

Humboldt
County



RESOURCE
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Board of Directors Meeting

The Mission of the Humboldt County Resource Conservation District is to enhance and improve the sustainability of natural resources by educating, providing training, and assisting private and public landowners and land users.

AGENDA

Thursday, May 10, 2018

8:00 A.M.

Agricultural Center – Auditorium – 5630 South Broadway - Eureka

(Items marked with * are attached to director packets.)

To request board packet information, please contact Jill Demers at 707-832-5594)

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Dan Cohoon, Chairman
2. **INTRODUCTIONS**
3. **ADDITIONS OR CHANGES TO AGENDA** (Gov. Code 54954.2(B))
4. **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**
Any person may address the Board regarding any matter within the Board's jurisdiction that is not on the agenda. Speakers are asked to limit comments to three minutes. Members of the public may also comment on agenda items when they are discussed. (Gov. Code 54954.3(a))
5. **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**
 - 5.1 District Correspondence (*Circulated at meeting*)
 - 5.2 HCRCD Director Updates and Announcements – Directors may provide updates on their activities related to the HCRCD such as other meetings attended and other relevant announcements.
 - 5.3 NRCS Update – *Jon Shultz, NRCS District Conservationist*
 - 5.4 University of California Cooperative Extension Report – *Jeffery Stackhouse, UCCE Livestock Advisor*
 - 5.5 USFWS Partners & Coastal Programs Update – *Liisa Schmoele, USFWS Coastal & Partners Program*
6. **BOARD ACTION ITEMS**
 - 6.1 Minutes for meeting of April, 2018* presented for approval
 - 6.2 Resolution 18-02 to submit proposal to provide NRCS easement programs restoration assistance
 - 6.3 Resolution 18-03 to submit proposal to WCB Climate Adaptation and Resilience Program for carbon farm planning
7. **DISTRICT FINANCIAL REPORTS - ACTION**

- 7.1 Discuss and possible action to transition to new District financial accounting program starting Fiscal Year 18/19
- 7.2 Discuss District financial project fund tracking, future financial reports, cash flow, and potential credit card application
- 7.3 May Financial Report presented for approval (*Handout*)

8. SALT RIVER ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECT *- ACTION

- 8.1 Discuss progress of 2018 implementation planning and possible action regarding landowner agreements and requested modifications to project, project funding proposals, and bid schedule
- 8.2 Discuss monitoring and management of Riverside Ranch (Salt River Unit of the CA Department of Fish and Wildlife's (CDFW) Eel River Wildlife Management Area).
- 8.3 Discuss Salt River Ecosystem Restoration Project Adaptive Management Plan (AMP).

9. RCD PROJECT UPDATES and STAFF REPORTS*

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

11. NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Thursday, June 14, 2018 at 8 a.m.

Meeting location: Agriculture Center Auditorium, 5630 South Broadway (Humboldt Hill exit), Eureka, CA

12. ADJOURNMENT

Public Notice: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Government Code Section 54954.2, if special assistance is needed to participate in a Board meeting, please contact the RCD at 707-442-6058 x 5. Notification at least 48 hours prior to meeting time will assist staff in assuring that reasonable accommodations can be made to provide accessibility at the meeting.



HUMBOLDT COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Board of Director's Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes

April 12, 2018

Humboldt Agricultural Center 5630 South Broadway Eureka, CA

1. **Meeting called to order** by Board Chairman Dan Cohoon at 8:05 am.
2. **Attendance**
 - Directors Present-D. Cohoon, G. Markegard , M. Moore, P. Bussman , H. Klopper, G. Belli
 - Directors Excused - J. Renner
 - HCRCO Staff -J. Demers- Executive Director, C. Ihle-Program Manager, D.Hansen-Project Coordinator, L. Barnwell-Office Manager, S. Daugherty-Project Coordinator
 - Staff Excused- S. Rowe-Project Coordinator, F. Tjarnstrom-Project Coordinator
 - Guests - Carol Lee-Salt River Watershed Council Chair, Kathy Phillis
3. **Changes or Additions to agenda**

Remove items 5.4 and 5.5, no reports to be provided by agency staff.
4. **Public Comment**

