



AGENDA

DATE: **Wednesday, July 19th, 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@marinrkd.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: 9:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.

3. DISTRICT, MINUTES, FINANCIALS:

- A. Board approval of regular and special meeting Minutes. ~Darrylin Mollath
- B. Board approval of the Financial Report. ~Darrylin Mollath
- C. Board approval to vote for up to three Special District Risk Management Authority Board of Directors.

4. West Marin Compost Project: 9:45 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

- A. Board approval in selecting a conceptual operational option for the West Marin Compost Project. ~ Nancy Scolari

5. Conserving Our Watersheds (COW): 10:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

- A. Board approval of bid award for COW Project #2023-02. ~Tom Hammond, RCD Engineer
- B. Board approval of bid award for COW Project #2023-03 ~Simone Albuquerque, MRCD Staff
- C. Board approval of change order for COW project #2022-01. ~Tom Hammond, RCD Engineer

6. MALT Stewardship Assistance Program (SAP): 10:45 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.

- A. Board approval to award \$50,000 to Jim Moreda to build an access road, supplemented by NRCS funding, associated with project #2021-03 ~Sarah Skinker

7. Carbon Farming: 10:50 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

- A. Board approval of Carbon Farming Program Technical Advisory Group recommendation to select seven carbon farm plans. ~ Sarah Skinker

8. INFORMATIONAL 11:00 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 are working on some website revisions.
- **Justice Equity Diversity Inclusion (JEDI):** Nancy is mentoring one student. An Ad Hoc JEDI committee was formed in June, they will have their first meeting July 18th. This temporary committee will collaborate on JEDI efforts and deliverables across multiple grants. David Escobar was hired as a consultant on JEDI in Carbon Farming.
- **Biomass Project:** The Marin Biomass Project has sent its Marin Biomass Project deliverable to OPR. It is a draft version of Chapter A of the Biomass Utilization Study. This chapter surveys biomass flow in Marin county being generated by wildfire prevention and landfill diversion and characterizes them as potential feedstocks for making into locally valuable products.
- **Conserving Our Watersheds Program:** All project designs are complete and approved by the grantor. Construction is on-going for 2021-01, -02 & -04. Bidding open for 2021-03, 2023-01, -02, -03; implementation planned for August 1st - October 15th, 2023.
Department of Conservation -Stemple Creek Restoration: planting 100% complete!
Conservation Program Manager, Simone Albuquerque's last day at Marin RCD was July 14th. Tom Hammond to take over as project manager for the construction phase of COW CCAF with Simone's transition.
- **Urban Streams Program:** Sarah continues to travel back and forth to Georgia with regard to an ongoing family emergency, therefore work output remains limited. Sarah attended a series of meetings including Ecologically Sound Practices, iCARP with Simone, and our BOD meeting. She also led another successful Lagunitas TAC meeting that was very well attended, virtually. She carried out a site visit for a property owner in Sleepy Hollow, referred by Supervisor Rice, to review a creek bank erosion issue and potentially hazardous tree. Finally, she wrapped up fisheries monitoring for the season and closed out the annual contract with Marin Water District in providing them with capacity.
- **Carbon Farming Program:** The Technical Advisory Group for carbon farm plan selection has completed the ranking and selection process, to be presented to the board for approval in July. State Coastal Conservancy (SCC): 1 contract with PB STRAW completed, to be presented to the board for approval in August. No-till drill is now at Mike Moretti's and the CF team is developing rental materials. The CF team is currently developing and planning design and implementation projects for SCC in partnership with STRAW.
- **Walker Creek Watershed:** Project Design Team continues working on 100% designs for the top two project sites then will develop designs for the additional project sites as funding and time allows. Grant Agreement closes out in March, 2024. The draft Basis of Design Report is currently under review by CA Dept Fish & Wildlife.
- **Funding Opportunities:** Nancy is working on a NOAA Fisheries Coastal Resiliency grant.
- **Finance Committee:** Did not meet this month.
- **District:** The FY2122 Audit has been completed by Larry Bain, An Accounting Corporation. Darrylin has completed the MD&A for the audit and Nancy and Darrylin are reviewing it presently. We are looking to schedule the FY2223 Audit shortly. Our new Indirect Cost Rate has been submitted based on the Audited Financial Records of FY2122. Staff is drawing up the FY2324 Draft Budget.

