,,,*646428# meeting ID#: 811 7214 9361 Passcode: 646428 Please contact Michelle Katuna at 415-787-7440 or michelle@marinrcd.org if you have concerns about accessibility.

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

(Note that we may move agenda items in this meeting to meet time constraints of participants.)

2. PRESENTATION: 9:15 - 10:15 a.m.

Experiences with Beaver: A panel which includes Tracy Kay Schohr, Doty Ravine; Betsy Stapleton, Scott River Watershed Council; Jon Griggs, Maggie Creek Ranch-Nevada

ACTION ITEMS:

3. MARIN BIOMASS STUDY: 10:15 - 10:30 a.m.

- A. Board approval to act as a fiscal agent, on behalf of the Marin Biomass Collaborative, in a proposal to the CA Office of Planning and Research for a Marin Biomass Study: Creating environmentally responsible biomass utilization pathways in an urban rural coastal region.

4. CONSERVING OUR WATERSHEDS: 10:30-10:45 a.m.

- A. Board Approval to execute contract #C10-2021 for \$11,400 with Elise Suronen for Grant Management Services.

5. DOC STEMPLE CREEK RIPARIAN RESTORATION : 10:45-11:00 a.m.

- A. Board approval to execute contract # C06-2021 for \$363,548.20 with Point Blue 5. Conservation Science's Students and Teachers Restoring a Watershed (STRAW) Program to install 3,940 native plants to restore approximately 4,260 linear feet of degraded riparian area along Stemple Creek at the Lazy R Ranch (Righetti), and perform monitoring and maintenance for 3 years.

6. DISTRICT, MINUTES, FINANCIALS: 11:00-11:20 a.m.

- A. Board approval of regular meeting Minutes.
- B. Board approval of Financial Report and bills to be paid.

- C. Board approval of Resolution 11-2021 of the Board of Directors of the Marin RCD proclaiming a local emergency persists, re-ratifying the proclamation of a state of emergency by Executive Order N-29-20, issued by Governor Newsom on March 17, 2020, and re-authorizing remote teleconference meetings of the legislative bodies of Marin RCD for the period of November 12, 2021 to December 11, 2021 pursuant to Brown Act provisions.
- D. Board approval of FY 21/22 Marin RCD Annual Budget.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS: 11:20 a.m.

7. Updates:

Partner Updates: 5 min each

- **USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service** – Petaluma Field Office Staff
- **Marin Agricultural Land Trust/SAP** – MALT Stewardship Staff
- **Point Blue & Students & Teachers Restoring a Watershed** – Taj Hittenberger, Point Blue Partner Biologist

RCD Program Updates (See staff report for details):

- **Drought News-** A time for updates from all attendees. Ag Commissioner will be distributing payments for drought losses to ag producers soon. Check out our drought page <https://www.marinrcd.org/drought-assistance/>
- **JEDI** - RCD staff and county partners received training from the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria.
- **Conserving Our Watersheds Program:** Selection Criteria for the COW CCAF program was established by the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). 10 site visits were conducted with the COW CCAF TAC and landowners were given technical advice on proposed projects (3 in Estero De San Antonio, 2 in Point Reyes National Seashore, and 5 in Tomales Bay Watershed). Two meetings have been held with Vince Trotter re: permitting projects in the Local Coastal Zone in order to better understand the recent update to the Local Coastal Plan and enable MRCD Staff to advise landowners on project permitting in Local Coastal Zone.
- **Messaging/Outreach/Education:** Staff provided Measure A details to the Point Reyes Light, public and Marin Conservation League.
- **Urban Streams Program:** USC provided assistance to Marin Water for their annual juvenile salmonid monitoring activities in the Lagunitas Creek watershed, which has come to an end. USC continues to be engaged with CDA and DPW in meetings relating to the draft expanded SCA Ordinance for SGV. The Planning Commission Hearing will be held on November 8th with the SCA being discussed at 1pm. USC met with a project coordinator in the Canal District to review sites for greening and restoration activities in the community. USC attended two full-day meetings with CDFW for their SHARP process.
- **Carbon Farming Program:** Staff gave a presentation to the American Farmland Trust.
- **Wildlife Conservation Board:** CFP designs will be worked on from now through 2022. Torliatt design being finalized, Mahrt next. Chileno Valley Ranch CFP underway. Educational materials: wildlife-friendly hedgerow pamphlet is being finalized and translated. Expected to be published by the end of the year. Department of Conservation-Stemple Creek Restoration: Rainwater gutters, storage tank, and piping (water improvement) installed and captured lots of water in Oct storm! Fence designs complete with NRCS and provided to landowner and USFWS. Fence planned for Spring

2022, and plant installation by STRAW for Fall 2022. [CDFA Healthy Soils Program 21/2022 round now open!](#) Marin RCD is providing application assistance to first 10 producers who call us at 415-787-7740. Application details on [CDFA's webpage](#) and [MRCD's webpage](#) (both linked).

