



AGENDA

DATE: **Wednesday, September 13th, 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 a.m. - 11 a.m.

2. DISTRICT, MINUTES, FINANCIALS: 45 min

- A. Board approval of regular Meeting Minutes. ~ Darrylin Mollath, Bookkeeper
- B. Board approval of the Financial Report. ~Marcus Meggett, Fiscal and Admin Manager
- C. Board approval of FY 21/22 Audit ~ Nancy Scolari, Executive Director
- D. Board approval of FY 23/24 Annual Budget. ~ Marcus Meggett, Fiscal Manager
- E. Board approval of scope of work, schedule and committee for new Strategic Plan update. ~ Nancy Scolari, Executive Director

3. Conserving Our Watersheds Program (COW): 30 min

- A. Board approval to award a bid to construct a water development and heavy use area for Project 2023-01. ~Elise Suronen. Interim COW Program Manager
- B. Board approval to award a bid to construct fences for Project 2023-01. ~Elise Suronen. Interim COW Program Manager
- C. Board approval to award a bid to construct a trail and walkway for Project 2022-03. ~Elise Suronen. Interim COW Program Manager
- D. Board approval and guidance regarding Landowner Authorization Agreement's Maintenance and Monitoring Term Responsibilities for Range Seeding practice to be included in Project 2023-03's Landowner Authorization Agreement. ~Elise Suronen. Interim COW Program Manager

4. Marin Carbon Project: 10 min

- A. Board approval of Contract Amendment #1 to Orlena Yee Contract #C10-2022 in the amount of \$50,000 to extend the contract and coordination services of the Marin Carbon Project. ~ Nancy Scolari, Executive Director

5. Carbon Farming Program: 15 min

- A. Board approval to adopt no till drill rental program lease agreement ~Kelsey Brewer, Working Lands Scientist

6. Marin Municipal Water District (SAP): 10 min

- A. Request Board approval to execute Marin Municipal Water District (now Marin Water) agreement #6227 in the amount of \$25,000 to assist with fisheries monitoring and stream assessment work.

7. 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:** None
- **Justice Equity Diversity Inclusion (JEDI):** An Ad Hoc JEDI committee was formed in June and held their first meeting July 18th. The next meeting will be held in early October. 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 and met with staff in late August. The Carbon Farming team presented a draft scope of work in collaboration with Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria (FIGR) for approval at last month's board meeting, which was approved.
- **Biomass Project:** Marin RCD is continuing to work with its consulting team to revise and expand the first two chapters of study based on stakeholder feedback. Marin RCD is also working to build the third chapter of its Biomass Utilization Study. This chapter analyzes the greenhouse gas impacts of biomass utilization in Marin County.
- **Conserving Our Watersheds Program:** All project designs are complete and approved by the grantor. Construction is on-going. Bidding is open for the last couple projects. Department of Conservation -Stemple Creek Restoration: planting 100% complete! Elise Suronen and Tom Hammond to take over management for the construction phase of COW CCAF until Simone's position is filled full-time. Suronen is coordinating a COW tour for the SWRCB Grant Managers and EPA staff in September.
- **Permit Coordination Program:** Elise Suronen with the help of Carrie Lukacic sent the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria (FIGR) a formal email to initiate consultation for the *Green Gulch Farms Alternative Water Storage and Conservation Project*. Suronen and Lukacic hope to host a tour for FIGR in September and then bring an update to the Board in October.
- **Urban Streams Program:** Due to Sarah needing to be away in Georgia for much of August for a family medical emergency, work output for the month was limited. Sarah attended the County's monthly Marin Project Coordination meeting and a meeting to plan the 2024 Salmonid Restoration Federation (SRF) Conference in Santa Rosa in addition to attending the annual SRF Coho Confab (conference) in Petrolia. Finally, she worked with Marin Water District to prepare the renewal contract for her and Preston to support their 23/24 monitoring program.
- **Carbon Farming Program:** The Carbon Farming Team is currently scheduling initial meetings with 7 carbon farm plan farmer/rancher partners. State Coastal Conservancy (SCC): No-till drill is now at Mike Moretti's and the CF team is proposing a rental agreement at this month's meeting for approval to rent this fall. The CF team is currently developing and planning design and implementation projects for SCC in partnership with STRAW. 5 riparian restoration projects will begin construction this fall and winter.

