



AGENDA

DATE: **Wednesday, April 12th, 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.)

2. PRESENTATIONS: 9:15 - 9:40 a.m.

- Green Gulch Streamflow Enhancement Project & RCD Role, Carrie Lukacic: Senior Environmental Planner, Prunuske Chatham Inc.; Sara Tashker, Green Gulch; Simone Albuquerque, MRCD

ACTION ITEMS: 9:40 -11:15 a.m.

3. 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
- C. Board approval of board meeting structure and presentation of materials. ~Nancy Scolari
- D. Board approval of Policy on Marin RCD Designated Positions and the election of President, Vice President, Treasurer ~ Nancy Scolari

4. CONSERVING OUR WATERSHEDS PROGRAM (COW): 25 min

- A. Board approval of Scope of Work modification for Heavy-Use Area & Animal Pathway Project #2021-04. ~ Simone Albuquerque
- B. Board approval to award construction bid for Heavy-Use Area & Animal Pathway Project #2021-04. ~ Simone Albuquerque

5. MARIN COASTAL PERMIT COORDINATION PROGRAM (PCP):

- A. Board approval to provide CEQA coverage for five projects and close the 30-day public review of 2023 projects into the Marin Coastal Permit Coordination Program (PCP) on June 13th, 2023 contingent upon receiving no public comment.

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

- A. Board approval to award \$20,000 of MALT SAP funds to install two livestock exclusion fences on Straus' Blake's Landing property. ~ Sarah Skinker

7. CARBON FARMING PROGRAM:

A. Board approval to execute Contract #C03-2023 with Brown Institute Consulting Group for Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion consulting, not to exceed \$15,000. ~ Sarah Skinker

8. INFORMATIONAL 11:15 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:** We have web designer help thanks to Jerry.
- **Justice Equity Diversity Inclusion:** Two proposals were received. One is being recommended to the Board for consideration.
- **Biomass Project:** Biomass Study is being augmented with \$250K from the Office of Planning and Research. Spatial Informatics Group (contractor) has completed a draft chapter of Part A (“Biomass Feedstock Confirmation”) which is now being revised. Part B (Utilization Pathway Assessment) is now underway.
- **Conserving Our Watersheds Program:** Designs for projects 2021-01, 2, 3, 4 are complete. Project 2021-01 &-02 are ready for construction (pending weather). Bid walk upcoming April 20th for project 2021-03. Bid approval pending for Project 2021-04. Projects 2023-01, -02, and -03 are in-design. Department of Conservation -Stemple Creek Restoration: planting 50% complete! Invoice for \$156k submitted 3/24/23.
- **Urban Streams Program:** Sarah chaired the quarterly Lagunitas TAC meeting and conducted a series of site visits for streamside residents in unincorporated Marin related to storm events and fallen trees in creeks. Sarah met with Gallinas Watershed Council to provide support toward strategizing for community engagement for a project to remove a concrete-lined portion of the creek. She attended a series of meetings with CDA (Community Development Agency) with regard to the Stream Conservation Area Ordinance (SCA-O) and conducted a Site Assessment in Woodacre. Sarah and Nancy attended a CA Conservation Corps training for the Ecological Workforce Program. She continues to support Marin Water District in life cycle fisheries monitoring activities.
- **Carbon Farming Program:** The carbon farm plan solicitation and producer application period is now open through April 28th. Producers can apply on our website and submit via email to Sarah or via mail. State Coastal Conservancy (SCC): 1 contract with PB STRAW in development. No till drill is now at Belkorp and ready. JEDI consultant proposal selected and will be shared for approval at the meeting. The CF team is currently developing and planning design and implementation projects for SCC in partnership with STRAW.
- **Walker Creek Watershed:** Project Design Team is currently working on 65% designs for the top three project sites then will develop designs for the additional two project sites added. Contingency funds request was granted by 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 is being reviewed by County Counsel and will come to MRCD at the May meeting.
- **District:** Bob's Goodbye Party? Deadline for ethics training was March 31, 2023. New FY2223 Provisional Indirect Cost Rate approved.
- **New landowners/stewards assisted:**
Urban Streams: 5 site visits, 1 Site Assessment, 9 partners and/or landowners were assisted with information and 8 landowners and/or partners were educated.
COW: 2 land managers supported with funding information/educational materials, 1 landowners supported with permit help, 4 landowners supported with construction coordination. PRNS ranches provided support on water quality monitoring.

