



AGENDA

DATE: **Wednesday, October 11th, 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. PRESENTATION 9:15-10 a.m.

- **Open discussion related to Memorandum of Agreement between Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria and Marin RCD.** ~ Sarah Skinker, Carbon Farming Program Manager; Buffy McQuillen, FIGR Tribal Heritage Preservation Officer & Matthew Johnson, FIGR Cultural Resources Officer
- **Measure A's Food, Agriculture and Resilient Ecosystems (FARE) Program.** ~ Sonya Hammons, Sustainable Agriculture Grant Program Lead, Marin County Parks

ACTION ITEMS: 10 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

3. DISTRICT: 45 min

- A. Board approval of regular Meeting Minutes. ~ Darrylin Mollath, Bookkeeper
- B. Board approval of the Financial Report. ~ Marcus Meggett, Fiscal and Ops Manager
- C. Board approval to request \$125,000 from the County of Marin to support Marin RCD programs and to partially offset operational costs not covered by state or federal grants. ~ Nancy Scolari, Executive Director
- D. Board approval of Marin RCD Associate Directors, George Clyde, Guido Frosini, David Sherwood. ~ Nancy Scolari, Executive Director
- E. Board approval to direct staff to draft a resolution to support the Save Marin's Food Community Coalition.
- F. Board discussion to redraft RCD website home page.

4. 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:** None

- **Justice Equity Diversity Inclusion (JEDI):** The Graton Rancheria-MRCD/Point Blue Memorandum of Agreement is being drafted with partners. The Ad Hoc JEDI committee will review and the team will present a final draft at the December MRCD meeting. David Escobar was hired as a consultant on JEDI in Carbon Farming and continues to meet with staff.
 - **Biomass Project:** Marin RCD and its consulting team have revised and expanded data in the first two chapters of the Biomass Utilization Study, inclusive of stakeholder feedback. Marin RCD is now underway on the third chapter of its Biomass Utilization Study, which analyzes the greenhouse gas impacts of feedstocks and utilization pathways.
 - **Conserving Our Watersheds Program:** All project designs are complete and approved by the grantor. All projects are in various stages of construction. MRCD has \$50k remaining in construction funds; therefore, the TAC will be reengaged to determine how to spend this money during the wet season. 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 and EPA staff in early 2024.
 - **Permit Coordination Program:** Elise Suronen, on behalf of MRCD, with Carrie Lukacic, PCI, and Green Gulch Farms (GG) attended a CEQA consultation meeting with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria (FIGR) for the *Green Gulch Farms Alternative Water Storage and Conservation Project*. FIGR supports the project and PCI will keep them in the loop throughout the permitting process. GG wants to include FIGR in their future fundraising strategizing.
 - **Urban Streams Program:** Sarah worked part time in September. She teamed up with Marin Water and CA Dept Fish & Wildlife to rescue, tag, then relocate coho salmon in west Marin. Sarah attended the State of Tomales Bay Conference in Inverness. Finally, she worked with Marin Water District to begin juvenile monitoring season in the Lagunitas Creek watershed.
 - **Carbon Farming Program:** The Carbon Farming Team is currently holding initial meetings with 7 carbon farm plan farmer/rancher partners. State Coastal Conservancy (SCC): No-till drill rental program is live, producers can sign up to rent on our website. 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:** Third quarter reporting and invoicing is due in October. Regional Board installed a water quality monitoring device in Walker Creek at one of the ranches that is engaged in the project. 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. A Technical Advisory Co. meeting will be scheduled soon to review 65% designs and provide feedback. Grant Agreement closes out in March, 2024.
 - **Funding Opportunities:** RCD is working on a \$6M NOAA Fisheries Coastal Resiliency grant.
 - **Finance Committee:** FC did not have a meeting this month.
 - **District:** Macus is preparing for FY22-23 Audit, has updated QBooks, and updated Paychex/Online banking accounts.
- Urban Streams: 0 site visit, 1 partner and/or landowner was assisted with information and 0 landowners and/or partners were educated.
- COW: 4 landowners supported with construction coordination.
- CE: 5 for initial carbon farm planning support, 1 new site for technical assistance

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS & CORRESPONDENCE

- Oct 12. 9:30-10:30. Measure A FARE Grant Program Info Session. [Zoom](#)
- Oct-Nov EPA Tour of COW Projects

6. 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.