- **Walker Creek Watershed:** No new updates here. The 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 allow. The draft Basis of Design Report has been reviewed by CDFW and now the Design Team is incorporating feedback. A TAC meeting will be scheduled soon for TAC to review 65% designs and provide feedback. Grant Agreement closes out in March, 2024.
- **Funding Opportunities:** Marin RCD is participating in a regional proposal to fund rainwater catchment systems. Marin RCD has put in for \$128K. RCD is hiring grant writer to work on a NOAA Fisheries Coastal Resiliency grant
- **Finance Committee:** FC reviewed the FY 21-22 Audit and FY 23-24 Budget which are presented at this meeting.
- **District:** Darrylin and Nancy have been working together to bring our new Fiscal and Admin Manager, Marcus Meggett, onboard. Darrylin and Marcus worked with staff to create the FY23-24 Budget. Personnel Evaluations were conducted. Nancy and Sally hosted a successful Happy Trails BBQ.
- **New landowners/stewards assisted:**
Urban Streams: 0 site visit, 3 partners and/or landowners were assisted with information and 0 landowners and/or partners were educated.
COW: COW: 7 landowners supported with construction coordination.
CF: 1 visit for soil sampling support

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS & CORRESPONDENCE

- Aug 28. Ag Summit. San Geronimo Golf Course. 8:30-12:30.
- Aug 29. 8th State of the Bay Conference. Inverness Yacht Club. 8:30a.m.
- Oct-Nov EPA Tour of COW Projects

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, August 9th, 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, Gerald Meral and Mike Moretti.
Associate Directors: George Clyde, Dave Sherwood and Guido Frossini.
Staff: Nancy Scolari, Sarah Skinker, Kelsey Brewer, Marcus Meggett, Darrylin Mollath, Preston Duncan and Chad White.
Additional Attendees: Isaiah Thalmayer (STRAW), Eric Rubenstahl (MALT), Metha Klock (MALT), Brooke Pippi (NRCS), Sebastian Chicanos (NRCS), Elise Suronen (MRCD Contractor), Lily Verdone (MALT) and Jessie Ditmore (STRAW).

ACTION ITEMS:

2. DISTRICT, MINUTES, FINANCIALS:
 - A. Board approval of regular meeting Minutes.
MOTION: Terry; 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: Jerry; SECOND: Mike, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None; To approve Financial Report and bills to be paid.
 - C. Board approval to execute Contract #C10-2023 with Elise Suronen in the amount of \$20,000 for project management assistance.
MOTION: Mike; SECOND: Jerry, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: To approve execution of Contract #C10-2023 with Elise Suronen in the amount of \$20,000 for project management assistance.
3. MALT STEWARSHIP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SAP):
 - A. Board approval to execute Fiscal Year 23/24 MALT SAP agreement..
MOTION: Peter; SECOND: Terry, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None to approve the execution of the Fiscal Year 23/24 MALT SAP agreement.
4. CARBON FARMING:
 - A. Board approval to execute Agreement #C08-2023 with Point Blue Conservation Science in the amount of \$910,000.00
MOTION: Jerry; SECOND: Mike, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None to approve the execution of Agreement #C08-2023 with Point Blue Conservation Science in the amount of \$910,000.00
 - B. Board approval of Draft Scope of Work in preparation to propose a Memorandum of Understanding with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria.

MOTION: Mike; SECOND: Terry, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None to approve the Draft Scope of Work in preparation to propose a Memorandum of Understanding with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria.

5. MARIN BIOMASS PROJECT:

A. Board approval of Contract Amendment #1 to CDW LLC Contract #C05-2022 in the amount of \$25,038 to extend the contract and management of the Marin Biomass Utilization Study
MOTION: Jerry; SECOND: Peter, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: (Mike Moretti was away for the vote) None to approve the Contract Amendment #1 to CDW LLC Contract #C05-2022 in the amount of \$25,038 to extend the contract and management of the Marin Biomass Utilization Study.

B. Board approval of Contract Amendment #2 to Spatial Informatics Group Contract #C09-2022 in the amount of \$70,000 to enhance the Biomass Utilization Study and to provide technical assistance.

