



AGENDA

DATE: **Wednesday, January 12th, 2022**

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. 9:00-9:15 a.m.
(Note that we may move agenda items in this meeting to meet time constraints of participants.)

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS: 9:15 - 9:45 a.m.

2. Marin Agricultural Land Trust Update - Jennifer Carlin, new Acting CEO
3. Inoculant-Support Restoration: A New Practice with Promising Results - Isaiah Thalmayer, Point Blue Conservation Science

ACTION ITEMS: 9:45 a.m.

4. DISTRICT, MINUTES, FINANCIALS: 9:45-10 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 01-2022 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 January 12, 2022 to February 12, 2022 pursuant to Brown Act provisions.
 - D. Board approval of Resolution 02-2022 of the Board of Directors of the Marin RCD approving \$1M in grant funding from the CA State Coastal Conservancy for the Marin Carbon Farming Project.
5. CONSERVING OUR WATERSHEDS (COW): 10:00 - 10:40 a.m.
 - A. Board approval of Contract #C01-2022 for \$9,025.00 with Erica Mikesch to create designs for the COW CCAF Mclsaac Ranch and Dickson Ranch projects.
6. MARIN COASTAL PERMIT COORDINATION (PCP): 10:40-11:00 a.m.

- A. Board approval of Contract #C02-2022 for \$7,395.00 with Prunuske Chatham Inc. to complete a Marin Coastal Permit Coordination Program Addendum that will synchronize the PCP with state categorical exemption requirements

UPDATES AND PRESENTATIONS:

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** – Point Blue Staff

RCD Program Updates (See staff report for details):

- **Messaging/Outreach/Education:** Some media highlights over the last month. **Thank you to George Clyde** for creating and circulating the press release and doing the hard work of communicating with reporters and highlighting the role of the RCD.
 - “County Lands \$1M grant to boost carbon farming” Will Houston, Marin IJ
 - “New funds will expand Marin carbon farming” Ike Allen, PR Light
 - “County allocates \$4M toward climate projects” Richard Halstead, Marin IJ
 - “Marin Supervisors rebuff proposal to cut future Measure A funding for Agriculture” Richard Halstead, Marin IJ
 - “Marin County will implement carbon farming” Jeffrey Schaub, KCBS
- **Drought News-** A time for updates from all attendees. Ag Commissioner has distributed payments for drought losses to ag producers.
- **JEDI** - 39 RCD staff and Board members received training from the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria on Dec 9th. Thank you for the thoughtful engagement!
- **Conserving Our Watersheds Program:** MRCD Board approved 5 projects for design based on COW CCAF Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) recommendations on 12/8/21. Alternative resources were provided to landowners whose projects were not approved for design at this time. The Water Board grant manager has approved the Bivalve Project not being completed prior to grant termination due to pandemic-caused supply chain delays for equipment delivery.
- **Urban Streams Program:** USC led a salmon spawning tour for partners working on the CLAM project as well as met with an engineer on site to review the existing topographic conditions. USC provided assistance to several streamside landowners and stakeholders with information and resources. USC attended the Planning Commission hearing in December where they approved the SCA-O upon minimal clarifications. Sarah continues to hold conversations with the Trust for Public Land to brainstorm workshop ideas and ways to involve the community in fun stewardship activities at the former golf course (San Geronimo Commons) for the early months in 2022. Finally, Sarah continues to support Marin Water’s salmonid monitoring efforts in the Lagunitas Creek watershed.
- **Carbon Farming Program:** 20 Carbon Farm Plan holders were contacted to ask for Measure A letters of support addressed to the Marin BOS and/or presence at the Jan 25th BOS Meeting. Wildlife Conservation Board: CFP designs will be worked on from now through 2022. Torliatt design being finalized, Mahrt started, Toluma visited with STRAW and FIGR. Chileno Valley Ranch CFP underway. Educational materials: wildlife-friendly hedgerow pamphlet is being finalized and translated and printed soon. Department of Conservation-Stemple Creek Restoration: Fence planned for Spring 2022, and plant installation by STRAW for Fall 2022. **CDFA Healthy Soils Program 21/2022 is**

open through Feb 25th or until funds run out! Marin RCD has helped 12 producers. Call 415-787-7740 or email michelle@marinrcd.org if you need last-minute assistance. Application details on [CDFA's webpage](#) and [MRCD's webpage](#) (both linked).