7. MEETING ADJOURNED



MINUTES

DATE: **Wednesday, September 13th, 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: Terry Sawyer, Gerald Meral and Mike Moretti.
Associate Directors: George Clyde, and Dave Sherwood.
Staff: Nancy Scolari, Sarah Skinker, Kelsey Brewer, Marcus Meggett, Sarah Phillips, Darrylin Mollath, Preston Duncan and Chad White.
Additional Attendees: Eric Rubenstahl (MALT), Orlena Yee (MCP), Elise Suronen (MRCD Contractor), Rick Holland (MCL) and Lily Verdone (MALT)

ACTION ITEMS:

2. DISTRICT, MINUTES, FINANCIALS:
 - A. Board approval of regular meeting Minutes.
MOTION: Jerry; SECOND: Terry, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None; To approve the regular meeting Minutes.
 - B. Board approval of Financial Report.
MOTION: Jerry; SECOND: Terry, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None; To approve Financial Report.
 - C. Board approval of FY 21/22 Audit.
MOTION: Mike; SECOND: Terry, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None; To approve the FY 21/22 Audit.
 - D. Board approval of FY 23/24 Annual Budget.
MOTION: Terry, SECOND: Mike, AYES: Unanimous, NOES: None, ABSTENTIONS: None; To approve the FY 23/24 Annual Budget.
 - E. Board approval of scope of work, schedule and committee for new Strategic Plan update.
MOTION: Jerry, SECOND: Mike, AYES: Unanimous, NOES: None, ABSTENTIONS: To approve schedule and committee for new Strategic Plan update as a Special Meeting.
3. CONSERVING OUR WATERSHED (COW):
 - A. Board approval to award a bid to construct a water development and heavy use area for Project 2023-01.
MOTION: Mike; SECOND: Terry, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None; To approve the bid to construct a water development and heavy use area for Project 2023-01.
 - B. Board approval to award a bid to construct fences for Project 2023-01.
MOTION: Mike; SECOND: Terry, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None; To approve to award the bid to construct fences for Project 2023-01.
 - C. Board approval to award a bid to construct a trail and walkway for Project 2022-03.
MOTION: Peter; SECOND: Terry, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None; To approve to award the bid to construct a trail and walkway for Project 2022-03.

- 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.
MOTION: Peter; SECOND: Terry, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None to approve Landowner Authorization Agreement's Maintenance and Monitoring Term Responsibilities, as prescribed by USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, for Range Seeding practice to be included in Project 2023-03's Landowner Authorization Agreement.

4. MARIN CARBON PROJECT:

- A. Board approval to 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.
MOTION: Jerry; SECOND: Terry, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None to approve the 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.

5. CARBON FARMING PROGRAM:

- A. Board approval to adopt No-Till drill rental program lease agreement.
MOTION: Terry; SECOND: Jerry, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: (Mike Moretti was away for the vote) None to approve the No-Till drill rental program lease agreement.

6. MARIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT (SAP):

- 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.
MOTION: Jerry; SECOND: Peter, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None; To approve Marin Municipal Water District (now Marin Water) agreement #6227 in the amount of \$25,000 to assist with fisheries monitoring and stream assessment work.

6. INFORMATIONAL:

Partner Updates: 5 min each

- Marin Agricultural Land Trust/SAP – MALT Staff, Scott Dunbar reports to the MRCD Board that MALT has closed its Small Grants program for Climate Resilience application deadline. They received 24 applicants and will be announcing the awards next week. Scott also shared over the last weekend MALT joined other Agricultural Land Trusts for the annual conference. He emphasized what a rewarding opportunity it is to collaborate with other entities focused on similar goals of land stewardship.

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 at 12:05.

MINUTES

DATE: **Wednesday, July 19th, 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: 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, Emilie Winfield, Preston Duncan, Sarah Phillips and Chad White.

