

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, April 11, 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 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 UCCE Update - Jeffery Stackhouse, Rangeland Specialist
 - 5.5 NRCS Soil Survey Update– Sue Aszman, *MLRA Soil Survey Leader, Arcata Soil Survey office*
6. **BOARD ACTION ITEMS**
 - 6.1 Minutes for Regular Meeting of March 14, 2019* presented for approval
 - 6.2 April Financial Report presented for approval (*Handout*)
 - 6.3 Oath of Office for Newly Appointed Director Ryan Rice
 - 6.4 Discussion and possible action to acknowledge contributions of founding and recently-retired Director James Renner
 - 6.5 Approve State of California Secretary of State Statement of Facts Roster of Public Agencies Filing
 - 6.6 Distribute Updated Board Roster and Contact List*

- 6.7 Discussion and potential action to partner with CARCD to assist HCRCDD set policy regarding working with cannabis producers on natural resource conservation projects.
- 6.8 Possible action to authorize Resolution 19-04 endorsing the application to State Coastal Conservancy Proposition 1 Solicitation to advance planning in the Williams Creek watershed and conditionally accepting grant if offered.*
- 6.9 Possible Action to modify terms of employment of Executive Director
Background: Executive Director Jill Demers has requested that the terms of her employment be modified to a hourly position working a minimum of 20 hours per week to facilitate her return to her position upon completion of Pregnancy Disability Leave. Board may take action to approve the terms of Executive Director Demers' employment.

7. SALT RIVER ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECT *- ACTION

- 7.1 Discussion and possible action regarding 2019 implementation planning, channel alignment, and landowner communications
- 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, May 9, 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
March 14, 2019**

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Cohoon at 8:07 am
2. Roll Call and Introductions
 - 2.1 HCRCD Board-Dan Cohoon, Gary Markegard, Sandra Dale, Mark Moore, Pete Bussman
HCRCD Directors Excused- Gary Belli
HCRCD Staff-Executive Director Jill Demers, Program Manager Curtis Ihle, Project Coordinator Frances Tjarnstrom, Project Coordinator Summer Daugherty, Watershed Coordinator Doreen Hansen, Office Manager Lauri Barnwell
Guests-Humboldt County Supervisor Rex Bohn, NRCS District Conservationist Jon Shultz, UCCE Livestock Office Jeff Stackhouse, CARCD Kristen Murphy, Ryan Rice, Melissa Lema, Jim Regli, Bruce Slocum, George Toste, Kelly Morris, Kate Howard, Christine Manhart, Bobby Dolcini, Kathy Phillis, and Tim Phillis
3. No additions or changes to the agenda.
4. Public comment received from Jim Regli regarding upstream flooding and recommendation to complete the project to Williams Creek confluence, if that is not possible to consider a pilot channel to alleviate flooding from Coffee Creek. Humboldt County District Supervisor Rex Bohn addressed concerns for Williams Creek flooding and expressed support from the County to support emergency efforts to relieve impacts to Ambrosini Lane.
5. Informational Items-
 - 5.1 District correspondence discussed and circulated at meeting for review.
 - 5.2 No Directors updates provided.
 - 5.3 NRCS District Conservationist Jon Shultz provided an update on current staffing changes to Area 1 and open engineering position. WRE application period is approaching. A committee will be developing updated informational fact sheets to outline changes in the new Farm Bill.
 - 5.4 UCCE Livestock Advisor Jeff Stackhouse updated on increased master food preserver's education enrollment and the addition of a junior preservers program through schools. Interviews to begin in the up-coming weeks for a Humboldt County 4-H Advisor. Nutrition education is continuing to grow, reaching over 700 kids and a weekly Spanish nutrition class for adults.
 - 5.5 CARCD Kristen Murphy provided the HCRCD Board with an overview of information as related to RCDs at a State level. Updates included funding programs and opportunities from CALCAN, CDFA, and Nature Conservancy for technical assistance long term funding outlined as part of the legislature, changes to the competitiveness of NRCS cooperative agreements, increasing technical assistance requests to RCDs from Cannabis producers, and CARCD's grant to assist RCDs set policies and programs if so desired.
6. Board Action Items-
 - 6.1 Motion by Director Markegard to approve the Regular Monthly Board Meeting Minutes of February 14, 2019. Second by Director Bussman. Ayes-Dale, Cohoon, Moore Noes-None.
 - 6.2 Motion by Director Markegard to approve the Special Monthly Board Meeting Minutes of February 21, 2019. Second by Director Bussman. Ayes-Dale, Cohoon, Moore Noes-None.

