

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, September 12, 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*
6. **BOARD ACTION ITEMS**
 - 6.1 Minutes for Regular Meeting of August 8, 2019* presented for approval
 - 6.2 September 2019 Financial Report presented for approval (*Handout*)
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. NOVEMBER ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

8.1 Reminder and discussion

9. RCD PROJECT UPDATES and STAFF REPORTS*

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

11. NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Thursday, October 10, 2019 at 8 a.m.

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

12. 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
August 8, 2019**

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Cohoon at 8:06 am
2. Roll Call and Introductions
 - 2.1 HCRCD Board- Sandra Dale, Dan Cohoon, Mark Moore, Gary Markegard, Ryan Rice, Gary Belli
HCRCD Board Excused- Peter Bussman
HCRCD Staff- Program Manager Curtis Ihle, Watershed Coordinator Doreen Hansen, Project Coordinator Summer Daugherty, Office Manager Lauri Barnwell
HCRCD Staff Excused-Executive Director Jill Demers, Project Coordinator Frances Tjarnstrom
Guests- NRCS District Conservationist Jon Shultz, UCCE Livestock Office Jeff Stackhouse, LACO Christine Manhart, LACO Kelly Morris, USFWS Liisa Schmoele, USFWS Cheyenne Palmo, NRCS Tony Sonseri, NRCS Dustin Wallace, Point Blue Kate Howard and Kathy Phillis.
3. Changes to agenda, add item 5.5 Liisa Schmoele with USFWS.
4. No public comment received not directly related to an agenda item.
5. Informational Items-
 - 5.1 Correspondence distributed for review by Directors.
 - 5.2 Director Rice updated Salt River Project tour with Jim Wood. Director Rice highlighted discussion regarding impacts and improvements to the community.
 - 5.3 NRCS District Conservationist Jon Shultz provided an update on projects, funding and staffing. Del Norte District Conservationist to begin end of September. New NRCS Area Representative Tony Sonseri provided an introduction to Board of Directors and staff a brief overview of anticipated area visits.
 - 5.4 UCCE Livestock Advisor Jeff Stackhouse provided an update on prescribed fire activities on private land, legislative progress and success of the Humboldt County Burn Association.
 - 5.5 USFW Liisa Schmoele provided an update on the Coastal Partners Program, year-end project closeouts, and staffing changes.
6. Board Action Items-
 - 6.1 Motion by Director Markegard to approve the Regular Monthly Board Meeting Minutes of July 11, 2019. Second by Director Belli. Ayes-Dale, Cohoon, Rice, and Moore. Noes-None.
 - 6.2 Motion by Director Moore to accept the HCRCD Monthly Financial Statements as presented and approve the staff recommendation as outlined. Second by Director Markegard. Ayes-Dale, Cohoon, Rice, and Belli. Noes-None
 - 6.3 Motion by Director Markegard to approve and authorize grant proposal to the Department of Water Resources Urban Stream Grant Program for advancing Williams Creek Planning with local non-profit sponsorship of the Salt River Watershed Council. Second by Belli. Ayes-Dale, Cohoon, Rice, and Moore. Noes-None.
7. Salt River Ecosystem Restoration Project-
 - 7.1 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. McCullough Construction is currently on site. Grubbing and scraping to remove vegetation is underway. Sediment management area and channel excavation to begin mid-month with sediment off haul to re-use sites and facilities early September.

The design team continues to work on the 2020 construction footprint to ensure the success of the currently constructed channel. Additional landowner meetings are scheduled with design team and staff. Director Rice has requested a project site field visit during active construction. Landowner Kathy Phillis requested additional information about pilot channels as related to the 2020 design options.

- 7.2 Staff continues to work with consultants on required project monitoring. 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. The Riverside Ranch water level report from Greg Kamman was reviewed by Conor Shea of USFWS. C. Shea provided minor suggested edits and a summary memo of the report. The HCRCRD Riverside Ranch Committee and staff met with C. Shea to review the report. Meetings with the landowner CDFW, funders, and Riverside Ranch Committee scheduled to be held August 16, 2019. Additional meetings to follow with the Salt River Watershed Council and adjacent landowners.

Motion by Director Belli to release the Kamman Riverside Ranch Draft Report as received and reviewed by HCRCRD Riverside Ranch Committee with suggested edits by Conor Shea attached to all interested parties by the end of day August 8, 2019, then release the Final Report with all edits incorporated into the document to the public. Second by Director Markegard. Ayes-Rice, Markegard, Moore, Belli Noes-None

8. HCRCRD 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 with anticipated job opportunity announcement in late August; Department of Water Resources determination of the Eel River Basin as a Medium Priority watershed; and working with CARCD on a Cannabis Self-Assessment. Executive Director Jill Demers maternity leave has been extended through September 1st.
9. Future agenda items CARCD update, Riverside Ranch Committee update
10. Next regular Board Meeting scheduled for September 12, 2019 at 8 a.m.
11. Meeting adjured at 9:30 a.m.