

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, March 11, 2021

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=TnR6dldzVWJ6WUZQdmF1Y0ZuM1lPdZ09>

Meeting ID: 863 9759 5187

Passcode: 1987

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 jillhcrd@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
- _____ Ryan Rice, Vice-Chairman
- _____ Mark Moore, Secretary/Treasurer
- _____ Gary Belli, Director
- _____ Lane Russ, Director
- _____ Zach Cahill, Director
- _____ Christine Manhart, Director
- _____ Jill Demers, Executive Director
- _____ Curtis Ihle, Program Manager
- _____ Frances Tjarnstrom, Project Coordinator
- _____ Doreen Hansen, Watershed Coordinator
- _____ Jake Taulbee, Project Coordinator
- _____ Julia Sullivan, Forest Health Watershed Coordinator
- _____ Anita Hipp, Office Manager

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
- 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 NRCS Update – *Jon Shultz, NRCS District Conservationist*
- 5.4 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 February 11, 2020*
- 6.2 Financial Reports - Review and potential action to approve March 2021 Financial Report
- 6.3 Long-Range / Strategic Plan* – Possible action to approve scope of work from Equinoss Consulting to provide facilitation services and to authorize Executive Director to execute all contract documents.
- 6.4 Resolution 21-02* - Possible action to approve Resolution 21-02 endorsing the application to California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to provide technical assistance to assist the applicants of Climate Smart Agriculture Programs.
- 6.5 Resolution 21-03* - Possible action to approve Resolution 21-03 declaring an emergency due to the deterioration of the Blue Creek Bridge, finding that the emergency requires immediate action,

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.

and authorizing the Executive Director take any immediate action required by the emergency to procure the necessary equipment, services, and supplies for those purposes, without giving notice for bids to let contracts.

7. OLD BUSINESS

7.1 Distribute Board Roster* – Board took action to appoint officers, establish committees, and appoint committee member at the February 2021 board meeting, as reflected in the updated Board Roster.

7.2 Form 700 – Designated positions per HCRCD's Conflict of Interest Code and State Law required to submit a Statement of Economic Interest.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Ethics and Sexual Harassment Training – Discuss options for mandated trainings

9. SALT RIVER ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECT and WILLIAMS CREEK PLANNING*

10. RCD PROJECT UPDATES and STAFF REPORTS*

11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

12. NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Thursday, April 8, 2021 at 8 a.m.

Meeting location: Zoom Teleconference

13. ADJOURNMENT

Humboldt County Resource Conservation District
Board of Directors Monthly Board Meeting Minutes
Video and Teleconference
February 11, 2021

1. Called to Order by Chairman Dan Cohoon at 8:03am
2. Roll Call-
 - Dan Cohoon, HCRCO Chairman-Present
 - Mark Moore, HCRCO Secretary/Treasurer- Present
 - Gary Belli, HCRCO Director-Absent
 - Ryan Rice, HCRCO Director- Present
 - Lane Russ, HCRCO Director- Present
 - Zach Cahill, HCRCO Director- Present
 - Christine Manhart, HCRCO Director-Present
 - Jill Demers, HCRCO Executive Director- Present
 - Curtis Ihle, HCRCO Program Director- Present
 - Anita Hipp, HCRCO Office Manager- Present
 - Frances Tjarnstrom, Project Coordinator- Present
 - Doreen Hansen, Watershed Coordinator- Present
 - Julia Sullivan, Forest Health Coordinator- Present
 - Jake Taulbee, Project Assistant- Present
 - Conor Shea – USFWS Hydrologist
 - Kathy Phillis – public
 - Christopher Loomis – CDFW Fisheries Biologist
3. No Additions or Changes to the Agenda.
4. No public comments received.
5. Informational Items-
 - 5.1. District correspondence received the past month included letters from:
 - Cher-Ae-Heights, Trinidad Rancheria - regarding the Williams Creek Restoration Project CEQA process.
 - National Parks Service – regarding Ma le’l Dunes.
 - Bureau of Land Management – regarding comment on new resource lands planning process.
 - 5.2. No District Director Updates and Announcements were made.
 - 5.3. NRCS update was provided by Executive Director Jill Demers in lieu of District Conservationist Jon Shultz. NRCS is processing applications for the first round of funding and performing certifications. Producers include tribal farmers and farmers market producers in Northern Humboldt.
 - 5.4. USFWS update was provided by Conor Shea. The project team has developed a hydraulic model and further models. Results assist in evaluating alternatives for the setback berm feature on Riverside Ranch.
6. Board Action Items-
 - 6.1. Motion by Director Moore to approve the HCRCO Board of Directors regular monthly meeting minutes of January 14, 2021. Second by Director Manhart. Roll Call Vote: Cohoon-Aye, Moore-Aye, Rice-Aye, Manhart-Aye, Russ -Aye. Noes-None. Absent-Belli. Abstain – Cahill.
 - 6.2. Discussion concerned anticipated payments, transfer of funds in current accounts, and retention holdings.

