



AGENDA

DATE: **Wednesday, March 11, 2026**

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 Elise Suronen at (415) 663-1170 ext. 314, or sarahs@marinrcd.org if you have concerns about accessibility. **(Note that we may move agenda items in this meeting to meet time constraints of participants.)**

1. Regular meeting opens at **9:00 a.m.** Roll call, introduction of guests

ACTION ITEMS: 9:15 - 10:30 a.m.

2. DISTRICT/ADMIN: (50 min)

- A. Board approval of regular Meeting Minutes. ~ *Cora Richard, Bookkeeper*
- B. Board approval of the Financial Report. ~ *Cora Richard, Bookkeeper*
- C. Board approval of resolution to designate the Executive Director as Paychex Trustee ~ *Nancy Scolari, Marin RCD Executive Director*
- D. Board approval of resolution to designate the Board and Operations Manager as Paychex Administrator ~ *Nancy Scolari, Marin RCD Executive Director*
- E. Board approval of 2026-2031 Marin RCD Strategic Direction ~ *Elise Suronen, Impacts Director*
- F. Board review and discussion of DRAFT Emergency Rapid Response Funding Policy ~ *Nancy Scolari, Executive Director*

3. PROGRAMS: (20 min)

- A. Request the Board approve Amendment #3 to Professional Services Agreement #C10-2022 (Orlena Yee) that adds \$63,000 to the contract to provide coordination services for the Marin Carbon Project and to ratify Amendment #2 which added \$60,000 in October 2024 for the same purpose. ~ *Nancy Scolari, Executive Director and Orlena Yee, Marin Carbon Project Coordinator*

4. INFORMATIONAL: (10:30 a.m.)

Partner Updates: 3 min each

- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)– Petaluma Field Office Staff
- Marin Agricultural Land Trust/SAP – MALT Stewardship Staff
- Point Blue & Students & Teachers Restoring a Watershed (STRAW)– Point Blue Staff
- All Hands Ecology/ACR - Jim Jensen, Tomales Bay Land Steward and Preserve Mgr
- Marin Farm Bureau - Farm Bureau Representative
- Marin County Weights and Measures - Joe Deviney, Ag Commissioner

RCD Program Updates (See staff report for details):

- **PR National Seashore-Nature Conservancy Ad Hoc Committee**, *Nancy Scolari, Marin RCD Executive Director*
- **Measure A Ad Hoc Committee**, *Nancy Scolari, Marin RCD Executive Director*
- **Water Expansion**: *John Dolcini, Marin RCD Associate Director*
- **Federal Funding**: The new Agricultural Marketing for Producers (AMP) program is now entering the planning phase. Announcements for applicants are expected in the Summer.
- **Justice Equity Diversity Inclusion (JEDI)**: FIGR is interested in providing feedback on MRCD's Strategic Direction, with an extended feedback window beyond this month's board meeting. Feedback will be brought to the board.
- **Media/Messaging/Outreach**: None
- **Biomass Project**: The Marin Biomass Project is finalizing its integrated Study. Upon release of the Study, the team will start undertaking outreach and will emphasize next steps to implement Study's recommendations.
- **Permit Coordination Program (PCP)**: Ongoing review of Vegetation Treatment Plan for All Hands Ecology's Cypress Grove and Tom's Point. Exploring options for updating PCP analysis.
- **Urban Streams Program**: This Program is up for contract renewal so Phillips. has been collecting letters of support (see attached). Phillips gave a presentation of the Program's 11.5 years to Marin Conservation League that was well-received. The County grant for Tomales Bay support is now approved. Phillips has been providing support on a Redwood Creek bridge replacement project with Mill Valley StreamKeepers, and providing support to Gallinas Watershed Council. Many site visits were requested by landowners and the county flood control department with regard to fallen trees in the creeks of west Marin after recent storm events. This has resulted in ongoing communications with county departments where their codes are in conflict with each other; therefore Phillips is simplifying the code for landowners wishing to undertake creek care post-storm events. Phillips also attended a People's Watershed Collective (new group in San Geronimo Valley) to assist in restoration activities on Roy's Riffles and is working with AmeriCorps to collaborate on a volunteer restoration day in San Geronimo. Finally, Phillips recently created new connections in Sausalito's DPW to obtain access for willow sources to support restoration efforts in southern Marin.
- **Conserving Our Watersheds Program (COW)**: COW MILC is the most recent Nonpoint Source Pollution Water Board grant. Of the six projects at dairies selected in the Stemple Creek watershed, three are in the design and permitting phase and three are entering implementation. The grant also funds practices in Drakes Bay watershed of the National Seashore. Design is 60% and NEPA review with NPS is underway for manure pond decommissioning at historic A, B and C ranches. An application for COW GIRL phase IX was resubmitted to the Water Board in December and a field trip for the EPA and State Board staff is being planned for March 26th.
- **Carbon Farming Program**: The team is revamping the funding application portal for farmers in preparation for the new federal AMP grant. RCD was awarded a microgrant from CA Native Plant Society for the CF team to conduct a spring field day to build staff skills in native forb and grass identification on rangelands.

