



AGENDA

DATE: **Wednesday, March 8th, 2023**

PLACE: **Marin Farm Bureau Conference Room, 520 Mesa Road, Point Reyes Station, CA 94956**

REMOTE OPTION: Members of the public may 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.

(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. ~Darrylin Mollath

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

3. CONSERVING OUR WATERSHEDS (COW):

A. Board approval of Final Design for COW Project #2022-04 Heavy-Use Area, Animal Pathway & Exclusion Fence ~Tom Hammond, RCD Engineer

4. MARIN AGRICULTURAL LAND TRUST: STEWARDSHIP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SAP):

A. Board approval of three stewardship projects to receive a combined total of \$15,300 for livestock exclusion fencing and an irrigation pump under the MALT SAP program. ~ Sarah Skinker

5. CARBON FARMING:

A. Board approval to execute Agreement with the CA Association of Resource Conservation Districts in the amount of \$517,022 to complete work that will enhance habitat restoration and implement climate beneficial practices ~Sarah Skinker

6. INFORMATIONAL 10:30 a.m.

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
- **Drought News:** The Sonoma and Marin Drought Resiliency Report is expected to be completed this month.

- **Justice Equity Diversity Inclusion:** A Request for Proposals has been distributed to hire a JEDI consultant to work with the carbon farming team.
- **Biomass Project:** Spatial Informatics Group (contractor) has completed a draft chapter of Part A (“Biomass Feedstock Confirmation”). It is now under review. This is the first step in the seven-part Biomass Utilization Study.
- **Conserving Our Watersheds Program:** Designs for projects 2021-01, -02, -03, -04 are completed and contracting for construction. Projects 2021-04 permit review upcoming 3/2/23. Project 2023 -01, -02, and -03 in-design and need CEQA. Department of Conservation -Stemple Creek Restoration: planting 50% complete! Invoice for \$156k in the works.
- **Urban Streams Program:** Sarah spoke to the SF Regional Water Quality Control Board at their board meeting in support of the agency representatives. She is also carrying out site visits for streamside landowners, supporting them with stewardship guidance. Phillips is currently providing monitoring support to Marin Water District with spawner surveys in Lagunitas Creek whereas monitoring is about to switch over to smolt monitoring. She supported a tour of Walker Creek for Sustainable Conservation donors to learn more about the work that’s been carried out and what’s currently underway. She continues to meet with Gallinas Watershed Council to pick back up the efforts at the Outdoor Classroom site on Miller Creek. Finally, Sarah continues to meet with various partners in offering support toward project development (Mill Valley StreamKeepers, Gallinas Watershed Council, Muir Beach Assoc., Open Space District, CLAM, Gold Ridge RCD, and Trout Unlimited).
- **Carbon Farming Program:** State Coastal Conservancy (SCC): 1 contract developed with UCCE, 1 contract with PB STRAW underway. No till drill purchased. JEDI consultant Request for Proposals distributed, deadline March 10. TAC for SCC/WCB selection of 7 Carbon Farm Plans held their first meeting last week, criteria in draft. The CF team is currently developing and planning design and implementation projects for SCC.
- **Walker Creek Watershed:** Project Design Team finalized the Habitat Enhancement Plan and prepared 30% designs that were submitted to landowners to review. Project manager, Phillips, is still waiting to hear back on the request for contingency funds to CDFW (CA Dept Fish & Wildlife).
- **Funding Opportunities:** Sarah is working with various teams, providing support, in securing funds for habitat enhancement in Devil’s Gulch, potential opportunities on former Coast Guard Property in Pt. Reyes, water conservation projects for the Muir Beach community and Tomales School District (Shoreline Unified School District), and an outdoor classroom project on Miller Creek. Simone is working on drought and pond proposals with Sarah Phillips’ assistance on the drought proposal.
- **Finance Committee:** Reviewed Records Retention Policy which will come to MRCD at April meeting.
- **District:** Bob’s Goodbye Party? Form 700’s are coming due in April. Darrylin emailed each Board member to update their required documents for submission. The Board has been sent new online training links to complete Ethics Training with the Special District Risk Management Authority. Deadline for completion - March 31, 2023. Darrylin continues to keep all grant invoices up to date, bank accounts balanced and bills paid.
- **New landowners/stewards assisted:**

Urban Streams: 2 site visits, 10 partners and/or landowners were assisted with information and 21 landowners and/or partners were educated.