Motion by Director Moore to approve the staff recommendation outlined in the HCRC Board of Directors financial report presented on January 14, 2021. Second by Director Manhart. Roll Call Vote: Cohoon-Aye, Moore-Aye, Rice-Aye, Manhart-Aye, Russ -Aye, Cahill -Aye. Noes-None. Absent-Belli.

- 6.3. Discussion included the benefits of hiring a forester or forestry firm. Motion by Director Moore to approve Resolution 21-01 to endorse a funding application to the National Association of Conservation Districts. Second by Director Russ. Roll Call Vote: Cohoon-Aye, Moore-Aye, Rice-Aye, Manhart-Aye, Russ -Aye, Cahill -Aye. Noes-None. Absent-Belli.
7. Board of Directors Annual Organization Session
 - 7.1. The Oath of Office for Director Russ was issued by Executive Director Jill Demers
 - 7.2. The Election of Board Officers and Committee Assignments was presented as a slate of officers and committee members.
 - Board Officers
 - Chairman – Cohoon
 - Vice-Chairman – Rice
 - Secretary/Treasurer – Moore
 - Committees
 - Executive Committee – Chairman Cohoon, Vice-Chairman Rice, Secretary/Treasurer Moore
 - Soil Health Committee – Chairman Russ, Director Cahill, Shultz NRCS, Stackhouse UCCE
 - Dairy Committee – Chairman Cahill
 - Forestry Committee - Chairman Moore, Director Cahoon, Director Rice
 - Salt River / Williams Creek Implementation Committee- Chairman Cohoon, Director Belli, Director Russ
 - Riverside Ranch Committee - Chairman Rice, Director Cahill, Director Manhart
- Motion by Director Cahill to approve the slate as presented. Second by Director Russ. Roll Call Vote: Cohoon-Aye, Moore-Aye, Rice-Aye, Manhart-Aye, Russ -Aye, Cahill -Aye. Noes-None. Absent-Belli.
- 7.3. Discussions were made about the importance of participating in updating the HCRC's Long-Range and Strategic Plan. Local virtual strategic facilitators have been identified. Other out of the area facilitators will be considered. Directors consented to a virtual meeting with the consideration of time commitment and meeting budget. Director Moore will with Executive Director Demers to develop recommended next steps for the March Board meeting.
8. Salt River Ecosystem and Williams Creek Restoration Projects-
 - A Salt River update is available in the staff report.
 - Williams Creek- 30% planning and CEQA process continues. A State Coastal Conservancy grant will be contracted in the coming months to advance plans to 65%. CNRA is further reviewing a submitted proposal and requests a "virtual field tour". Director Manhart plans to attend to represent the Board.
 - Adaptive Management- An Adaptive Management Team meeting will be held April 15th. A landowner maintenance request form will be available on the HCRC website and will be mailed out to Salt River landowners.
 - Riverside Ranch- The project team is moving forward and will hold a Riverside Ranch committee and landowner meeting in late March.
9. RCD Project Updates and Staff Reports

Administration – Office Manager training is ongoing. Invoices are being submitted. Audits and financial reviews are on-going.

CalFire Projects – Work with the Yurok tribe include the environmental review of a bridge and fuel break. Staff is working on the Garberville fuel break. Hiring a new staff member for field work support is moving forward.

Carbon Farm Plans – Staff is working to complete remaining plans. Applications for new plans are available.

SRDA water sampling continues.

NRCS – NWQI watershed assessment is being developed.

10. Future Agenda Items-

Next steps for Long-Range and Strategic Planning

11. Next Regular Meeting- Thursday March 11, 2021 at 8:00am Zoom Teleconference

12. Meeting Adjourned at 9:36am