

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, December 10, 2020

8:00 A.M.

## VIDEO and TELECONFERENCE ONLY

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

### IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING COVID-19 AND TELECONFERENCED MEETINGS:

Based on the mandates by the Governor in Executive Order 33-20 and the County Public Health Officer to shelter in place to minimize the spread of the coronavirus, please note the following changes to the District's ordinary meeting procedures:

- The meeting will be conducted via teleconference. (See Executive Order 29-20)
- All members of the public seeking to observe and/or to address the local legislative body may participate in the meeting via video conference or telephonically in the manner described below.

### HOW TO OBSERVE THE MEETING:

The District is using Zoom to conduct the Board Meeting remotely. The public may observe the meeting from a desktop computer, mobile device, or telephone. You can learn more at <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362193-Joining-a-Meeting>. We recommend that you test out your device, internet connection, and Zoom app compatibility well before attempting to join the meeting.

If accessing from a mobile device or desktop computer, click the following link to join the meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86397595187?pwd=TnR6dldzVWJ6WUZQdmF1Y0ZuM1IPdz09>

If accessing from a **telephone**, you can listen to the meeting live by calling:

1 669 900 6833

Enter Meeting ID: 863 9759 5187 when prompted

Enter Passcode: 1987 when prompted

To mute or unmute yourself on a telephone, press \*6.

### HOW TO SUBMIT PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Before the Meeting: Please email your comments to [jillhcrdc@gmail.com](mailto:jillhcrdc@gmail.com) before 8am on the day of the meeting, write "Public Comment" in the subject line. In the body of the email, include the agenda item number and title, as well as your comments. If you would like your comment to be read aloud at the meeting (not to exceed three minutes at staff's cadence), prominently write "Read Aloud at Meeting" at the top of the email.

Contemporaneous Comments: During the meeting, the Board President or designee will announce the opportunity to make public comments and identify the cut off time for each attendee. The chat feature within Zoom will also be monitored for comments submitted during the meeting.

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Dan Cohoon, Chairman

2. **ROLL CALL - HCRCD Board and Staff**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Dan Cohoon, Chairman
- \_\_\_\_\_ Gary Markegard, Vice-Chairman
- \_\_\_\_\_ Mark Moore, Secretary/Treasurer
- \_\_\_\_\_ Gary Belli, Director
- \_\_\_\_\_ Ryan Rice, Director
- \_\_\_\_\_ Lane Russ, Director
- \_\_\_\_\_ Zach Cahill, Director
- \_\_\_\_\_ Christine Manhart, Associate Director
- \_\_\_\_\_ Jill Demers, Executive Director
- \_\_\_\_\_ Curtis Ihle, Program Manager
- \_\_\_\_\_ Lauri Barnwell, Office Manager
- \_\_\_\_\_ Frances Tjarnstrom, Project Coordinator
- \_\_\_\_\_ Doreen Hansen, Watershed Coordinator
- \_\_\_\_\_ Jake Taulbee, Project Coordinator
- \_\_\_\_\_ Julia Sullivan, Forest Health Watershed Coordinator

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 Update on Director Vacancies**

The terms of four (4) directors expired on November 27, 2020. The Humboldt County Board of Supervisors has not yet acted on appointing directors for new terms. Under PCR 9314(a), the expiration of the term of any director does not constitute a vacancy, and the director shall hold office until his or her successor has qualified.

**5.2 District 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 Introduction to Forest Health Watershed Coordinator - Julia Sullivan, HCRCD Forest Health Watershed Coordinator**

**5.4 District Correspondence**

- 5.4.1 Outgoing - Office of State Audits and Evaluations re: Proposition 1E Bond Program Audit
- 5.4.2 Incoming - Jack Rice re: Centerville Slough Enhancement Project Partnership

**5.5 Centerville Slough Enhancement Project**

Staff to provide update on the District's work to assist with restoration design and implementation on three NRCS Wetland Reserve Easements near Centerville Slough in the Eel River Delta/Salt River watershed and potential District involvement with off-easement project components.

**5.6 Eel River Groundwater Working Group**

Staff to provide on current and future activities required to complete the Groundwater Sustainability Plan, due January 2022.

**5.7 NRCS Update – Jon Shultz, NRCS District Conservationist**

*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 707-296-3992. 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.*

**5.8 USFWS Partners and Coastal Programs Update - Conor Shea, PE, Hydrologist**

**6. BOARD ACTION ITEMS**

6.1 Review and action to approve Minutes for Regular Meeting of November 12, 2020\*

6.2 Review and potential action to approve December 2020 Financial Report

**7. SALT RIVER ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECT and WILLIAMS CREEK PLANNING\***

7.1 Salt River Update

7.2 Williams Creek Update

7.3 Riverside Ranch Berm Investigation Update

7.4 Adaptive Management

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

**9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**10. NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Thursday, January 14, 2021 at 8 a.m.**

Meeting location: Zoom Teleconference

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

**Humboldt County Count Resource Conservation District**  
**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**  
**November 12, 2020**

