



## AGENDA

DATE: **Wednesday, September 14th, 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/87864206727> or by phone: +16699009128,,87864206727# meeting ID: 878 6420 6727. Please contact Nancy Scolari at (415) 663-1170 ext. 301, or [preston@marinrcd.org](mailto:preston@marinrcd.org) if you have concerns about accessibility.

1. Regular meeting opens at **9:00 a.m.** Roll call and introduction of guests including our new Carbon Farming Program Manager, Sarah Skinker! 9:00-9:15 a.m.

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

### **ACTION ITEMS: 9:15 – 10:30 a.m.**

2. DISTRICT, MINUTES, FINANCIALS:

A. Board approval of regular meeting Minutes.

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

C. Board approval of Resolution 10-2022 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 September 14 – October 12, 2022 pursuant to Brown Act provisions.

3. MARIN BIOMASS STUDY:

A. Request Board approval to execute \$285,000 Professional Service Agreement #C09-2022 with Spatial Informatic Group to conduct a multi-part Biomass Utilization Study, contingent upon agreement from the CA Office of Planning and Research.

4. MARIN CARBON PROJECT:

A. Request Board approval to execute \$50,000 Professional Service Agreement #C10-2022 with Orlena Yee to provide coordinator services for the Marin Carbon Project.

5. CA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION:

A. Request Board approval of final designs and Landowner Authorization Agreement Maintenance and Monitoring obligations for Project #2022-05 Stemple Creek Riparian Restoration Project.

### **6. INFORMATIONAL: 10:30 a.m.**

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Project Updates: 20 min

- Review of Wildlife Conservation Board Project Designs – Preston Duncan, Marin RCD and Isaiah Thalmayer, Point Blue STRAW

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):

- **Media/Messaging/Outreach/Education:** We now have a news page where local RCDs can share information. Go to [this link](#) and sign up!
- **Drought News:** Sonoma and Marin Counties are pulling together a drought report for the ag community to describe recent challenges and to prepare and plan for future droughts. Report comes out soon!
- **Justice Equity Diversity Inclusion:** Our work here will get started once our work plan is approved by CA State Coastal Conservancy.
- **Biomass Project:** A Request for Proposals was posted on the Marin RCD website for a Biomass Utilization Study with Greenhouse Gas Assessment. Four proposals were received and reviewed by the Biomass Steering Committee. One is recommended for approval.
- **Conserving Our Watersheds Program:** Equipment has been installed for the COW UDRS Bivalve project! COW CCAF Project 2022-02 is undergoing NEPA review. COW CCAF projects 2022-01 and 2022-02 bid documents are being drafted for fall 2022 implementation. COW CCAF deviation request (additional funds offered by SWRCB) is approved. Working with PRNS on Pond restoration of 10 ponds on 6 ranches fall 2022.
- **Urban Streams Program:** Sarah continues to work alongside CDA in developing guidance materials and training County staff on the new Stream Conservation Area ordinance. Marin Water District contracted Sarah and Preston to support their ongoing monitoring efforts. Sarah is currently assisting Marin Water District with their juvenile salmonid monitoring efforts in Lagunitas Creek through the month of September. Sarah has completed her recertification of wildland Fire Fighting Type II training and attended a workshop on post-fire remediation efforts in the CZU fire complex region of the south bay.
- **Carbon Farming Program:** State Coastal Conservancy: New projects are delayed by one year due to staff being redirected to Public Request Act assignments. Wildlife Conservation Board: 2 CFP designs complete, and 4 underway. Chileno Valley Ranch CFP underway. Department of Conservation-Stemple Creek Restoration: Fence materials have been delivered and installation has begun. Plant installation by STRAW scheduled for Fall 2022.
- **Walker Creek Watershed:** No report.
- **Funding Opportunities:**
  - CARCD is pooling together RCDs to apply for a monarch/pollinator/Carbon Farming grant to the CA Wildlife Conservation Board. \$221,000-\$450,000 (*Pending*)
  - USDA Climate Smart Commodities Program. \$4M (*pending*)
  - NACD Soil Health Hub Coordinator. \$123k. (*pending*)

- **Finance Committee:** Did not meet this month.
- **District:** On boarding and Off boarding staff has been exciting and challenging. Staff continue to work on closing up FY2122 and setting up new files for the new Fiscal Year.
- **New landowners/stewards assisted:** Urban: 2 site visits, 9 landowners were assisted with information and 3 landowners and/or partners were educated. Agriculture: 3 land managers were provided with funding information; 3 landowners were supported with CEQA compliance and PRNS ranches were provided support with Residual Dry Matter monitoring. Carbon Farming: 2 land managers were given technical assistance.