Carbon Farming: 1 site visit for Health Soils Program testing and Carbon Farm Plan review

COW: 1 land manager supported with contact information/educational materials, 1 landowners supported with design help, 4 landowners supported with construction coordination. PRNS ranches provided support on water quality monitoring.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS & CORRESPONDENCE

- None

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. CLOSED SESSION: CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to California Government Code § 54956.9(d)(2).

Number of potential case(s): one.

10. Reconvene in Open Session. Announcement from Closed Session

11. Adjourn meeting



MINUTES

DATE: **Wednesday, February 8, 2023**

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 9:10 a.m.

Roll call of directors: Terry Sawyer, Gerald Meral, Peter Martinelli and Mike Moretti

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

Staff: Nancy Scolari, Simone Albuquerque, Emily Winfield, Sarah Skinker, Darrylin Mollath, Preston Duncan, Tara Krantz and Kelsey Brewer. Additional Attendees: Chad White (Biomass PM), Lily Verdone (MALT), Scott Dunbar (MALT), Bronte Edwards (MALT), Eric Rubenstahl (MALT), Brooke Pippi (NRCS), John Parodi (STRAW), Belle Cole (Marin Biomass), Jeff Creque (CCI), Bill Carney (Marin Biomass) and Rich Holland (Marin Horse Council).

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

- Marin Biomass Project Update- Chad White, Marin Biomass Project Coordinator, shares with the Board a review of key details of the OPR Biomass Project. He focuses on the question-What kind of Biomass utilization infrastructure makes sense for Marin County, both economically and environmentally.
- Measure A Funding on State/Federal Land- Jerry Meral, MRCD Director share images per potential conservation projects in Point Reyes National Seashore. The Directors engaged in a healthy discussion per the possibilities for the good of all.

ACTION ITEMS:

3. DISTRICT, MINUTES, FINANCIALS:

A. Board approval of regular meeting Minutes.

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

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

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

4. CONSERVING OUR WATERSHED (COW):

A. Request Board approval of contractor bid for COW Project #2022-02 Livestock Watering System Construction.

MOTION: Jerry; SECOND: Peter, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None to approve contractor bid for COW Project #2022-02 Livestock Watering System Construction.

B. Board approval of Final Design for COW Project #2022-03 Animal Walkway & Culvert Design

MOTION: Jerry; SECOND: Terry, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None to approve Final Design for COW Project #2022-03 Animal Walkway & Culvert Design

5. MARIN AGRICULTURAL LAND TRUST: STEWARDSHIP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SAP):

Request Board approval of two MALT SAP projects for funding.

MOTION: Mike; SECOND: Jerry, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None to approve first MALT SAP projects for funding.

MOTION: Peter; SECOND: Mike, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None to approve second MALT SAP projects for funding.

6. INFORMATIONAL:

Partner Updates: 5 min each

- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service – Brooke Pippi shares NRCS has a ranking deadline of March 1st for EQIP funding and is still accepting applications. She states that NRCS has a record amount of funding available this fiscal year - and potentially years moving forward. Brooke explains that NRCS has been experiencing a high level of interest from private landowners in pairing with other state and federal programs for projects in the Marin and Sonoma Counties. She emphasizes that NRCS's #1 priority is focusing on Climate Smart projects with a record amount of funds available.
- Marin Agricultural Land Trust/SAP – Scott Dunbar shares that MALT still has a small amount of funding in the DRAWS program, while examining the next steps for the next Fiscal Year. Eric Rubenstahl states MALT is in a planning stage presently while looking forward to ramping up their monitoring in April.
- Scholarship update – Tara Krantz shares how the Marin RCD is sharing the information about our scholarship opportunity through social media, emails and partner sharing.