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS & CORRESPONDENCE

- 2 letters of support from citizens favoring the West Marin Compost site.
- West Marin Compost Special Meeting will be held mid April.

10. 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.

11. MEETING ADJOURNED



MINUTES

DATE: **Wednesday, March 8th, 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 9:07 a.m.**
Roll call of directors: Terry Sawyer, Gerald Meral and Mike Moretti. Absent: Peter Martinelli
Associate Directors: George Clyde, Guido Frosini and Dave Sherwood.
Staff: Nancy Scolari, Emily Winfield, Sarah Skinker, Darrylin Mollath, Preston Duncan, Sarah Phillips, Tom Hammond and Kelsey Brewer. Additional Attendees: Chase Garcia (NRCS), Lily Verdone (MALT), Scott Dunbar (MALT), Bronte Edwards (MALT), Eric Rubenstahl (MALT) and Rich Holland (Marin Horse Council).

ACTION ITEMS:

2. DISTRICT, MINUTES, FINANCIALS:
 - A. Board approval of regular meeting Minutes.
MOTION: Jerry; SECOND: Terry, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: To approve the regular meeting Minutes.
 - B. Board approval of Financial Report and bills to be paid.
MOTION: Jerry; SECOND: Terry, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: To approve Financial Report and bills to be paid.
3. CONSERVING OUR WATERSHED (COW):
 - A. Request Board approval of Final Design for COW Project #2022-04 Heavy Use Area, Animal Pathway & Exclusion Fence.
MOTION: Mike; SECOND: Terry, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None to approve Final Design for COW Project #2022-04 Heavy Use Area, Animal Pathway & Exclusion Fence
4. MARIN AGRICULTURAL LAND TRUST: STEWARDSHIP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SAP):
 - A. Request 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. **[Edited to two projects]**
MOTION: Mike; SECOND: Terry, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None to approve the funds applied for by Vivian Straus of \$7,300.
MOTION: Jerry; SECOND: Terry, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None to approve funds applied for by Little Wing Farms \$8,000.
5. CARBON FARMING
 - A. Request Board approval to execute Agreement with the CA Association of Resource Conservation Districts for \$517,022 to complete work that will enhance habitat restoration and implement climate beneficial practices.

MOTION: Jerry; SECOND: Terry, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None to approve Agreement with the CA Association of Resource Conservation Districts for \$517,022 to complete work that will enhance habitat restoration and implement climate beneficial practices.

6. INFORMATIONAL:

Partner Updates: 5 min each

- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service – Chase Garcia shares that the NRCS office has been busy processing 144 applications for EQPT. NRCS has been able to rank 88 of those applications roughly costing \$14.5M. NRCS Petaluma office has also received 24 applications for CSP. The pre-approved Marin County CSP projects total \$418,635. Chase describes the three projects being:
 1. A prescribed grazing project designed to reduce sediment and soil erosion - \$24,863.
 2. A project designed to remove invasive and encroaching non-native vegetation –returning to native vegetation - \$175,000.
 3. A livestock enhancement operation - \$34,000.Mr. Garcia goes on to explain that next year the NRCS office has been promised an increase in funding due the Inflation Reduction Act, which will potentially double their Budget.
- Marin Agricultural Land Trust/SAP – Lily Verdone kicks off MALT’s update sharing that the MALT Board has approved a new 5 pillar strategy for their organization:
 1. Preserve Agriculture
 2. Protect bio-diversity
 3. Build climate resilience
 4. Connect our community
 5. Strengthen our organizationTwo new positions posted to help implement this strategy.
- Eric Rubenstahl shares that MALT has completed 53 projects with the DRAWS program and 20 more projects in process. The DRAWS program has made \$950,000 available to Marin Agriculture and \$60K still available. For their SAP program, MALT has 18 approved projects for this fiscal year and \$100K available for applications. Available until June 30, 2023.

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 has been carried out and what is 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 his or her 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** - The President advised that the Board met in closed session and had nothing to report.

10. Reconvene in Open Session - The Board reconvened in Open Session at 12:14 PM.

MOTION TO CLOSE MEETING: Terry, SECOND: Jerry, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None to approve adjourning the meeting at 12:31.