- **Walker Creek Watershed:** Sarah submitted a request for a one year extension on the project term and continues to seek additional funding from other sources. Two changes are being accommodated: 1) the lack of data on water surface elevation due to a poor winter/rainy season in 20/21 and 2) the outcome of the first TAC meeting resulted in a desire for a more robust and engaging TAC process (which will cost more).
- **Funding Opportunities:**
 - The County of Marin requested submission of a \$125,000 proposal for carbon farming project development from the RCD.
 - The RCD has been a recipient of Measure A funding. Measure A is being considered for renewal and is being redrafted and presented to the Board of Supervisors in December.
- **Finance Committee:** FC held a meeting to discuss salaries, step schedule, salary survey and Measure A
- **District:** Nancy is working on revising the Salary and Step Schedule.
- **New landowners/stewards assisted:** Urban: 11 assisted with information only, 9 site visits, 19 total educated. USC carried out nine (9) site visits in Marin County for private property owners living along streams and the County's Flood Control District. Agriculture: 17 Landowners were visited to support the development of project applications for the COW program. 5 landowners were referred to alternate funding sources for water development projects, 8 landowners assisted with carbon farming TA and RDM Monitoring.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS & CORRESPONDENCE

- A "Funding for Carbon Farming Implementation" spreadsheet: has been created to inform local producers about cost-share and grant programs they can apply to for conservation projects. Spreadsheet will be updated semi-annually. [Find here](#). Of special note: CDFAs Healthy Soils 2021/22 Round is now open!
- Training for the Board and staff by the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria has been rescheduled to **Dec 9 from 3:30 - 5:00 PM**. Mark your calendars and email michelle@marinrcd.org for login details. If you are interested in learning more about local indigenous history and presence, you can [follow this link to an ongoing list](#) of books, articles, museums, etc. that Gold Ridge/Sonoma/Marin RCD staff have compiled.

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



MINUTES

DATE: **Wednesday, October 20, 2021**

PLACE: **Marin RCD Office, 80 4th Street, Suite 202, Point Reyes Station, CA 94956**

1. A regularly scheduled meeting was called to order by Sally Gale, President, at 9:03 a.m.

Roll call of directors: Mike Moretti, Bob Giacomini and Peter Martinelli.

Associate Directors: George Clyde & David Sherwood. Absent: Guido Frosini

Staff: Nancy Scolari, Darrylin Mollath, Michelle Katuna, Emilie Winfield, Simone Albuquerque & Tara Krantz.

Additional Attendees: Eric Rubenstahl (MALT), Bell Cole (Marin Biomass Collaborative), Bill Kearney (Marin Biomass Collaborative), Isaiah Thalmayer (Point Blue), John Parodi (Point Blue) and Jessie Ditmore (Point Blue).

ACTION ITEMS:

2. DISTRICT, MINUTES, FINANCIALS:

A. Board approval of regular meeting minutes.

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

C. Board approval of Resolution 10-2021 of the Board of Directors of the Marin

RCD proclaiming a local emergency persists, re-ratifying the proclamation of a state of emergency by Executive Order N-29-20, issued by Governor Newsom on March 17, 2020, and re-authorizing remote teleconference meetings of the legislative bodies of Marin RCD for the period of October 13 to November 12, 2021 pursuant to Brown Act provisions.

MOTION: Peter; SECOND: Mike; AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None, to approve Resolution 10-2021 of the Board of Directors of the Marin RCD proclaiming a local emergency persists, re-ratifying the proclamation of a state of emergency by Executive Order N-29-20, issued by Governor Newsom on March 17, 2020, and re-authorizing remote teleconference meetings of the legislative bodies of Marin RCD for the period of October 13 to November 12, 2021 pursuant to Brown Act provisions.

3. CONSERVING OUR WATERSHEDS:

A. Board approval of Project Selection Criteria to be used in the evaluation and ranking of applications for the *COW: Collaborative Conservation Actions by Farmers* (CCAF) grant.

Not able to take a vote on this item

4. MARIN COASTAL PERMIT COORDINATION PROGRAM:

A. Board approval to open a 30-day review of 2021 proposed projects into the Marin Coastal Permit Coordination Program (PCP) and acceptance of proposed projects on November 11, 2020 contingent upon receiving no public comment.

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MOTION: Mike; SECOND: Terry; AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENSIONS: None to approve to open a 30-day review of 2021 proposed projects into the Marin Coastal Permit Coordination Program (PCP) and acceptance of proposed projects on November 11, 2020 contingent upon receiving no public comment.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

5. Presentations & Updates:

- **Marin Biomass Study:** Bell Cole or Bill Kearney introduce the program with the Board. The Marin Biomass Study is a pilot project analyzing a wide range of existing and potential pathways to process biomass and converting it into products that are both economically sound and environmentally responsible.
- **USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service** – Not able to attend.
- **Marin Agricultural Land Trust/SAP** – Eric Rubenstahl gives an update on MALT's activities. He states they are charging through their monitoring season with over half of their visits completed and their DRAWS program is presently on pause as they wait for more funding approval. The DRAWS program has completed 39 approved projects (\$490,000 earmarked). The SAP programs working through their agreement with MRCD which should be finalized by the November Board Meeting. Eric states MALT has 10-12 SAP applications to implement once the agreement is complete. He closes by stating MALT has 4-5 new easements in the works which they expect to finalize by the end of 2022.
- **Students & Teachers Restoring a Watershed** – Jessie Ditmore states that STRAW is working to get their restoration projects on the calendar, plus they are currently enrolling students and working to pair the site projects with the students. John Parodi finishes up by sharing he is grateful for the STRAW/MRCD partnership and feels this is a dynamic time for their mutual work to move forward.