RCD Program Updates (See staff report for details):

- **Media/Messaging/Outreach/Education:** None
- **Drought News:** The Sonoma and Marin Drought Resiliency Report is expected to be completed this month.
- **Justice Equity Diversity Inclusion:** A Request for Proposals has been distributed to hire a JEDI consultant to work with the carbon farming team.
- **Biomass Project:** Spatial Informatics Group (contractor) has completed a draft chapter of Part A (“Biomass Feedstock Confirmation”). It is now under review. This is the first step in the seven-part Biomass Utilization Study. The Steering Committee held a kick-off meeting of the Marin Biomass Collaborative. Roughly thirty people from around the County joined a call on January 13 and began a conversation about common challenges and potential solutions. The next meeting of the Collaborative on February 24 will create an opportunity for participants to discuss and for the Steering Committee to provide feedback on Draft Chapter A.
- **Conserving Our Watersheds Program:** Project 2022-06 approved for design 10/12/2022. Designs for projects 2022-03 and 2022-04 completed. Department of Conservation -Stemple Creek Restoration: planting days have begun - 24 in total. STRAW has conducted several planting days, and hundreds of plants are in the ground!
- **Urban Streams Program:** Sarah is currently providing monitoring support to Marin Water District with spawner surveys in Lagunitas Creek. She carried out a very success Lagunitas Technical Advisory Committee field trip, first one in-person in three (3) years with 49 in attendance. She has continued meeting with Gallinas Watershed Council to pick back up the efforts at the Outdoor Classroom site on Miller Creek. Sarah carried out a preliminary

assessment to determine if a proposed development would fall within the Stream Conservation Area (SCA). Finally, Sarah has been meeting with various partners in offering support toward project development (Mill Valley StreamKeepers, Gallinas Watershed Council, Muir Beach Assoc., Open Space District, CLAM, Gold Ridge RCD, and Trout Unlimited).

- **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 (SCC): 1 contract developed with UCCE, 1 contract with PB STRAW underway. No till drill purchase in progress. JEDI consultant RFP in progress, distribution planning underway. TAC has been formed for the SCC grant and will be selecting 6 new CFPs in the upcoming months. The CF team is currently developing and planning design and implementation projects for SCC.
- **Walker Creek Watershed:** Project Design Team submitted the draft Habitat Enhancement Plan for comments then finalized by 1/31/23. Project manager, Phillips, submitted a request for contingency funds to CDFW (CA Dept Fish & Wildlife).
- **Funding Opportunities:** Sarah is working with various teams, providing support, for securing funds for a fish passage barrier removal project in Mill Valley, habitat enhancement in Devil's Gulch, potential opportunities on former Coast Guard Property in Pt. Reyes, water conservation projects for the Muir Beach community, and an outdoor classroom project on Miller Creek. Simone is working on drought and pond proposals.
- **Finance Committee:** Reviewed Records Retention Policy which will come to MRCD at March meeting. Suggested 1) incorporating compliance by staff/directors under standard operating procedures, 2) records retention be in sync with grant requirement, 3) keeping less is best unless the information adds value to our programs, 4) look into hiring a public records act consultant to perform future requests so that MRCD work is not delayed, 5) consult with county counsel for review and clarity of policy.
- **District:** Form 700's are coming due in April. Darrylin emailed each Board member a request to update their required documents for submission. The Board will be required to complete Ethics Training with the Special District Risk Management Authority. Keep an eye out for more details on this. Darrylin continues to keep all grant invoices up to date, bank accounts balanced and bills paid.
- **New landowners/stewards assisted:**
Urban Streams: 4 site visits, 9 partners and/or landowners were assisted with information and 55 landowners and/or partners were educated. 1 land manager supported with groundwater management resources.
Carbon Farming: 1 site visit for Health Soils Program testing and Carbon Farm Plan review
COW: 1 land manager supported with contact information/educational materials, 4 landowners supported with design help, 1 landowner supported with construction coordination, 1 landowner supported with groundwater monitoring inquiry. PRNS ranches were provided support on water quality monitoring. 1 landowner and lessee consulted for fencing for flood support via DOC.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS & CORRESPONDENCE

- 12/16/22 West Marin Compost letter to MRCD re Wood Processing
- Feb 21 10:30am. Marin Carbon Project Implementation Working Group Meeting

- Steelhead Festival at Lake Sonoma on Saturday, Feb. 11th <https://lakesonoma.org/support-lake-sonoma/lake-sonoma-steelhead-festival/>

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 11:50 a.m.