Additional Attendees: Steve Lewis (NLA), Ruth Dawson (NLA), Elizabeth Patterson (NLA), Jeff Creque (CCI), Scott Dunbar (MALT), Isaiah Thalmayer (STRAW), Bronte Edwards (MALT), Rick Holland (MCL/Marin Horse Council), Belle Cole (Marin Biomass), Eric Rubenstahl (MALT), Sue Klein (NLA), George Borghi (NLA), Jessie Ditmore (STRAW), Ben Stocking (PRLight), Mandy Schmidt (Brazil Ranch), and Tom Hammond (Sonoma RCD/Partner Engineer).

ACTION ITEMS:

3. DISTRICT, MINUTES, FINANCIALS:

A. Board approval of regular meeting Minutes.

MOTION: Peter, with the correction of Rick Holland being associated with MCL not PRNS;
SECOND Terry, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None; To approve the regular meeting Minutes.

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

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

C. Board approval to vote for up to three Special District Risk Management Authority Board of Directors.

MOTION: Jerry; SECOND: Peter, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: To approve to vote for Jesse Claypool and Acquanette Warren for Special District Risk Management Authority Board of Directors.

4. WEST MARIN COMPOST PROJECT:

A. Request Board in selecting a conceptual operational option for West Marin Compost Project.

MOTION: Mike; SECOND: Jerry, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None to approve the Board selection of option, D. Gathering more information, as the option for moving forward. Noting it is important to assess the cost to the RCD.

B. Request Board approval to amend Contract #C09-2022 with Spatial Informatics Group for \$20,000 contingent upon the final approval of a contract amendment with the CA Office of Planning and Research.

MOTION: Jerry; SECOND: Peter, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None to approve to amend Contract #C09-2022 with Spatial Informatics Group for \$20,000

contingent upon the final approval of a contract amendment with the CA Office of Planning and Research.

5. CONSERVING OUR WATERSHED (COW)

A. Board approval of bid award for COW Project #2023-02.

MOTION: Jerry; SECOND: Terry, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: Mike Moretti recuses himself. The rest of the Board approves bid award for COW Project #2023-02.

B. Board approval of bid award for COW Project #2023-03.

MOTION: Terry; SECOND: Peter, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None to approve bid award for COW Project #2023-03.

C. Board approval of change order for COW Project #2022-01.

MOTION: Mike; SECOND: Terry, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None to approve to approve change order for COW Project #2022-01.

6. MALT STEWARDSHIP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SAP):

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

MOTION: Mike; SECOND: Terry, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: None to award \$50,000 to build an access road located on land owned/leased by the Poncia/Moreda families, supplemented by NRCS funding, associated with project #2021-03.

7. CARBON FARMING:

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

MOTION: Jerry; SECOND: Terry, AYES: Unanimous; NOES: None; ABSTENTIONS: Peter Martinelli to approve the Carbon Farming Program Technical Advisory Group recommendation to select seven carbon farm plans. **Mike Moretti left the room during the discussion of this item and was not present for the vote. Since Peter Martinelli was on the technical advisory committee, he abstained from the vote.**

6. INFORMATIONAL:

Partner Updates: 5 min each

- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service – No report
- Marin Agricultural Land Trust/SAP – MALT Staff, Eric Rubenstahl reports to the MRCD Board that MALT has monitored 32 of its 93 easements. They are currently in construction season with 15 active SAP projects and 16 active DRAWS. Big news is MALT is offering a new small grants program with a focus on building planet resilience. This new opportunity for funding assistance is aiming to aide in animal wellbeing, energy reduction (getting off the grid) and water security. MALT is planning to launch the program on August 1st with a five weeks window of accepting applications. Awards will be announced in October.

- Point Blue & Students & Teachers Restoring a Watershed – Point Blue Staff, Isaiah Thalmayer, informs the Board that STRAW is currently working on a big season of implementation of 5 WCB designed projects. He also shares that Point Blue is growing as they hire entry-level technicians and apprentices.

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 feedstock 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.
 - CF: 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 at 11:46.