- **Walker Creek Watershed:** Currently waiting for grant extension request to be granted.
- **Funding Opportunities:**
 - CARCD is pooling together RCDs to apply for a monarch/pollinator/Carbon Farming grant to the Ca Wildlife Conservation Board.
 - Measure A is being considered for renewal and is being redrafted. Nancy submitted a letter to the Marin County Board of Supervisors requesting the RCD receive an increase from \$130,000 to \$500,000 per year. Tara is working on a watershed map to show past Measure A projects completed. The schedule moving forward is as follows:
 - January 20, 2022: Parks and Open Space Commission considers recommending Measure A Expenditure Plan to the Board of Supervisors
 - January 25, 2022: Board of Supervisors conducts first hearing on Measure A ordinance, sales tax, and expenditure plan
 - February 1, 2022: Board of Supervisors conducts final reading, and if approved, signed resolution is sent to elections office
 - The Biomass Study is moving forward. The CA Office of Planning and Research is reviewing a draft scope of work and budget. A contract is expected for approval at our next RCD meeting.
- **Finance Committee:** A meeting is being planned for January where auditor proposals will be reviewed.
- **District:** LAFCo is drafting up our service review which will be available for public comment soon.
- **New landowners/stewards assisted:** Urban: 8 assisted with information, 2 site visits for private property owners living along streams and the County's Flood Control District, 5 total educated. Agriculture: 11 landowners received updates on their COW CCAF Applications; Alternative funding resources were provided to landowners if their projects were not recommended for design at this time. Carbon Farming: 5 land managers helped with technical assistance, 1 with Carbon Farm Plan interest, and 6 with funding.

7. 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: CDFA's Healthy Soils 2021/22 Round and Zero Foodprint are now open!
- The following landowners submitted letters of support or submitted comments to the Board of Supervisors (that we are aware of): Pozzi, Straus, Giamonna, Frosini, Gale, Sherwood, Clyde, Giacomini, Lafranchi, Martinelli.

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



MINUTES

DATE: **Wednesday, December 8th, 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 Terry Sawyer. Absent: Peter Martinelli.

Associate Directors: George Clyde, David Sherwood and Guido Frosini

Staff: Nancy Scolari, Sarah Phillips, Darrylin Mollath, Michelle Katuna, Emilie Winfield, Simone Albuquerque, Elise Suronen and Tara Krantz.

Additional Attendees: Eric Rubenstahl (MALT), Scott Dunbar (MALT), Laurie Taul (SBRQCB), Isaiah Thalmayer (Point Blue), Dylan Voeller (PRNS), Rich Holland (Marin Horse Council), Morgan Williams (SFBRWQCB), Rachel Best (NCRWQCB), Brooke Pippi (UCCE), Randi Black (UCCE), J Burke and Cherie Blatt (NCRWQCB), Kristin Norman (NRCS), Drew Loganbill (NRCS), Tamara Hicks (Landowner) and Vivien Strauss (Landowner).

ACTION ITEMS:

2. DISTRICT, MINUTES, FINANCIALS:

A. Board approval of regular meeting minutes.

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

B. Board approval of RCD Financial Report and bills to be paid.

MOTION: Mike; SECOND: Bob; 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: Terry; 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.

D. Board approval of Marin RCD letter to Marin County Board of Supervisors recommending changes to the Draft Measure A expenditure plan as they relate to District programs.

MOTION: Mike; SECOND: Terry; AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None, to approve Marin RCD letter to Marin County Board of Supervisors recommending changes to the Draft Measure A expenditure plan as they relate to District programs.

3. CONSERVING OUR WATERSHEDS:
 - A. Board approval of Marin RCD Technical Advisory Committee and staff recommendations to authorize 5 visited and ranked projects into the design phase for 2022.
MOTION: Bob; SECOND: Mike; AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None, to approve Marin RCD Technical Advisory Committee and staff recommendations to authorize 5 visited and ranked projects into the design phase for 2022.

4. CARBON FARMING:
 - A. Board approval to execute contract # C09-2021 for \$14,782.21 with Point Blue Conservation Science's Students and Teachers Restoring a Watershed (STRAW) Program to: assist local producers in applying to the USDA California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA)'s Healthy Soils Incentive Program (HSP), help with implementation of awarded projects, and develop educational resources.
MOTION: Bob; SECOND: Mike; AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None to approve to execute contract # C09-2021 for \$14,782.21 with Point Blue Conservation Science's Students and Teachers Restoring a Watershed (STRAW) Program to: assist local producers in applying to the USDA California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA)'s Healthy Soils Incentive Program (HSP), help with implementation of awarded projects, and develop educational resources.

