

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, August 8, 2019

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 Doreen Hansen at 707-832-5593)

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 UCCE Update - Jeffery Stackhouse, Rangeland Specialist
6. **BOARD ACTION ITEMS**
  - 6.1 Minutes for Regular Meeting of July 11, 2019\* presented for approval
  - 6.2 August 2019 Financial Report presented for approval (*Handout*)
  - 6.3 Resolution 19-08: Approving and Authorizing a grant proposal to the Department of Water Resources' Urban Stream Grant Program for advancing Williams Creek Planning\*
7. **SALT RIVER ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECT \*- POSSIBLE ACTION**
  - 7.1 Update and discussion of construction activities
  - 7.2 Discussion and possible action regarding Salt River Ecosystem Restoration Project Adaptive Management Plan (AMP) and management of Riverside Ranch (Salt River Unit of the CA Department of Fish and Wildlife's (CDFW) Eel River Wildlife Management Area).

**8. RCD PROJECT UPDATES and STAFF REPORTS\***

**9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**10. NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Thursday, September 12, 2019 at 8 a.m.**

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

**11. 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 Directors Meeting Minutes  
July 11, 2019**

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Cohoon at 8:02 am
2. Roll Call and Introductions
  - 2.1 HCRCDC Board- Sandra Dale, Dan Cohoon, Mark Moore, Gary Markegard, Ryan Rice, Peter Bussman  
HCRCDC Board Excused- Gary Belli  
HCRCDC Staff- Program Manager Curtis Ihle, Project Coordinator Frances Tjarnstrom, Watershed Coordinator Doreen Hansen, Project Coordinator Summer Daugherty, Office Manager Lauri Barnwell  
HCRCDC Staff Excused-Executive Director Jill Demers  
Guests- LACO Christine Manhart, Frank Zabel, Barbara Zabel and Kathy Phillis.
3. Changes to agenda, no representatives to provide updates on items 5.3 and 5.4
4. No public comment received not directly related to an agenda item.
5. Informational Items-
  - 5.1 No correspondence for review.
  - 5.2 Director Bussman updated Yana Valachovic UCCE County Director/Forest Advisor and Jeff Stackhouse attending Forest Institute for Teachers during the week of July 8th.
  - 5.3 NRCS District Conservationist Jon Shultz unavailable to provide update.
  - 5.4 UCCE Livestock Advisor Jeff Stackhouse unavailable to provide update.
6. Board Action Items-
  - 6.1 Motion by Director Markegard to approve the Regular Monthly Board Meeting Minutes of June 13, 2019. Second by Director Moore. Ayes-Dale, Cohoon, Rice, Bussman Noes-None.
  - 6.2 Motion by Director Moore to accept the HCRCDC Monthly Financial Statements as presented and approve the staff recommendation as outlined. Second by Director Markegard. Ayes-Dale, Cohoon, Rice, Bussman. Noes-None
7. White Slough Enhancement Project-
  - 7.1 Update provided on the White Slough Enhancement Project to enhance and restore salt marsh located on the USFW Humboldt Bay Refuge. In late May a bid solicitation was advertised for soil transport services. The bid opening occurred at 3pm on Tuesday June 4<sup>th</sup>. Three bids were received. The apparent responsive, responsible bid received was from Nicholls Trucking Inc. Due to incompatibilities with the contract, Nicholls Trucking Inc has withdrawn their bid. Staff is recommending to award to the second lowest bidder, Frank Zabel Trucking Inc.  
  
Motion by Director Markegard to approve and adopt Resolution 19-07 which accepts Nicholls Trucking Inc retraction of their bid for the White Slough Enhancement Project 2019 Soil Transport Services and will authorize the Board Chairman or his designee to execute contract documents with Frank Zabel Trucking Inc, the seconded apparent lowest responsive, responsible bidder including any subsequent amendments and issue a Notice to Proceed when all contract and bonding requirements have been satisfied. Second by Director Moore. Ayes-Dale, Cohoon, Rice, Bussman. Noes-None
8. Salt River Ecosystem Restoration Project-
  - 8.1 The 2019 Salt River Ecosystem Restoration Project implementation footprint is to extend from near Market Street to around HWY 211 Bridge. The 2019 project has a smaller channel width reducing the overall amount of sediment to be excavated

however fine grading will be necessary. Landowners are working with staff and engineers. HCRC D publicly invited bids for this year's construction of the Salt River Project in May. Resolution 19-06 which authorized the Board Chairman or his designee to execute contract documents with McCullough Construction the apparent lowest responsive, responsible bidder was approved and adopted at the June 2019 Board of Directors Meeting. McCullough Construction has submitted necessary documents to begin work for the 2019 construction season. Pre construction meetings and surveying have been scheduled with an anticipated construction season start date on July 15.

In June, CDFW and HCRC D Staff coordinated for fish removal to complete the diversion of Francis Creek to prepare the SMA for 2019 management. Unfortunately, the site was vandalized and water diverted back into the SMA. The Humboldt County Sheriff's Department was contacted and a report filed. While monitoring the site, staff encountered four juveniles in the diversion area. Contact was made with them and they were advised of the project goals and activities. The juveniles admitted to the vandalism and offered their apologies for the damages to the site. The Sheriff Department was provided an update. The HCRC D Staff and McCullough Construction continue to monitor the site for suspicious activities.

- 8.2 Staff continues to work with consultants on required project monitoring reports. Staff, Watershed Council, agencies, and other interested parties are continuing to refine the Adaptive Management Plan for the successful maintenance and monitoring of the Salt River Ecosystem Project.

Discussion held regarding Riverside Ranch berm as related to flooding and draining of surrounding lands. Staff is awaiting a peer review of the draft report from Kammen Hydrology by Conor Shay of USFW. The step-by-step process previously proposed for addressing the berm on Riverside Ranch was reviewed. The steps include:

- A. Conor receives Draft of Kamman Report. He will peer review, finalize, and develop an Executive Summary
- B. Final report and Executive Summary to be sent to Riverside Ranch Subcommittee.
- C. Hold a Riverside Ranch Subcommittee meeting to review report. Conor will attend to provide interpretation of report content and recommendation(s). The subcommittee will:
  - Come to a shared understanding of the report findings
  - Determine feasible next steps
  - Understand the process the RCD needs to follow if recommendations lead to any berm modification
- D. Hold a larger meeting to share the report with the Salt River Watershed Council, CDFW, neighboring landowners, NRCS (Jon Schultz), Coastal Conservancy, and USFWS (Conor). Meeting participants will:
  - Come to a shared understanding of the report findings
  - Come to agreement on next steps
- E. IF MODIFICATIONS TO THE BERM ARE NEEDED
  - i. Find funding to develop design plans
  - ii. Develop design plans
  - iii. Develop project description
  - iv. Determine if additional permits are needed
    - Apply for permits and find funding to pay for permits  
OR Request approval of plans from regulators

- v. Explore and secure funding for implementation
  - vi. Monitor function of design modifications
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- 9. HCRCDD provided a written staff report outlining current activities and project updates, including development of Carbon Farm Plans through funding with Organic Valley, Williams Creek studies, design process and extension of awarded CDFW contract, NRCS Wetland Easement Program restoration efforts, DOC Forest Health Watershed Coordinator contracting process and CARCD Cannabis Self-Assessment. Executive Director Jill Demers maternity leave has been extended through August 15.
  - 10. Future agenda items CARCD update, Riverside Ranch Committee update
  - 11. Next regular Board Meeting scheduled for August 8, 2019 at 8 a.m.
  - 12. Meeting adjourned at 9:28 a.m.