

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 June 11, 2015

8:00 A.M.

Agriculture Center Auditorium - 5630 South Broadway - Eureka
(Items marked with * are attached to director packets)

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. **DISTRICT CORRESPONDENCE** (Circulated at meeting)
Incoming:
 - Salt River Watershed Council – Salt River Watershed Spring Newsletter**Outgoing:**
 - Melissa Kraemer, State Coastal Commission – Cover letter for delivery of monitoring reports required under Salt River Restoration Project Coastal Development Permit 1-10-032
6. **HCRCD DIRECTOR'S REPORTS, REQUESTS, OR ANNOUNCEMENTS**
 - 6.1 Reports From Other Meetings Attended By Board Members
 - 6.2 Board Requests For Future Agenda or Information Items
 - 6.3 Other Announcements from Board Members
7. **BOARD ACTION ITEMS**
 - 7.1 Minutes for meeting of May 14, 2015* presented for approval
 - 7.2 June Financial Report presented for approval (Handout)
 - 7.3 Resolution 15-16 Special District Risk Management Authority 2015 Board Member Election Ballot*
Background – Three seats are currently open on the SDRMA Board. HCRCD Board may take action approve and adopt Resolution 15-16 recording official votes for up to three of the four nominated

candidates: Robert Swan, Ed Gray, R. Michael Wright, and/or Sandy Seifert-Raffelson. Candidate statement of qualifications were provided to HCRCD Board members in their packets.

7.4 Resolution 15-18 Authorizing staff to submit proposal to NOAA-NMFS Coastal Ecosystem Resiliency Project Grants Opportunity

7.5 Resolution 15-15 Award Bid for Salt River Ecosystem Restoration Project – Phase Middle 2A-2015

Background – HCRCD publicly invited bids for this year’s construction of the Salt River Project beginning May 20th. The announcement was posted on the HCRCD website and sent to Humboldt and Shasta County Builder’s Exchanges, where it was posted on May 20th. Courtesy emails were sent to all contractors who had previously contacted HCRCD and completed a Contractor’s Interest Form. A Legal Notice in compliance with Public Contract Code describing the project was published in the Times Standard on May 21 and May 26. The mandatory bid walk was held on May 27th with 9 potential bidders in attendance. Bids were due and publicly opened at the offices of GHD, Inc. on June 8th at 3pm.

The Board will receive a report from staff on available funding and consider awarding to the apparent lowest responsive, responsible bidder. Should the Board take action to award the contract; the Board will review, approve and adopt Resolution #15-15 which will authorize the Board Chairman or his designee to execute contract documents with the apparent lowest responsive, responsible bidder including any subsequent amendments and issue a Notice to Proceed when all contract and bonding requirements have been satisfied.

8. **NRCS DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST REPORT** - *Jon Shultz, NRCS District Conservationist*

9. **UCCE Report** – *Jeffery Stackhouse*

10. **SALT RIVER RESTORATION PROJECT REPORT*** - *Staff*

11. **DISTRICT STAFF REPORTS and OTHER RCD PROJECT UPDATES*** – *Staff*

12. **ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION – PERSONNEL**

12.1 Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957 Ch. VI, the Board will meet in closed session.

13. **RE-CONVENE TO OPEN SESSION and report any action taken**

14. **NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Thursday July 9, 2015 at 8 a.m.**

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

15. **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 707-444-9708 x 115. 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 of May 14, 2015

1. Call to Order-

Dan Cohoon Chairman, 8:07 a.m.

2. Introductions-

Directors Present: Dan Cohoon, Jim Renner, Peter Bussman, Mark Moore,

Directors Excused: Hugo Klopper, Gary Markegard, Gary Belli

Staff Present: Lauri Barnwell, Donna Chambers, Summer Daugherty, Curtis Ihle, Frances Tjarnstrom, Doreen Hansen

Guests: Rex Bohn-Humboldt Co. Board of Supervisors, Erik Moeggenberg- Soil Conservationist NRCS

Public: None

3. Additions or Changes to the Agenda-

No Changes or Additions

4. Public Comment-

No Comments Received

5. District Correspondence-

Summary provided and all documents circulated at meeting for review by the Directors and others present. The Humboldt County RCD was recognized by the Friends of the Eel River for significant restoration efforts on the Salt River at their 20 year celebration.

