

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, February 11, 2021

8:00 A.M.

VIDEO and TELECONFERENCE ONLY

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

IMPORANT 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
- _____ Mark Moore, Secretary/Treasurer
- _____ Gary Belli, Director
- _____ Ryan Rice, 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 January 14, 2020*

6.2 Financial Reports: Review and potential action to approve February 2021 Financial Report

6.3 Resolution 21-01* endorsing the application to National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) to provide technical assistance to USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and, if grant is awarded, entering into a contract with NACD, hiring staff or consultants as necessary, and memorializing roles and responsibilities between NRCS and HCRCD.

7. BOARD OF DIRECTORS ANNUAL ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION (CONT)– ACTION (Cohoon)

7.1 Oath of Office for Appointed Directors

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.

The Humboldt County Board of Supervisors acted on January 5th, 2021 to appoint HCRCB Directors. Executive Director to administer oath of office to Directors not yet sworn in.

- 7.2 **Elect Board Officers and Designate Committee Assignments** – Directors may take action to appoint Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Secretary/Treasurer positions; establish or abolish any new committees as may be needed; and appoint committee members and chairs to serve a one-year term.

7.3 **Discuss Update to Long-Range / Strategic Plan**

8. **SALT RIVER ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECT and WILLIAMS CREEK PLANNING***
9. **RCD PROJECT UPDATES and STAFF REPORTS***
10. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**
11. **NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Thursday, March 11, 2021 at 8 a.m.**
Meeting location: Zoom Teleconference
12. **ADJOURNMENT**

Humboldt County Resource Conservation District
Board of Directors Monthly Board Meeting Minutes
Video and Teleconference
January 14, 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- Absent
 - Zach Cahill, HCRCO Director- Absent
 - 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
 - Jon Shultz, NRCS District Conservationist- Present
 - Kate Howard, NRCS – Point Blue Biologist
 - Shawn Fresz – CDFW Lands Manager
 - Conor Shea – USFWS Hydrologist
 - Roby Cook – public
 - Matt Pedrotti – public
 - Kathy Phillis – public
 - Teal Cody – public
 - Kala Eichamer – public
 - Lauren Sizemore - public
3. No Additions or Changes to the Agenda.
4. No public comments received.
5. Informational Items-
 - 5.1. Soil Health and Conservation Carbon Farm Planning Update and Presentation – Jake Taulbee and Frances Tjarnstrom provided an overview of carbon farm plans and their benefits. Producers interested in developing a carbon farm plan are invited to submit an application to HCRCO beginning January 20th, with a deadline to apply February 26th. Application packet will be posted on HCRCO's website. Cost share from producers will be \$500 and 1-3 plans are anticipated to be developed in the Phase 2 period of the program. Questions were taken from Board Directors and the public.
 - 5.2. No District correspondence received during the past month.
 - 5.3. No District Director Updates and Announcements were made.
 - 5.4. NRCS update was provided by District Conservationist Jon Shultz. NRCS is preparing for administration change; Tom Vilsack is anticipated to be nominated as Secretary of Agriculture. State-wide projects are getting ready to launch; 2021 EQIP projects are due March 3rd for round

- 1, and June 9th for round 2. A local entry-level Soil Conservationist position is open at the Eureka office and is waiting to be filled.
- 5.5. CDFW update was provided by Lands Manager Shawn Fresz. Elk hoof disease, the Humboldt marten, and a lagoon breach at Lake Earl is being monitored in Del Norte. In Humboldt, the Ocean Ranch FEIR is going through the certification process, Cannibal Island restoration will move forward, Cock Robin Island riparian restoration continues, the Eel River Wildlife Plan is being updated, and the Riverside Ranch project is occurring. Further elk monitoring is to be implemented in Mendocino County. A biologist position for private land management is open in Mendocino County.
 - 5.6. USFWS update was provided by Conor Shea. Past month efforts focused on landowner outreach involving the Riverside Ranch berm project.
6. Board Action Items-
 - 6.1. Motion by Director Moore to approve the HCRCB Board of Directors regular monthly meeting minutes of December 10, 2020. Second by Director Rice. Roll Call Vote: Cohoon-Aye, Moore-Aye, Rice-Aye, Manhart-Aye, Noes-None, Absent-Belli, Russ, and Cahill
 - 6.2. Motion by Director Moore to approve the staff recommendation outlined in the HCRCB 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, Noes-None, Absent-Belli, Russ, and Cahill
 7. Board of Directors Annual Organization Session
 - 7.1. The Oath of Office for new (Manhart) and re-appointed (M. Moore, Russ and Belli) Directors was issued by Executive Director Jill Demers. Manhart – Aye, Moore – Aye, Russ – Absent, Belli – Absent.
 - 7.2. Directors were reminded that the Annual Calendar is in the meeting’s board packet.
 - 7.3. The Election of Board Officers was postponed until the February 2021 meeting. Directors requested to solicit interest for the Vice Chair position amongst the Board of Directors prior to the next meeting.
 - 7.4. Committee Assignments was postponed until the February 2021 meeting. Directors requested to solicit interest for Standing and Ad Hoc committees amongst the Board of Directors prior to the next meeting.
 - 7.5. No updates were needed to the Conflict of Interest Code. Executive Director Demers will work with each director to complete Form 700 (due April 1).
 - 7.6. Discussion was held to consider finding a facilitator in order to hold the Long-Range and Strategic Planning meeting remotely. The Directors will continue this discussion at future Board meetings.
 8. Salt River Ecosystem and Williams Creek Restoration Projects-
 - 8.1. Salt River and Williams Creek Project phasing summary had been proposed at a Special Board Salt River - The HCRCB Salt River committee met in December to discuss planning with the Walkers. Executive Director Demers met with Walkers and discussed topics about the Salt River channel from Williams Creek and Coffee Creek and splitting the channel 50% between the Walker and Lorenzen parcel boundary. Next step is to re-convene the Salt River committee and suggestions to include additional partners were made.

Williams Creek- 30% planning and CEQA process continues. Staff has outreached to Williams Creek landowners to discuss future maintenance mechanisms.

Adaptive Management- An Adaptive Management Team meeting will be held April 15th.

Riverside Ranch- Consultants continue work on the Alternatives Analysis and are on track to complete conceptual designs in April. An update meeting is anticipated to be held in March. Staff met with the Coastal Commission to discuss permit pathways for implementation of the project.

9. Project and staff updates provided via email to the Board of Directors.

Administration – Anitta Hipp is the new office manager. Audits and financial reviews are ongoing.

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. A job announcement for a part-time HCRCD coordinator will be flown for the Garberville project.

Forest Health – Forest Health Coordinator, Julia Sullivan, is coordinating with North Coast RCDs and Firesafe Councils.

SRDA water sampling has begun for the winter season.

NRCS – NWQI watershed assessment is being developed. The Centerville Slough restoration planning continues.

10. Future Agenda Items-

Develop slate of directors for Board Offices and Committee Assignments; Strategic Planning; NRCS Centerville Slough wetland easement.

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

12. Meeting Adjourned at 9:54 am