#### 7. ANNOUNCEMENTS & CORRESPONDENCE

- Petaluma River is being considered for a Grazing Waiver program by the State Water Board. Discussions with supporting agencies will commence in October.

#### 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, August 10th, 2022**

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 9:07 a.m.**

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

Associate Directors: David Sherwood, George Clyde and Guido Frosini.

Staff: Nancy Scolari, Simone Albuquerque, Michelle Katuna, Tom Hammond, Preston Duncan and Tara Krantz. Additional Attendees: Isaiah Thalmayer (STRAW), Brooke Pippi (NRCS), Scott Dunbar (MALT), Tristen Brenner (MALT), Laurie Taul (RWQB), Morgan Williams (RWQB), Randi Black (UC Cooperative Extension), Stefan Parnay (MCDA), Eric Rubenstahl (MALT), Jessie Ditmore (STRAW) and Rich Holland (Marin Horse Council).

**2. Marin County Department of Agriculture Update: Stefan Parnay, Marin County Ag Commissioner.**

Stefan gives the MRCDC an update on developments in Agriculture in Marin County.

- Drought-There is concern wells will go dry due to the lack of rainfall.
- Feed shortage -there is a low supply this year for feed and the cost is high. It is especially difficult for organic dairies.
- Ag Pass Program - The purpose of creating a county-based "Ag Pass" program is to provide a uniform way to identify vetted commercial farm and ranch owner-operators and their employees to firefighting personnel, California Highway Patrol officers, Sheriff's deputies and other law enforcement officers, and other emergency personnel. With this identification producers would be able to get back into their operations to support their businesses after/during a natural disaster.
- Ag Team – Created to help County employees better understand the Ag industry in Marin. Sally would like to add distaff thistle to the subject matter educated.
- Water – Increasing the capacity at Soulajule Reservoir is being looked at as a potential option to counter drought issues. A letter was submitted to Marin Water regarding concerns on this option.
- Sustainable Pest Management – The Sustainable Pest Management Work Group created by the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) and the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA). The group's charge is to develop a roadmap of recommendations and ambitious, measurable goals that will accelerate a system-wide transition to more sustainable pest management.

Bob thanked Stefan for all his help during the drought.

### **ACTION ITEMS:**

**3. DISTRICT, MINUTES, FINANCIALS:**

- A. Board approval of regular meeting Minutes.

MOTION: Bob; SECOND: Mike, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None to approve the regular meeting Minutes.

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

MOTION: Bob; SECOND: Mike, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None to approve Financial Report and bills to be paid.

- C. Board approval of Resolution 09-2022 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 August 11 – September 14, 2022 pursuant to Brown Act provisions.

MOTION: Bob; SECOND: Peter, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None to approve Resolution 09-2022 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 August 11 – September 14, 2022 pursuant to Brown Act provisions.

4. CONSERVING OUR WATERSHEDS (COW):

- A. Request Board approval of finalized design and Monitoring & Maintenance Section of Landowner Authorization Agreement (LOA) for COW Project 2022-01 manure management improvement.

MOTION: Peter; SECOND: Mike,, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None to approve finalized design and Monitoring & Maintenance Section of Landowner Authorization Agreement (LOA) for COW Project 2022-01 manure management improvement. Bob says the site should continue to be monitored for water quality to measure trends.

5. MARIN AGRICULTURAL LAND TRUST:

- A. Board approval to execute FY22/23 Marin Agricultural Land Trust Stewardship Assistance Program grant agreement.

MOTION: Bob; SECOND: Peter, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None to approve to execute FY22/23 Marin Agricultural Land Trust Stewardship Assistance Program grant agreement.

6. MARIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT:

- A. Request Board approval to execute Marin Municipal Water District agreement #6121 in the amount of \$25,000 to assist with fisheries monitoring and stream assessment work.

MOTION: Bob; SECOND: Peter, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None to approve to request Board approval to execute Marin Municipal Water District agreement #6121 in the amount of \$25,000 to assist with fisheries monitoring and stream assessment work.