- 6.3 Motion by Director Markegard to accept the HCRCO Monthly Financial Statements as presented and approve the staff recommendation as outlined. Second by Director Moore. Ayes-Dale, Cohoon, Bussman. Noes-None
- 6.4 Board of Directors held a discussion regarding options for credit lines to assist the District in maintaining standard operating expense as well as providing more timely payments to contractors and consultants due to the delays experienced by the District awaiting reimbursement from approved grant invoices on State and Federal funded projects. Board Directed staff to research various line of credit opportunities; banks, foundations, and County partners.
- 6.5 Motion by Director Markegard to establish a HCRCO Forestry Ad-Hoc Committee with membership of Directors Cohoon and Moore. Second by Director Moore. Ayes-Dale, Cohoon, Bussman Noes-None.
- 6.6 Motion by Director Markegard to appoint Program Manager Curtis Ihle as Interim Executive Director effective upon Ms. Demers initiating maternity leave on approximately April 24 through August 1, 2019. Second by Director Bussman. Ayes-Dale, Cohoon, Moore Noes-None.
7. Salt River Ecosystem Restoration Project-
 - 7.1 2019 Salt River Ecosystem Restoration Project implementation, with footprint to include from Fulmor Bridge to Salt River Bridge at Hwy 211. The 2019 footprint is estimated at 1.2 miles of channel restoration. Design plans in process, with anticipated bid release date in June and potential construction to begin in July. Due to delays and necessary designs, upstream construction of Hwy 211 is not feasible for the 2019 season. Upon completion of designs for 2019, possible pilot channels options will be reviewed. All project components need to be completed and modeled to ensure project success. Review of designs and adhering to permit requirements is necessary for agency approval to move forward with the 2019 construction. Brief discussion of current funding sources as related to end dates and available sources. Staff continues to work with landowners in the project footprint.
 - 7.2 Staff is finalizing necessary year-end monitoring reports. Staff continues to work with the Watershed Council, agencies, and other interested parties to refine the Adaptive Management Plan for the successful maintenance and monitoring of the Salt River Ecosystem Project. AMP Project Management Team meeting scheduled for April. Discussion held regarding Riverside Ranch berm as related to flooding and draining of surrounding lands. Members of the public Bruce Slocum, George Toste, Bobby Dolcini, Kathy Phillis, and Tim Phillis expressed concerns regarding flood level flows, drainage, and impacts to surrounding agriculture lands and presented observed changes on their properties since the Salt River Ecosystem Restoration construction of the berm in Phase 1 of the project. Staff has been collecting water level data, which has been downloaded and provide to consultant for analysis. Staff is awaiting analysis of data to best address the landowner concerns while working with agency requirements. Staff will expedite data analysis and report and discuss potential funding options with funder.
8. HCRCO provided written report outlining current activities and project updates, including continuing 2019 White Slough implementation, WCB Carbon Farm Plans, and CDFA AMMP and HSP.
9. Future agenda items included update from NRCS regarding changes to Farm Bill, Soil Survey Presentation, follow up actions related to Riverside Ranch and Appointment of new Board Director.
10. Next regular Board Meeting scheduled for April 11, 2019 at 8 a.m.
11. Meeting adjured at 10:38 a.m.
12. Sexual Harassment Training provided immediately following Board meeting for Directors and Staff.

HUMBOLDT COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

ROSTER OF DIRECTORS

(Updated April 2019)

- AUTHORITY:** Sections 9151-9155 of Division 9 of the Public Resources Code, and the District's Resolution No. 00-08 adopted on August 10, 2000, reducing the number of Board members from nine to seven.
- APPOINTING POWER:** Appointed by the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors in Lieu of Election (per the District's Resolution No. 94-01 adopted March 31, 1994.)
- MEMBERS:** Seven (7)
- QUALIFICATIONS:** Be a registered voter in the State of California, reside within the district, or be a designated agent of a registered landowner in the district, and represent the interests and viability of the resource based community of Humboldt County.
- TERM:** Four (4) years with terms expiring on the last Friday of November of the second even-numbered year after taking office.
- FUNCTION:** Assist landowners in the district, individually and as community groups, to conserve and develop soil and water resources through sound conservation practices and wise land use.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>APPOINTED</u>	<u>RE-APPOINTED</u>	<u>TERM EXPIRES</u>
Daniel Cohoon <i>Chairman (12/2009)</i>	05/2006	2006, 2010, 2014, 2018	November 2022
Gary Markegard <i>Vice Chairman (12/2009)</i>	08/2008	2012, 2016	November 2020
Mark Moore <i>Secretary/Treasurer (12/2009)</i>	1/2002	2004, 2008, 2012, 2016	November 2020
Peter Bussman	11/2004	2008, 2016	November 2020
Gary Belli	08/2008	2012, 2016	November 2020
Sandra Dale	11/2018		November 2022
Ryan Rice	03/2019		November 2022

Current Standing Committees (Approved December 2018):

Executive Committee – Cohoon, Markegard, Moore

Soil Health Committee – Bussman (Chair), Markegard, Belli, Jeff Stackhouse/UCCE, Jon Shultz/NRCS

Dairy Committee –Renner (Chair), Belli

Current Ad Hoc Committees:

Salt River Implementation Committee: Cohoon, Moore, Belli (Approved December 2018)

Riverside Ranch Committee: Bussman, Belli, Markegard (Approved December 2018)

Forestry Committee: Cohoon, Moore (Approved March 2019)