We received a number of applicants for the position of Fiscal and Admin Manager but finally landed on Marcus Meggett!

- **New landowners/stewards assisted:**

Urban Streams: 1 site visit (ref by Sup. Rice), 6 partners and/or landowners were assisted with information and 5 landowners and/or partners were educated.

COW: 1 land manager supported with urban riparian restoration inquiry, 6 landowners supported with construction coordination.

CE: 1 visit, supported land manager with carbon farm plan, 1 CRAM visit

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS & CORRESPONDENCE

- Salmonid Restoration Federation's Coho Confab will be held in Petrolia, on the Mattole River, August 25-27th. <https://www.calsalmon.org/node/1322>

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, June 14th, 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 9:01 a.m.**
Roll call of directors: Peter Martinelli, Terry Sawyer and Gerald Meral.
2. Associate Directors: George Clyde, Dave Sherwood and Guido Frossini.
Staff: Nancy Scolari, Sarah Skinker, Kelsey Brewer, Simone Albuquerque, Sarah Phillips, Preston Duncan, Darrylin Mollath and Chad White.
Additional Attendees: Liza Prunuske (PCI), Scott Dunbar (MALT), Isaiah Thalmayer (STRAW), Metha Klock (MALT), Rich Holland (PRNS), Brooke Pippi (NRCS), George Borghi (Landowner) and Randi Black (UC Extension).

2. PRESENTATIONS:

- Newt Brigade Update ~ Liza Prunuske, Chileno Valley Newt Brigade updates the Board on the progress of the highly dedicated group of people assisting the newts safely migrate to bread in Laguna Lake.
- Carbon Farm Planning Survey Results and Program Applicants ~ Kelsey Brewer, Marin RCD Staff updates the Board on the Carbon Farm Plan Program and Landowner attitudes.

ACTION ITEMS:

3. DISTRICT, MINUTES, FINANCIALS:
 - A. Board approval of regular and special meeting Minutes.
MOTION: Terry; SECOND Peter, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: To approve the regular and special meeting Minutes.
 - B. Board approval of Financial Report and bills to be paid.
MOTION: Terry; SECOND: Peter, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: To approve Financial Report and bills to be paid.
4. WALKER CREEK WATERSHED:
 - A. Board approval of Change Order#1 to Prunuske Chatham Inc. Contract #08-2020 for the Lower Walker Creek Floodplain Habitat Assessment and Design
MOTION: Jerry; SECOND: Terry, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None to approve Change Order#1 to Prunuske Chatham Inc. Contract #08-2020 for the Lower Walker Creek Floodplain Habitat Assessment and Design
5. CONSERVE OUR WATERSHEDS (COW):
 - A. Board approval of final design and monitoring plans for COW Project #2021-03.
 - B. Board approval of final design and monitoring plans for COW Project #2023-01.
 - C. Board approval of final design and monitoring plans for COW Project #2023-02.
 - D. Board approval of final design and monitoring plans for COW Project #2023-03

MOTION: Peter; SECOND: Jerry, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None to approve of final design and monitoring plans for COW Project #2021-03, #2023-01, #2023-02 and #2023-03.

6. JUSTICE, EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION (JEDI):

A. Board approval to appoint two board members to an Ad Hoc JEDI committee.

MOTION: Jerry; SECOND: Peter, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None to appoint two board members (Jerry Meral and Peter Martinelli) to an Ad Hoc JEDI committee.

B. Board approval to execute Contract #C03-2023 with Brown Institute Consulting Group for JEDI consulting to the Carbon Farming Program, not to exceed \$15,000.

MOTION: Terry; SECOND: Jerry, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None to execute Contract #C03-2023 with Brown Institute Consulting Group for JEDI consulting to the Carbon Farming Program, not to exceed \$15,000.