No Comments
5. **Informational Items**
 - 5.1 District Correspondence was discussed and circulated for review during the meeting.
 - 5.2 Director Bussman and Executive Director Jill Demers updated Board on Farm Bureau Sea Level Rise meeting with County Planner Michael Richardson, who discussed on the Humboldt Bay Area Plan update and possibility of pre-permitting levee repair/maintenance on agricultural lands through this plan.
 - 5.3 NRCS Update-Jon Shultz, NRCS District Conservationist provided an update on current funding period and applications funded under various programs. NRCS is working with CalFIRE and UCCE on special prescriptions and exemptions for Oak Woodlands management. NRCS and HCRCO are working to hire a contract engineer through HCRCO to assist NRCS with the implementation of EQIP projects. HCRCO flew a RFP and received two proposal. NRCS and HCRCO met to rank proposals and selected GHD as contract engineer.
 - 5.4 USFWS Partners and Coastal Programs Update-No Report
 - 5.5 University of California Cooperative Extension Update- No Report
6. **Board Action Items**
 - 6.1 Motion by Director Markegard to approve the Humboldt County Resource Conservation District minutes of March 8, 2018. Second by Director Belli. Ayes-Directors Bussman, Moore, Klopper. Noes-None
 - 6.2 Motion by Director Markegard to approve the Humboldt County Resource Conservation District monthly financial statement and authorize payment of expenses as presented in the staff recommendation. Second by Director Klopper. Ayes-Directors Bussman, Moore, Belli. Noes-None
Additional discussion held regarding status of grants and contracts as related to payment delays through the State Controllers office, cash flow needs and opportunities for unrestricted revenues.
 - 6.3 HCRCO Bidding Policy was reviewed and discussed. Motion by Director Markegard to amend the current policy to increase item #1 to *Less Than \$120,000*, item #2 to *More*

Than \$120,000, and remove of language in citing specific public contract code sections. Second by Director Moore. Ayes-Directors Bussman, Belli, Klopper. Noes-None

7. Salt River Ecosystem Restoration Project-Action

- 7.1 Upper Phase 2A (2017)-Construction for 2017 has been completed. The Notice of Completion has been filed with the County Clerk. Contract retention invoices requests are being prepared for reimbursement by the State agencies holding funds. Riparian re-vegetation is ongoing, staff is working with landowners on management practices to address invasive species, and small maintenance areas in the channel are being corrected as needed. Staff has been providing field review tours for partner agencies.
 - 7.2 2018 Implementation Planning- The HCRCD Board establish 2018 project footprint at September 2017 Board meeting to extend from current rock grade near Salt River station 238+00 to HY 211. Due to impasse with Scalvini Family, 2018 Salt River Ecosystem Restoration Project footprint will likely extend to Fulmor Bridge in 2018 (on Mr. Albin's property). Engineers are working on finalizing designs. Nearly all work is completed other than designing rock control grade structure and permit amendments for Mr. Albin's crossings. HCRCD is expecting to issue a Salt River bid package in late May/early June of this year for a 2018 construction season. Coordination with Mr. Albin and NRCS, who owns a Floodplain Easement, is ongoing to prepare for 2018 implementation. Discussions have been held with Scalvini Family lessee Daniel DelBiaggio to discuss unresolved items relating to project implementation and to complete a sediment reuse plan for potential, future sediment reuse.
 - 7.3 Riverside Ranch Monitoring and Management-HCRCD staff continues regular site visits to Riverside Ranch to ensure functioning pressure transducers. HCRCD has received feedback from USFWS Hydrologist and Engineer Conor Shea on Monitoring Plan and was invited to apply to a FWS Coastal Program grant to support 3 additional pressure transducers and another year of monitoring. Discussion was held regarding the design plans to determine the height of the berm as built. Monitoring and data collection will continue so it can be analyzed then relate it back to the goals and objectives of the project.
CDFW released RFP for grazing on Riverside Ranch, Ocean Ranch/Table Bluff. RFP closed April 6. HCRCD provided 3 letters of support for producers.
 - 7.4 Adaptive Management Program AMP Annual report is being finalized. Initial findings appear to show that the Project is on the trajectory to not meet HMMP requirements for invasive species, but is achieving all other HMMP success criteria. There is also a sizable bank slump on Francis Creek, and neighbors to Riverside Ranch have reported increased flooding and reduced drainage. Staff is recommending that the Project Management Team convenes via conference call/webinar and stakeholders are engaged regarding potential management.
8. **HCRCD Project Updates and Staff Report**- Discussion held on the Alternative Manure Management Program to assist dairy producers and Health Soil Incentives Program to assist producers. Update provided on White Slough Restoration activities to occur in 2018. HCRCD staff continues to prepare various grant funding proposals as requests for proposals released.
 9. **Future Agenda Items requested by Directors:**
 10. **Next regular monthly meeting** scheduled for **Thursday, May 10, 2018** 8am at the Humboldt Agricultural Center.
 11. **Business Meeting adjourned** by Chairman Cohoon at 10:13am.