



AGENDA

DATE: **Wednesday, December 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 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.)

2. Board approval of Resolution 11-2022 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 December 14, 2022 - January 11, 2023 pursuant to Brown Act provisions.

3. Oath of Office for newly appointed board members, Sally Gale and Jerry Meral.

ACTION ITEMS: 9:15 a.m.

4. DISTRICT, MINUTES, FINANCIALS:

- A. Board approval of regular meeting Minutes.
- B. Board approval of Financial Report and bills to be paid.
- C. Request Board approval to purchase new no-till drill.

5. CONSERVING OUR WATERSHEDS PROGRAM (COW):

- A. Request Board approval of contractor bid for Site #2022-01: Dickson Horse Ranch Heavy-Use Area reinforcement and Post-Hole Drilling and Ramp Construction.
- B. Request Board approval of 2-COW Technical Advisory Committee-recommended projects for design services.

6. CEQA & PERMIT COMPLIANCE:

- A. Request Board approval to execute a \$17,542.17 contract with Turtle Island Restoration Network/Salmon Protection and Watershed Network (SPAWN) to complete California

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Environmental Quality Act AND permit compliance for three sediment reduction projects in the Lagunitas Creek watershed.

B. Request Board approval to execute a \$7,496.87 contract with Audubon Canyon Ranch to act as lead agency for California Environmental Quality Act compliance for a parcel-wide prescribed burning plan.

7. INFORMATIONAL: 10:30 a.m.

- **North Bay Bear Collaborative** - Meghan Walla-Murphy, NBBC Lead Scientist
- **Presentation of Conserving Our Watersheds Project 2022-03 Animal Walkway & Culvert Design**- Simone Albuquerque, COW Program Manager

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:** None to report
- **Drought News:** The Sonoma and Marin Drought Resiliency Report is expected to be completed in January 2023.
- **Justice Equity Diversity Inclusion:** This work will begin in 2023.
- **Biomass Project:** Spatial Informatics Group (contractor) had completed over half the work needed to complete the Part A “Biomass Feedstock Confirmation” portion of the seven-part Biomass Utilization Study. The Steering Committee is organizing a “Biomass Collaborative,” as included in its grant agreement with the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research.
- **Conserving Our Watersheds Program:** Designs for projects 2022-03 completed & 2022-04 designs expected complete by 1/2. Ranking of 2 additional projects to replace paused 1 project that was slated for construction through the COW CCAF grant. Department of Conservation-Stemple Creek Restoration: planting days have begun - 24 in total. Met with Region 1 and Region 2 Water Quality Control Board, PRNS, and UCCE to discuss upcoming 319h funding opportunity. Application pending confirmation of adequate matching funds. Recent PRA near completion - continued work until Dec. 16th.
- **Urban Streams Program:** Sarah provided monitoring support to Marin Water District with spawner surveys in Lagunitas Creek. As well, she led another successful Lagunitas TAC meeting to close out the year. She has continued meeting with CLAM representatives about potential projects for the former Coast Guard site. Sarah also carried out site visits for a landowner in the unincorporated San Anselmo area and for both Marinwood CSD and Muir Beach Association. Finally, Sarah gave a presentation to students about salmonids and restoration in Marin County, shedding light on the importance of such work in Marin.
- **Carbon Farming Program:** Wildlife Conservation Board: 6 CFP designs complete. Chileno Valley Ranch CFP complete for grant. Audubon appendix development underway. Grant submitted. State Coastal Conservancy: 1 contract developed with UCCE, 1 contract with PB STRAW underway. No till drill research underway to prepare for purchase. JEDI consultant RFP completed, distribution planning underway. TAC planning underway.