1. Meeting called to order at 8:06 am by Chairman Dan Cohoon via Video Teleconference.
2. Roll Call Attendance-
  - 2.1. Directors Present at Roll Call-Dan Cohoon-Chairman, Gary Markegard-Vice Chairman, Mark Moore-Secretary/Treasurer, Lane Russ, Zach Cahill
  - 2.2. Directors Absent at Roll Call-Gary Belli, Ryan Rice
  - 2.3. Associate Director Absent-Christine Manhart
  - 2.4. Staff Present-Jill Demers-Executive Director, Curtis Ihle-Program Manager, Doreen Hansen-Watershed Coordinator, Frances Tjarnstrom-Project Coordinator, Jacob Taulbee-Project Coordinator, Julia Sullivan-Forest Health Watershed Coordinator, Lauri Barnwell-Office Manager
  - 2.5. Guests-Conor Shea-USFW, Jon Shultz-NRCS, Jack Rice
3. No changes or additions to the agenda.
4. No public comment received.
5. Informational Items-
  - 5.1. District Correspondence
    - 5.1.1. Outgoing-Discussion of upcoming Board of Directors vacancies and appointments. Director Markegard will be retiring from Board at the end of term. Director Markegard offered his thanks and appreciation to the Board.
    - 5.1.2. Incoming-Letter from Law Office of Thomas Herman on behalf of William Lorenzen regarding property boundaries as related to the Salt River Ecosystem Restoration Project.
  - 5.2. No Directors Updates received.  
*Director Ryan Rice Joined Meeting via Telephone.*
  - 5.3. NRCS Update provided by Jon Shultz, District Conservationist on assistance effort as related to fire recovery and program funding opportunities. Eureka office staff is assisting Trinity County NRCS with land assessments. Members from the State office are visiting burn areas as part of the recovery review. NRCS practice projects are wrapping up for the fall season, Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) project on Williams Creek has complete field work and NRCS staff will be attending a wide variety of video conference meetings as part of the 2020 CARCD Annual Conference. Brief discussion was held regarding replacement of an NRCS staff forester.
  - 5.4. USFWS Partners and Coastal Program update provided by Conor Shea, PE, Hydrologist on technical assistance projects in the Eel River Delta; Eel River Preserve & Centerville Slough, Smith Creek and the Riverside Ranch Levee analysis. Director Rice suggested hosting landowner meeting regarding Riverside Ranch.
6. Board Action Items-
  - 6.1. Motion by Director Markegard to accept and approve the minutes for the regular Board of Directors Meeting held October 8, 2020. Second by Director Moore. Roll Call Vote-Gary Markegard-aye, Mark Moore-aye, Ryan Rice-aye, Lane Russ-aye, Zach Cahill-aye. Absent-Gary Belli
  - 6.2. Motion by Director Markegard to accept and approve the November 2020 Financial Report. Second by Director Moore. Roll Call Vote-Gary Markegard-aye, Mark Moore-aye, Ryan Rice-aye, Lane Russ-aye. Abstained-Zach Cahill. Absent-Gary Belli
7. Salt River Ecosystem Restoration Project and Williams Creek Planning-

- Salt River-Landowner coordination for the anticipated 2021 construction season continues. Staff is scheduling a Salt River Committee meeting to provide an in-depth project update and discuss next steps moving forward.
- Williams Creek-Work continues for cultural surveys as part of the CEQA process. Staff has had positive progress moving forward and looking to further working with landowners and community members.
- Riverside Ranch-Berm investigations are underway. Additional discussion held regarding landowner outreach to involved parties. WCB has awarded a Public Access grant, with tentative approval in May of 2021.
- Adaptive Management-California Conservation Corps (CCC) crew assisted in vegetation clearing downstream of the wastewater treatment plant. Staff worked with landowners to remove downed willows out of the channel.

8. District Updates-

- 8.1. Administrative-New hire Julia Sullivan will be working on the Department of Conservation Forest Health Water Coordinator grant. Office Manager Lauri Barnwell has submitted a letter of resignation to the RCD. Lauri has been with the District since February of 2007. The Department of Finance has completed the Proposition 1E audit and will be submitting a report to the HCRCD of its findings. JJACPA CPAs are scoped to begin the 18/19 audit in the upcoming weeks.
- 8.2. Projects- CALFire Yurok and Garberville are moving forward after a slow down do the extreme fire activities in the past months. Staff is working with the County of Humboldt on the Eel River Groundwater Sustainability Plan and continues efforts for water sampling with the Six Rivers Dairy Association. White Slough Enhancement Project 2020 construction has completed on both the CR Site and at Salmon Creek. Drone surveys are scheduled to finalize the project as-built drawings. Watershed Coordinator Hansen is working on an NRCS WQI Watershed Assessment to be completed in March of 2021.

9. Future agenda items -Board Organizational activities including oath of office for Directors and committee assignments and rescheduling of March 2020 postponed Strategic Planning Meeting due to COVID-19.

10. Next Regular Meeting via Teleconference Thursday December 10, 2020 8a.m.

11. Meeting adjourned at 9:22 a.m.