6. HCRCD Director's Reports, Request or Announcements-

Director Bussman and HCRCD Project Coordinator Tjarnstrom reported on a dinner meeting with the Department of Fish and Wildlife and Senator McGuire. Approximately 20 people were in attendance including beef cattle producers, dairy producers, Humboldt and Del Norte Farm Bureau members, and Del Norte County Supervisor. Discussion included overview of current status of CDFW-owned lands and their management; why grazing leases were cancelled; where process currently sits with issuing new RFPs; Aleutian goose issue; CDFW understaffing in Lands Division; and the importance of public education about grazing as management tool.

Director Bussman reported on attending a recent sea level rise working group meeting. The meeting included a brief presentation by Alderon Laird on the ongoing deterioration of historic levees around Humboldt Bay and the possible effects on infrastructure located on those lands. The working group asked for Farm Bureau and RCD to consider facilitating a landowner working group to discuss issues related to impacts to coastal ag lands that would develop proposed "adaptation strategies" back to the larger group. By consensus, the board agreed that Director Bussman should work with RCD staff and Farm Bureau representatives to help convene and facilitate a working group comprised of private ag landowners with dike lands. Board directed Chambers to respond to Laird and inquire about funding available to help facilitate the working group.

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Bussman also provided an update on coastal zoning as related to agricultural wells and fees imposed on agricultural producers for permits to construct and/or maintain those wells and requested that staff follow up with Farm Bureau and the County on the status of a blanket permit for ag wells.

7. Board Action Items-

7.1 Discussion and Approval of Board Minutes from April 9, 2015.

Motion by Director Moore to approve Humboldt County Resource Conservation District Board Minutes as presented from April 9, 2015. Second by Director Bussman Ayes-Director Renner, Noes-None

7.2 Discussion and Approval of May 2015 Financial Report.

Staff provided an update on status of all grants, funds availability, and potential funding. Discussion held on status of payments received and those in process from the funding agencies. An update was provided on the measures being taken to keep the RCD staff and operations moving forward, as well as projects that have been completed and will be closing. Open grants were discussed and their role in current operations.

Motion by Director Renner to approve Humboldt County Resource Conservation District Board staff recommendation to pay operating expenses as presented, continue to manage expenditures to reduce costs, retain contractor/consultant project payment retention and pay contractors/contractor invoices and retention as matching funds are received. Second by Director Bussman. Ayes-Director Moore. Noes-None

7.3 Resolution #15-10 White Slough Project

Motion by Director Moore to adopt Resolution #15-10 authorizing Executive Director to negotiate and execute when finalized, an agreement with the State Coastal Conservancy for implementation of the proposed White Slough Restoration Project in partnership with Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge. Second by Director Bussman. Ayes-Director Renner. Noes-None.

7.4 Resolution #15-11 Termination of Rapid Response Funding Agreement

The Agreement is proposed to be terminated without cause in conformance with Section IV, B and in advance of any services rendered under the Agreement. Project activities proposed to be funded by the Agreement have been fully accomplished utilizing alternative funding sources and have not required use of the Rapid Response dollars.

Motion by Director Moore to approve Resolution #15-11 to provide thirty (30) days advance notice terminating the Rapid Response Funding Agreement with the County of Humboldt. Second by Director Bussman. Ayes-Director Renner. Noes-None.