- **Walker Creek Watershed:** Project team is currently developing final conceptual designs in addition to the draft Enhancement Plan. The next TAC meeting will take place virtually on Dec. 13th.
- **Funding Opportunities:** Simone is working on a new grant proposal to fund ~4 water quality projects located in Stemple Creek and Drakes Bay/Estero watersheds. Staff are working out the details of getting the new USDA Climate Smart Commodities budget details finalized with USDA and Sonoma County.
- **Finance Committee:** Did not meet in November.
- **District:** Darrylin has met with the CPA to review FY2122 books. The FY21-22 Audit is scheduled for December 28-29th, 2022. Form 700's are coming due, thus Darrylin will be getting intouch with each Board member to update their required documents for submittal. Our updated Indirect Cost Rate proposal is complete. Waiting for the final numbers from the Dept of the Interior for negotiation.
- **New landowners/stewards assisted:** Urban: 4 site visits, 10 partners and/or landowners were assisted with information and 29 landowners and/or partners were educated. Agriculture: 6 land managers were provided with design and EQIP information; 1 land manager supported with fence designs. 1 landowner assisted with prescribed fire inquiry. 2 landowners were assisted with pond restoration permitting and PRNS ranches were provided support on water quality monitoring. Carbon Farming: 0 land managers were given technical assistance. 0 site visits.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS & CORRESPONDENCE

- Dec 18, 2022. 10am-2pm. Sonoma Marin Pasture Club Meeting
- Jan 11, 2023. 7:30am-9am. MCL Breakfast w/ Senator Mike McGuire
- Petaluma River is being considered for a Grazing Waiver program by the State Water Board.
- Jan. 20, 2023 Lagunitas TAC field trip.

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, November 9, 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: Terry Sawyer, Peter Martinelli and Bob Giacomini. Directors not present: Mike Moretti
Associate Directors: George Clyde, Guido Frosini and Dave Sherwood.
Staff: Nancy Scolari, Simone Albuquerque, Sarah Phillips, Darrylin Mollath, Preston Duncan and Kelsey Brewer. Additional Attendees: Isaiah Thalmayer (STRAW), Charles Johnson (FIGR), Chad White (Biomass PM), Scott Dunbar (MALT), Jessie Ditmore (STRAW), Gerald Meral (RCD Director-elect), Scott Dunbar (MALT), Sebastian Tscanos (NRCS), Lily Verdon (MALT), Rich Holland (Marin Horse Council), and Madeline Tome (PRNS).

ACTION ITEMS:

2. DISTRICT, MINUTES, FINANCIALS:
 - A. Board approval of regular meeting Minutes.
MOTION: Bob; SECOND: Peter, 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: Terry, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None to approve Financial Report and bills to be paid.
 - C. Board approval of FY22-23 Marin RCD Annual Budget.
MOTION: Terry; SECOND: Bob, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None to approve the FY22-23 Marin RCD Annual Budget.
 - D. Board approval of Marin RCD Associate Directors.
MOTION: Peter; SECOND: Terry, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None to approve the Marin RCD Associate Directors.
3. CONSERVING OUR WATERSHEDS PROGRAM (COW):
 - A. Request Board approval of contractor bid for Site #2022-01: Dickson Horse Ranch Heavy-Use Area reinforcement and Post Hole Drilling and Ramp Construction.
MOTION TO TABLE: Bob; SECOND: Terry, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None to table the contractor bid for Site #2022-01: Dickson Horse Ranch Heavy-Use Area reinforcement and Post Hole Drilling and Ramp Construction.
4. CARBON FARMING PROGRAM:
 - A. Request Board approval to execute a \$25,000 Professional Services Agreement #C12-2022 with the University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) to deliver four carbon farming workshops for dairy and livestock producers.

MOTION: Bob; SECOND: Terry, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None to approve to execute a \$25,000 Professional Services Agreement #C12-2022 with the University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) to deliver four carbon farming workshops for dairy and livestock producers.