7. **INFORMATIONAL:**

Partner Updates:

- **Marin Agricultural Land Trust/SAP** – Scott Dunbar shares that MALT SAP funding has been approved! They are excited to begin implementing projects for the new fiscal year. He states the DRAWS program has been very successful and still has a small amount of funding available for this fiscal year. Eric Rubenstahl adds that the new Executive Director will begin on August 30<sup>th</sup>. She is being encouraged to go slowly and get to know everyone.
- **Point Blue & Students & Teachers Restoring a Watershed** – Isaiah shares that Point Blue is working on the implementation of planting at Lazy R with MRCD this fall. They are presently looking into hiring a contractor to remove the blackberries within the project area. He also mentions STRAW has been approached by PG&E to work on a long-term project with an opportunity for restoration of habitat for fresh water shrimp. Isaiah also shares that he is presently working on a newsletter interview which will highlight the work RCD's do. One partnership he is focusing on will be the work John Parodi and Nancy Scolari have done especially with their work with landowners. Jessie Ditmore adds that this week STRAW as completed their Watershed Week conference for teachers which was very successful. This year they focused on pollinators with presentations from the Xerces Society and local nursery owners.

RCD Program Updates (See staff report for details):

- **Media/Messaging/Outreach/Education:** *Ranchlands Key to Coho Effort in Walker* Ike Allen, PR Light; IG PRNS Post reports over 300 Coho in Pine Gulch seen up to 5 miles upstream!
- **Drought News:** Sonoma and Marin Counties are pulling together a drought report for the ag community to describe recent challenges and to prepare and plan for future droughts.
- **Justice Equity Diversity Inclusion:** No update
- **Biomass Project:** A Request for Proposals was posted on the Marin RCD website for a Biomass Utilization Study with Greenhouse Gas Assessment. We have received four proposals under review by the Biomass Steering Committee.
- **Conserving Our Watersheds Program:** Equipment has been installed for the COW UDRS Bivalve project! COW CCAF Project 2022-01 is undergoing design review by MRCD BOD. COW CCAF Project 2022-02 is undergoing NEPA review and a RFPs is being drafted for fall 2022 implementation. Biological surveys are currently being arranged for COW CCAF projects 2022-03 and 2022-04 to complete their CEQA compliance. COW CCAF deviation request (additional funds offered by SWRCB) is pending.
- **Urban Streams Program:** The Stream Conservation Area Ordinance was approved and adopted by the Board of Supervisors on Tuesday, July 19<sup>th</sup>. Sarah will be working alongside CDA in developing guidance materials and training County staff on the new ordinance. Marin Water District will be contracting Sarah and Preston to support their ongoing monitoring efforts. Trust for Public Lands (TPL) requested Sarah's ongoing support in developing and leading workshops for the community on the SGV Commons property (former golf course). Finally, Sarah and Nancy provided a presentation to MCL on Walker Creek then followed up with an interview by Point Reyes Light on current (and past) efforts in Walker Creek.
- **Carbon Farming Program:** State Coastal Conservancy: New projects are delayed by one year due to staff being redirected to Public Records Act assignments. Wildlife Conservation Board: 2 CFP designs complete, and 4 underway. Chileno Valley Ranch CFP underway. Wildlife-

friendly hedgerow pamphlet is complete! Department of Conservation-Stemple Creek Restoration: Fence materials have been delivered and installation has begun, and plant installation by STRAW for Fall 2022.

- **Walker Creek Watershed:** Sarah and Darrylin prepared quarterly invoice and report for this grant. Things are on track.

- **Funding Opportunities:**

- CARCD is pooling together RCDs to apply for a monarch/pollinator/Carbon Farming grant to the Ca Wildlife Conservation Board. \$221,000-\$450,000 (*Pending*)

- USDA Climate Smart Commodities Program. \$4M (*pending*)

- NACD Soil Health Hub Coordinator. \$123k. (*pending*)

- **Finance Committee:** Did not meet this month.

- **District:** On boarding and Off boarding staff has been exciting and challenging. Staff continue to work on closing up FY2122 and setting up new files for the new Fiscal Year.

- **New landowners/stewards assisted:** Urban: 7 landowners were assisted with information and 22 landowners and/or partners were educated. Agriculture: 5 land managers were provided environmental compliance and permitting support. Carbon Farming: 7 land managers were given with technical assistance and 5 were assisted with funding.

#### 8. ANNOUNCEMENTS & CORRESPONDENCE

- None

#### 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 at 11:35 a.m.