- **Walker Creek Watershed:** No report
- **Funding Opportunities:** RCD staff are working with the North Coast RCDs in applying for a \$1.5M USDA Community Projects Earmark through Huffman's office where Marin RCD's share would be \$300K.
- **Finance Committee:** The next FC meeting is scheduled for March 16th.
- **District:** Admin staff have been focused on FY25 financial audit. A Draft Strategic Plan was completed. Staff are getting used to new timekeeping and HR services.
- **Landowner Assistance Provided:**
 - Urban Streams: 11 individuals requested assistance and were consulted, 43 individuals were educated in the USC Program, and 7 site visits were conducted.
 - Conserving Our Watersheds: 2 or 3 consultations
 - Carbon Farming: 4

5. 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.

6. MEETING ADJOURNED



MINUTES

DATE: **Wednesday, February 11th, 2026**

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

1. A regularly scheduled meeting was called to order by Terry Sawyer, President, at 9 a.m.

Roll call of Directors: Terry Sawyer, Gerald Meral, David Sherwood, Melissa Williams and Mike Moretti (arriving at 9:10)

Associate Directors: George Clyde, John Dolcini, Paul Ingle and Guido Frosini

Staff: Nancy Scolari, Cora Richard, Preston Duncan, Gerhard Epke, Lee Farese, Sarah Skinker, Sarah Phillips, Fiona O'Neill, Elise Suronen, Emilie Winfield

Additional Attendees: Albert Straus (Straus Dairy), Isaiah Thalmayer (STRAW), Jessie Ditmar (STRAW), Jordan Dixon (STRAW), Chad White (Marin Biomass Project), Scott Dunbar & Lily Verdone (MALT), Martha Davis (Nicasio Land Owners Association), Greg Richardson & Rodd Kelsey (The Nature Conservancy), Dylan Voeller (NPS), Jim Jensen (All Hands Ecology), Joe Deviney (Marin Ag Commissioner), Sophia Carter & Tess Elliot (PR Light), Rebecca Burgess (Fibershed)

ACTION ITEMS:

2. DISTRICT:

- A. Board approval of regular Meeting Minutes. ~ *Cora Richard, Bookkeeper*
MOTION: David; SECOND: Jerry; AYES: Terry, Jerry, Mike, David & Melissa; NOES: None; ABSENT: none; to approve January 2026 Board Minutes.
- B. Board approval of the Financial Report. ~ *Cora Richard, Bookkeeper*
MOTION: Melissa; SECOND: David; AYES: Terry, Jerry, Mike, David & Melissa; NOES: None; ABSENT: none; to approve the Financial Report and direct the monthly Finance Committee to talk through how we are approving employee expenses now that our reimbursement system has changed due to new payroll system.

3. PROGRAMS:

- A. Request the Board execute Amendment #3 to Professional Services Agreement #C05-2022 (CDW LLC) that adds \$75,000 to the contract. These changes are proposed to align with the revised budget and plan for the project. ~ *Chad White, Marin Biomass Project Manager*
MOTION: Mike; SECOND: David; AYES: Terry, Jerry, Mike, David & Melissa; NOES: None; ABSENT: none; to execute Amendment #3 to Professional Services Agreement #C05-2022
- B. Board decision to convene an ad hoc committee in developing a scope of work between Marin RCD and The Nature Conservancy to determine potential roles and/or contractual agreements for services in the Point Reyes National Seashore. ~ *Nancy Scolari, Executive Director and Greg Richardson, The Nature Conservancy*

MOTION: Terry; SECOND: David; AYES: Terry, Jerry, Mike, David & Melissa; NOES: None; ABSENT: none; to convene an ad hoc committee to draft a SOW to be presented to the Board with no contractual obligation.