7.5 Resolution #15-12 FRGP Agreement P1410532

Motion by Director Moore to adopt Resolution #15-12 agreeing to enter into and authorizing the Executive Director to execute Fisheries Restoration Grant Program Agreement P1410532, the Salmonid Distribution in the Restored Salt River monitoring project. Second by Director Renner. Ayes-Director Bussman. Noes-None

7.6 Resolution #15-13 FRGP Agreement P1410527

Motion by Director Moore to adopt Resolution #15-13 agreeing to enter into and authorizing the Executive Director to execute Fisheries Restoration Grant Program Agreement P1410527, the Restoring Fish Passage From the Salt River to Francis Creek project. Second by Director Bussman. Ayes-Director Renner. Noes-None

7.7 Resolution #15-14 FRGP Agreement P1410530

Motion by Director Moore to adopt Resolution #15-14 agreeing to enter into and authorizing the Executive Director to execute Fisheries Restoration Grant Program Agreement P1410530, the Salt River Large Wood Instream Structures project. Second by Director Renner. Ayes-Director Bussman. Noes-None

7.8 Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2014 Audit

Motion by Director Moore to accept and authorize Board Chairman to execute audit engagement agreement between HCRCD and Aycock and Edgmon, Certified Public Accountants, to complete an audit of financial statements for fiscal year ending June 30, 2014. Second by Director Renner. Ayes-Director Bussman. Noes-None

8. Summary of Current Contract and Subcontracts

Staff provided packet to Board of Directions. Chambers asked the Board to review the list of contracts and subcontracts and report if any director felt they had a real or perceived conflict-of-interest. Discussion was held in regards to potential conflicts of interest as pertaining to contracts or subcontract agreements. Directors Bussman, Moore and Renner noted that they engage in both indirect and direct business dealings with Redwood Meat Company (RMC) but have no direct financial interest in the company. Director Moore reported his wife serves on the RMC Technical Advisory Committee, but does not receive remuneration for this.

9. NRCS Report-Eric Moeggenberg, Soil Conservationist NRCS

Moeggenberg reported that NRCS District Conservationist Jon Shultz was unable to attend today's meeting due to his need to attend the Del Norte RCD meeting. The NRCS District Conservationist for Del Norte has taken another position and has left the area, so her position will be covered temporarily by Shultz. Moeggenberg provided the Board an update on current staff activities and staffing changes, NRCS program applications and funding schedule and an upcoming NRCS Road workshop to be hosted in June. Moeggenberg also reported on an upcoming visit by State Conservationist Carlos Saurez scheduled for July. Focus of the tour will be on Salt River efforts and NWQI success, as well as dairy visits.

10. UCCE Report-Jeff Stackhouse

Stackhouse was unable to attend the meeting due to another commitment

11. Salt River Restoration Project Report-

Staff provided an update on current project activities. Discussion held in regards to 2015 design plans, available funding and construction bid schedule. Staff continues to work with landowners and agencies to meet project goals. Staff continues to conduct monitoring and maintenance activities for the Salt River Ecosystem Restoration Project.

12. District Staff Reports and Other RCD Project Updates-

Written summary of District activities provided in Board packet. Staff provided verbal updates on current status of program activities and landowner assistance. Tjarnstom provided an update on

Wildlife Management Area site visits conducted in conjunction with invitations to bid for excess vegetation removal activities. She also provided an update on recent meetings attended and on 2017 revisions to the Dairy Waiver Program by the North Coast Regional Water Quality control Board.

Redwood Meat Company's consultant Sarah Poff is continuing to guide and train RMC staff in efforts to maintain compliance with USDA.

Tjarnstrom also reported on a recent presentation by County of Humboldt on ground water basin planning in Eel River Basin.

13. Adjourned to Closed Session-Personnel Discussion: 9:55am

14. Re-Convened to Open Session: 10:22am

Upon re-convening to open session, the Board reported taking action to regretfully accept the resignation of Executive Director, due to family health issues. The Board directed staff to begin advertising the position as soon as possible. Chambers will continue in the position until the Board selects a person to fill the vacancy.

15. Next Regular Meeting-

Thursday, June 11, 2015 at 8 a.m.

Agricultural Center Auditorium

16. Adjournment-

The Board adjourned at 10:24 a.m.