6. INFORMATIONAL:

Partner Updates: 5 min each

- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service – Brooke Pippi shares with the Board that NRCS is wrapping up their EQIP 2023 year and accepting inquiries for the new 2024 year. She also mentions NRCS is still offering an Organic Transition Initiative for those who might be interested in transitioning to organic operations. Additionally, NRCS is hosting two summer interns this year: a range management specialist and a forestry student.
- Marin Agricultural Land Trust/SAP – MALT Staff, Scott Dunbar informs the MRCB Board that the SAP program currently has 10 projects in the construction phase. He mentions there is a shift in interest from water projects due to the big water year we experienced last winter. Eric Rubenstahl shares that MALT's monitoring of their easements is moving along and their events are getting back in place, so stay tuned. Metha Klock, the new Director of Stewardship shares a little about her background. She has worked in non-profit previously and has recently been in academia. Metha is a Fairfax native and has her Masters in Forestry and a PhD in Biological Sciences. She is excited to collaborate with the residents and actively conserve the land here in West Marin.
- Point Blue & Students & Teachers Restoring a Watershed – Point Blue Staff, Isaiah Thalmayer informs the Board that STRAW is currently going through a growth phase with increased hiring. STRAW is anticipating a large number of new projects due to increase in funds available for restoration projects. Isaiah mentions that the Lazy R project is doing great as planting in a high rain year really helps. He also states he has been mainly working on a new WCB grant that funds working lands. He shares they had 89 applications from all over the state, which is a good problem, and they are doing their best to identify the priorities within the applications.

RCD Program Updates (See staff report for details):

- **Scholarship Awards!** We will plan to have our scholarship recipients come to a future meeting.

- **Media/Messaging/Outreach:** We are working on some website revisions.
- **Justice Equity Diversity Inclusion (JEDI):** Nancy is mentoring one student. An Ad Hoc JEDI committee is being formed; two board members to be appointed in June. This temporary committee will collaborate on JEDI efforts and deliverables across multiple grants.
- **Biomass Project:** The Marin Biomass Project has sent its Marin Biomass Project deliverable to OPR. It is a draft version of Chapter A of the Biomass Utilization Study. This chapter surveys biomass flow in Marin County being generated by wildfire prevention and landfill diversion and characterizes them as potential feedstocks for making into locally valuable products.
- **Conserving Our Watersheds Program:** Designs are complete. Construction is planned for Projects 2021-01, -02 & -04. Bidding open for 2021-03. Project 2023-01, -02, -03 in need of contractors; implementation planned for August 2023. Department of Conservation - Stemple Creek Restoration: planting 50% complete! Invoice for \$156k submitted 3/24/23.
- **Urban Streams Program:** Sarah continues to travel back and forth to Georgia with regard to an ongoing family emergency, therefore work output remains limited. Sarah attended a series of meetings, and carried out smolt monitoring, per contract with Marin Water District. She also worked on the first Site Assessment for property owners in Woodacre with regard to the Stream Conservation Area Ordinance (SCA-O). She carried out a site visit for a property owner in Woodacre to determine if a proposed activity was within the SCA then followed up with a memo to CDA. Finally, she carried out project monitoring, per annual regulatory requirements, for the Landowner Assistance Program restoration project in San Geronimo.
- **Carbon Farming Program:** The Technical Advisory Group for carbon farm plan selection has visited 12 farms in May and has one meeting remaining to review final rankings, to be presented to the board for approval in July. State Coastal Conservancy (SCC): 1 contract with PB STRAW in development. No till drill is now at Mike Moretti's and the CF team is developing rental materials. JEDI consultant proposal selected and is being prepared to present to the board in June. 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 100% designs for the top three project sites then will develop designs for the additional two project sites added.
- **Funding Opportunities:** Nancy is working on a NOAA Fisheries Coastal Resiliency grant. We received another grant to support our Marin Carbon Project Coordinator Orlena Yee!
- **Finance Committee:** Did not meet this month.
- **District:** Larry Bain, An Accounting Corporation, has completed the FY2122 Audit. Nancy and Darrylin are reviewing it presently.
Our new Indirect Cost Rate is being prepared to be submitted based on the Audited Financial Records of FY2122. The MRCD has received a number of applicants for the Fiscal and Administrative Manager position and Nancy is reviewing as they come in.
- **New landowners/stewards assisted:**
Urban Streams: 1 site visit (SCA-related), 6 partners and/or landowners were assisted with information and 4 landowners and/or partners were educated.
COW: 1 land manager supported with funding information/educational materials, 4 landowners supported with construction coordination. 4 Projects assisted with NEPA compliance.

CF: 12 farms/ranches visited for CFP ranking selection, 4 additional farms/ranches visited (1 new) for technical assistance or Carbon Farm Plan questionnaire.

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 11:40 a.m.