4. INFORMATIONAL:

- COW MILC grant update. Status of the Stemple Creek and Drakes Bay dairy project with a focus on the manure pond decommissioning plans in the Seashore. ~*Gerhard Epke, Water Quality Program Manager*
Work began in January 2025 and is slated for completion in September 2027. Gerhard shared project overviews and asked for a Board member to fill Sally's now vacant spot on his Technical Advisory Group.
- MALT Strategic Framework ~*Lily Verdone, MALT Executive Director*
Lily shared MALT's recent strategic plan, which is more of a framework than a plan. The process to complete this framework took 6 months.

Partner Updates:

- **The Nature Conservancy**- Greg shared that The Nature Conservancy will have a website in the next week or so. They continue to hold community check-ins. These community check-ins are on Thursday afternoons, 3-6:30pm and are located at the Health and Human Services Center. They are in the process of signing contracts with a grazer who was awarded the grazing lease in response for the Request for Proposals. More info to come.
- **Marin Agricultural Commissioner**- Joe Deviney, Marin County Agricultural Commissioner. Joe was not present at this point in the meeting.
- **USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)**– Petaluma Field Office Staff
No NRCS staff present at this meeting.
- **Marin Agricultural Land Trust/SAP** – MALT Stewardship Staff
Their small grants application period ends this Friday (2/13).
- **Point Blue & Students & Teachers Restoring a Watershed (STRAW)**– Point Blue Staff
Point Blue has a couple of projects that are nearly finished. They will be holding more planting days and welcomed folks to join.
- **All Hands Ecology (formerly Audubon Canyon Ranch)** – Jim Jensen
Jim shared that AHE continues prescribed burn planning. Burning a lot of gorse. They have many outings planned with environmental staff.
- **Marin Water Expansion** – John Dolcini (Marin RCD Associate Director)
Marin Water has secured 2 million dollars for potential expansion projects.

RCD Program Updates (See staff report for details):

- **Federal Funding**: The new Agricultural Marketing for Producers (AMP) proposal was accepted and the Marin and Sonoma RCDs are expected to amend existing contracts to plan for new work under this funding in the ensuing year.
- **Justice Equity Diversity Inclusion (JEDI)**: No report
- **Media/Messaging/Outreach**: Our newsletter was mailed!
- **Biomass Project**: The Marin Biomass Project is finalizing its integrated Study and expects to release it in this month. Upon release of the Study, the team will start

undertaking outreach and will emphasize next steps to implement Study's recommendations.

- **Permit Coordination Program (PCP):** Ongoing review of Vegetation Treatment Plan for All Hands Ecology's Cypress Grove and Tom's Point. Exploring options for updating PCP analysis.
- **Urban Streams Program:** Things are moving and grooving in the Program. S. Phillips attended many meetings with partners and carried out the annual Lagunitas TAC field trip. Things are slowly moving forward with County agreements relating to Tomales Bay tire assessment, Zone 10 funds transfer in Inverness, and Tomales Bay Stewardship Network. Phillips went out to scout a potential project site along Pine Gulch Creek as well as scoped a potential site for a restoration workshop. Finally, Sarah is working with Larry Minikes to provide support to the Program and he will serve as the Volunteer Urban Streams Liaison for current efforts in need.
- **Carbon Farming Program:** The team is revamping the funding application portal for farmers in preparation for the new federal AMP grant. RCD was awarded a microgrant from CA Native Plant Society for the CF team to conduct a spring field day to build staff skills in native forb and grass identification on rangelands.
- **Walker Creek Watershed:** No report
- **Funding Opportunities:** RCD staff is currently in communications with CalTrans regarding mitigation funds to fix one of the Pine Gulch Creek Instream Flow Enhancement ponds.
- **Finance Committee:** The next FC meeting is scheduled for March 17th. An agenda will be posted this month. The February meeting was cancelled as it conflicts with a holiday and staff is gearing up for FY25 audit.
- **District:** Admin staff have been focused on FY25 financial audit. A Draft Strategic Plan was completed. Staff are getting used to new timekeeping and HR services.
- **Landowner Assistance Provided:**
Urban Streams: 12 individuals requested assistance and were consulted, 47 individuals were educated in the USC program, 3 site visits.
COW: 2 or 3 consultations
CF: 4

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS & CORRESPONDANCE

- None

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

7. MEETING ADJOURNED at 11:38 a.m.