MOTION: Peter; SECOND: Terry, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None to approve the Contract Amendment #2 to Spatial Informatics Group Contract #C09-2022 in the amount of \$70,000 to enhance the Biomass Utilization Study and to provide technical assistance.

6. INFORMATIONAL:

Partner Updates: 5 min each

- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service – Sebastian Chicanos shares that NRCS has awarded 64 new contracts in FY23 investing \$5.6 million in the local area. He also mentions that NRCS will be hiring for three new positions: Biologist, Forester and a Point Blue partner Biologist.
- Marin Agricultural Land Trust/SAP – MALT Staff, Eric Rubenstahl reports to the MRCD Board that MALT has launched their new small grants program and will be taking applications through September 10th. All information to apply is on their website. Eric also mentioned that SAP is plugging along with 17 projects in construction phase presently, hoping to wrap up by winter.
- Point Blue & Students & Teachers Restoring a Watershed – Point Blue Staff, Jessie Ditmore thanks everyone for coming out to STRAW's 30th Anniversary celebration. Jessie goes on to detail that STRAW is very much in their maintenance stage of the year, but quickly moving into project planning. STRAW is excited to be onboarding new staff with 4 new techs 8 new apprentices in the next few weeks. Jessie shares that many are transitioning from their Community College Intern Program.

RCD Program Updates (See staff report for details):

- **Media/Messaging/Outreach:** We have a new website home page thanks to Jerry's help! www.marinrcd.org
- **Justice Equity Diversity Inclusion (JEDI):** Nancy is mentoring one student. An Ad Hoc JEDI committee was formed in June and held their first meeting July 18th. The next meeting will be held in August. 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 and will meet with staff in late August. The Carbon Farming team is presenting a draft scope of work in collaboration with FIGR for approval at this month's board meeting.

- **Biomass Project:** The Marin Biomass Project convened a meeting on July 21 of the Marin Biomass Collaborative to receive stakeholder feedback on draft chapter V of the Biomass Utilization Study. Chapter B is a "utilization pathways assessment" – i.e., a survey of potential conversion technologies, supply chains, and products and recommendations of the best match and most viable for Marin County biomass flows. Among the recommendations in the draft chapter is one that encourages operation of a sawmill. Its operation has the potential to produce lower-cost, higher-value products that maximize retained carbon content.

- **Conserving Our Watersheds Program:** All project designs are complete and approved by the grantor. Construction is on-going while bidding is open for the last couple projects. Department of Conservation -Stemple Creek Restoration: planting 100% complete! Conservation Program Manager, Simone Albuquerque's last day at Marin RCD was July 14th. Elise Suronen and Tom Hammond to take over management 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, CA Natural Resource Agency's webinar on beavers, Marin Conservation League's updates on public lands, monthly Marin Project Coordination meeting, and our BOD meeting. She carried out a CRAM Assessment with Preston for a property owner in Tomales, to assess stream conditions prior to restoration activity. Finally, she has been communicating with Marin Water District to renew the annual contract for her and Preston to support their monitoring program.

- **Carbon Farming Program:** The Carbon Farming Team is currently scheduling initial meetings with 7 carbon farm plan recipients. State Coastal Conservancy (SCC): 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 allow. The draft Basis of Design Report has been reviewed by CDFW and now the Design Team is incorporating feedback. A TAC meeting will be scheduled soon for TAC to review 65% designs and provide feedback. Grant Agreement closes out in March, 2024.

- **Funding Opportunities:** Nancy is working on a NOAA Fisheries Coastal Resiliency grant.

- **Finance Committee:** Is scheduled to meet August 15th.

- **District:** Darrylin and Nancy have been working together to bring our new Fiscal and Admin Manager, Marcus Meggett, onboard. Darrylin and Marcus are working with staff to create the FY2324 Budget. Marcus, Nancy and Darrylin are refining the FY2122 Audit as we prep for the Finance Committee Meeting, August 15th. Darrylin has finished invoicing all grants per June 30, 2023, closing the FY2223.

- **New landowners/stewards assisted:**

Urban Streams: 0 site visit, 6 partners and/or landowners were assisted with information and 3 landowners and/or partners were educated.

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

CF: 1 visit for implementation support

7. 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>
- Goodbye potluck for Darrylin, Bob, and Simone on August 24th from 4-7pm.
- Huffman Letter from Albert Straus re ranching in the park

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 at 11:55 a.m.

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