5. INFORMATIONAL:

Partner Updates:

- **Marin Agricultural Land Trust/SAP** – Scott Dunbar shares that MALT has about 2/3 of their monitoring completed. He also mentions that MALT is ramping up with their events, starting with a Happy Hour at William Tell in Tomales last week. They are scheduling hikes with the next one at Black Mountain Ranch with Lily Verdone, the new ED, attending to take the opportunity to meet the community. DRAWS still has funding for one or two more projects and planning for the future. Lily Verdone shares they are excited looking for the future at MALT as they are now fully staffed.
- **Point Blue & Students & Teachers Restoring a Watershed** – Jessie Ditmore shares with the Board that STRAW has 2-3 weeks before they have students out at Lazy R. Blackberries are removed from the site, the fence line is almost complete and STRAW is collecting seed for planting. First restoration day is November 30th. Isaiah invites everyone present to join them at the planting to see the “rock star” classes working. Isaiah continues to share potential future collaborations with MRCD.
- **NRCS** – Sebastian Tscanos shares with the Board that NRCS has hired a new DC-Chase Garcia. He is joining the Petaluma office from Texas. NRCS has a deadline for applications for CSP and EQIP on December 9th. Madeline Tome also introduces herself as the new Soil Health Specialist for NRCS.

RCD Program Updates (See staff report for details):

- **Media/Messaging/Outreach/Education:** We are working on a joint article with Point Blue which will be featured in the SERCAL (Society for Ecological Restoration) newsletter.
- **Drought News:** The Sonoma and Marin Drought Resiliency Report is nearly complete.
- **Justice Equity Diversity Inclusion:** This work will begin in 2023.
- **Biomass Project:** The Biomass Project Steering Committee and Spatial Informatics Group (contractor) have written specific scopes of services for each of the seven parts of the Biomass Utilization Study to assure that it satisfies all objectives in the Marin RCD contract with OPR. The Biomass Committee has given presentations to the Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority and to a Marin chapter of the Sierra Club.
- **Conserving Our Watersheds Program:** COW projects 2022-01 and 2022-02 bid documents have been drafted and bid tours were held 10/25/22 and 10/26/22. Four interested contractors – one pending bid for 2022-01. Designs for projects 2022-03 and 2022-04 expected to be ready for December Board meeting. Solicitation for a 6th COW project is in progress. Pond restoration in PRNS is complete; 2 ponds restored. Contract with SPAWN for project support in PRNS is in progress. Department of Conservation-Stemple Creek Restoration: Plant installation by STRAW scheduled for November 2022.
- **Urban Streams Program:** Sarah provided lead organizational support for the first Marin Creeks Symposium for practitioners on October 29th. It was a very successful and well-attended event with 65 total that joined. Sarah also carried out a site visit for a private landowner in

West Marin with more site visits scheduled for November. Sarah successfully trained 22 County staff members from Community Development Agency (CDA) to learn about hydrology, fluvial geomorphology, native and on- native riparian vegetation and fisheries in the field, in West Marin (SGV and Lagunitas Creek) as it all relates to the Stream Conservation Area Ordinance.

- **Carbon Farming Program:** Wildlife Conservation Board: 6 CFP designs complete. Chileno Valley Ranch CFP almost complete-project team met with landowner and partners this week to finalize details of grazing plan. State Coastal Conservancy: 1 contract developed with UCCE, 1 contract with PB STRAW underway. No till drill research underway to prepare for purchase.
- **Walker Creek Watershed:** Project Team met with landowners in the Lower Walker project, one-on-one, to discuss conceptual designs so far and received outstanding support to move forward.
- **Funding Opportunities:** None to report
- **Finance Committee:** Met and reviewed the Marin RCD FY2223 Budget which is presented at this meeting.
- **District:** The FY2021 Final Audit has been received and scheduling for the FY2122 Audit is moving forward. Staff continue to fine tune grant management systems for the new fiscal year. The FY2122 Measure A Expenditure Report has been compiled and is being reviewed by staff.
- **New landowners/stewards assisted:** Urban: 1 site visits, 9 landowners were assisted with information and 72 landowners and/or partners were educated. Agriculture: 5 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: 4 land managers were given technical assistance. 3 site visits.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS & CORRESPONDENCE

- Nancy will be on vacation most of November.
- 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

Made by Sally Gale: Newt Brigade Founder alerting those attending to watch out for Newts crossing the road as the juvenile newts are crossing and very difficult to see.

9. MEETING ADJOURNED @10:58 a.m.