5. MARIN AGRICULTURAL LAND TRUST:
 - A. Board Approval to execute FY21/22 Marin Agricultural Land Trust Stewardship Assistance Program grant agreement.
MOTION: Bob; SECOND: Mike; AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None to execute FY21/22 Marin Agricultural Land Trust Stewardship Assistance Program grant agreement.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

6. UPDATES AND PRESENTATIONS:

Presentation: 20 min

Tribal Collaboration on CA Wildlife Conservation Board Designs: Michelle Katuna, Isaiah Thalmayer, Tamara Hicks, Guido Frosini, Vivien Straus

Partner Updates: 5 min each

- **USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service** – Drew Loganbill shares with the Board that he has accepted the Resource Conservationist position in Salinas, which will become affective in January. He also mentions NRCS, working with the Healthy Soils Initiative, is launching a national pilot program promoting funding for a cover crop this winter. He explains they are still waiting for details, but the program seems to be straightforward with incredibly fast deadline (end of January-early February).
- **Marin Agricultural Land Trust/SAP** – Scott Dunbar and Eric Rubenstahl update the Board with MALT news of a signed agreement with the MRCD. They are looking forward to processing applications starting Monday, December 13th. Applications to apply may be found on their website or by request in paper form. Eric mentions MALT has monitored 82 of 90 easements this season. They are thankful to have made many quick visits to

landowners vs. the compromised manner MALT was able to connect last year. Eric also shares that 3 more easements will be complete by June 2022.

- **Point Blue & Students & Teachers Restoring a Watershed** – Isaiah Thalmayer mentions STRAW is excited to be working on restoration projects with students again. STRAW has hired three new Restoration Technicians to assist them in moving forward. STRAW has two small projects they are presently working with the RCD - willow sprigging at Strauss Home Ranch and a similar project on the Hollis Ranch in Tomales.

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.
- **JEDI** - 24 RCD staff and partners received training from the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. Board members please joining us for a training from FIGR on Dec 9th, at 3:30-5:00 PM. Email michelle@marinrcd.org for log-in details.
- **Conserving Our Watersheds Program:** COW CCAF Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) discussed and ranked 11 projects and selected 8 based on the selection criteria. Of the 8 selected projects 5 are recommended by the TAC and MRCD Staff to be approved for design based on budgetary and time constraints. Erika Mikesh was contracted to support COW CCAF and COW UDRS up to \$5,000 in materials and services. COW UDRS grant will close on Feb. 28, 2022; Elise Suronen is writing the final report and the Grant Manager has approved the Bivalve Project not being completed prior to grant termination due to pandemic-caused supply chain delays for equipment delivery.
- **Messaging/Outreach/Education:** Staff provided Measure A details to the Point Reyes Light, public and Marin Conservation League. Point Reyes Light: *County Parks to spend less on agricultural easements*; Marin Independent Journal: *Marin farm conservation funding slashed in tax renewal draft*. Several letters of support of Marin RCD and Measure A were submitted to the editor of the PR Light including one by George Clyde.
- **Urban Streams Program:** USC provided assistance to several streamside landowners and Marin County's Flood Control District regarding fallen trees after recent storm events. Sarah was nominated and elected to serve as the Lagunitas TAC Chair again. The Planning Commission will meet again in December to review and decide on the SCA-O. Sarah and Nancy met with county staff to review the RCD's role under the SCA-O. Sarah met with the Trust for Public Land to brainstorm workshop ideas and ways to involve the community in fun stewardship activities at the former golf course. Furthermore, two (2) abstracts were submitted to the Salmonid Restoration Federation (SRF) for their annual conference to be held in April, 2022 in Santa Cruz. Sarah organized and led a regulatory meeting at Olema Campground to review recent flooding impacts.
- **Carbon Farming Program:** Wildlife Conservation Board: CFP designs will be worked on from now through 2022. Torliatt design being finalized, Mahrt started, Toluma visit in Dec. Chileno Valley Ranch CFP underway. Educational materials: wildlife-friendly hedgerow pamphlet is being finalized and translated. 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:** Currently waiting for the extension request to be granted.
- **Funding Opportunities:**
 - Measure A is being considered for renewal and is being redrafted and presented to the Board of Supervisors in December. Nancy submitted a letter to the Marin County Parks and Open Space Commission re the draft expenditure plan and also met with some environmental groups to answer questions about the RCD. A letter will need to be drafted for submission to the County Board of Supervisors.
- **Finance Committee:** Meeting was canceled due to a family emergency.
- **District:** Nancy and Darrylin continue to work on revising the Salary and Step Schedule. Darrylin is gathering proposals for new Auditors to present to the Board.
- **New landowners/stewards assisted:** Urban: 2 assisted with information only, 6 site visits in Marin County for private property owners living along streams and the County's Flood Control District, 7 total educated. Agriculture: 11 Landowners were visited by a technical advisory committee to discuss/rank project applications for the COW program. 3 landowners and 1 leasee supported by consultations with Marin County and UC Cooperative Extension on New Local Coastal Plan Permitting requirements (will hopefully support many future projects). Carbon Farming: 2 land managers assisted with carbon farming TA, 1 with outreach and education, 11 with funding.

7. 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: CDFA's Healthy Soils 2021/22 Round and Zero Foodprint are now open!
- Training for the Board and staff by the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria will be tomorrow, **Dec 9 from 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.** 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.

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 11:52 a.m.