RCD Program Updates (See staff report for details):

- **Drought News-** A time for updates from all attendees. Nancy will report on short term and long term actions for pond projects. Check out our drought page <https://www.marinrcd.org/drought-assistance/>
- **DEIJ** - Marin RCD Staff, in addition to Sonoma and Gold Ridge RCDs, attended a Diversity, Equity, Inclusion training put on by Soil and Shadow consultants. Marin RCD staff will discuss next steps on October 12th.
- **Conserving Our Watersheds Program:** 4 out of 6 sites completed. Two remaining projects to be built in 2022 if extension is granted.
- **Messaging/Outreach/Education:** Sonoma, Gold Ridge, Napa and Sonoma RCDs have received funding (\$75k) to hire a consultant to help with messaging and outreach.
- **Urban Streams Program:** USC attended several meetings including permitting pond maintenance activities, post-fire remediation, and Sup. Rodoni's Open House meeting on the SCA-O. Sarah attended and presented at the CA Chapter's Society for Ecological Restoration, virtually (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8hS9FIg2BnU>). USC has been providing monitoring capacity to Marin Water for their annual juvenile salmonid monitoring activities in the Lagunitas Creek watershed. Finally, Sarah continues to attend meetings with CDA and DPW with regard to the draft expanded SCA Ordinance for San Geronimo Valley. The public draft was released for review on Thursday, September 16th. The Community

Workshop will be combined with the Planning Commission hearing on Monday, October 25th then to the BOS on Dec. 7th. Please provide public comment prior to 10/25 to Kristin Drumm at CDA Kdrumm@marincounty.org.

- **Carbon Farming Program: Wildlife Conservation Board:** CFP designs will be worked on from now through 2022, in the order of project ranking. First site visit at Torliatt complete and designs submitted for implementation funding through NRCS CIC program. Chileno Valley Ranch CFP underway. Educational materials: wildlife-friendly hedgerow pamphlet is being finalized and translated. Expected to be published by the end of the year. Department of Conservation-Stemple Creek Restoration: Rainwater gutters and storage tank (water improvement) installed, funded by MALT DRAWS and landowner! Fence designs complete with NRCS and provided to landowner and USFWS. CDFA Healthy Soils Application Assistance Grant awarded (\$59K). Marin RCD can provide application assistance to producers who apply. Training for Board and staff by the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria is booked for Nov 18 from 1-2:30 PM. Mark your calendars and email michelle@marinrcd.org for login details.
- **Walker Creek Watershed:** Sarah is working with PCI in requesting an extension on the project term and additional funds. Two changes are being accommodated: 1) the lack of data on water surface elevation due to a poor winter/rainy season and 2) the outcome of the first TAC meeting resulted in a desire for a more robust and engaging TAC process (which will cost more).
- **Pine Gulch Creek Project:** Peter is seeking funding to apply bentonite to pond embankments. Dennis' pond has a leak in the overflow line, and he is fixing it.
- **Grant Opportunities:**
 - The RCD has received the first of an annual contribution (\$3,500) from an endowment which will be used to support interns with on the job training. RCD staff has reviewed the application template and will release information in October for candidates.
 - The Water Board notified staff that future priorities for 319(h) have been expanded to include high quality waters including Drakes Estero and the Point. This means future funding could help the dairies that drain into the Pacific Ocean!
- **Finance Committee:** No meeting
- **District:** Nancy is working on revising the Salary and Step Schedule and budget.
- **New landowners/stewards assisted:** Urban: 12 total; 9 assisted with information only, 2 site visits, 111 total educated.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS & CORRESPONDENCE

- A "Funding for Carbon Farming Implementation" spreadsheet: has been created to inform local producers about cost-share and grant programs they can apply to for conservation projects. Spreadsheet will be updated semi-annually. [Find here.](#)
- Training for Board and staff by the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria is booked for **Nov 18 from 1-2:30 PM**. Mark your calendars and email michelle@marinrcd.org for login details.
- Letters of support were received from UC Cooperative Extension, Point Blue STRAW, Ag Institute of Marin, Straus Family Creamery, Marin County Board of Supervisors, Carbon Cycle Institute, CA Assoc of RCDs, Senator McGuire, Fibershed, Clover Sonoma.

- Public Comment due to Kdrumm@marincounty.org prior to Planning Commission/Community Workshop meeting on October 25th regarding the SCA-Ordinance in San Geronimo Valley.

6. 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.

7. MEETING ADJOURNED at 10:51 a.m.