

Humboldt
County



RESOURCE
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Board of Directors Meeting

The mission of the Humboldt County Resource Conservation District is to assist private and public landowners in the planning, design, and implementation of soil, water, and forest resource conservation practices to improve and enhance natural and working lands in Humboldt County

REGULAR MEETING: AGENDA

Thursday, January 12, 2023

8:00 A.M.

(Items marked with * are attached to director packets. Packets may be requested by contacting the HCRCDC at 707-442-6058 x 5 or emailing jillhcrccd@gmail.com.)

LOCATION: HUMBOLDT AGRICULTURAL CENTER

5630 South Broadway

Eureka, CA 95503

OR

TELECONFERENCE via ZOOM & TELEPHONE

The public may observe the meeting from a desktop computer, mobile device, or telephone.

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>

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

To raise your hand on a telephone, press *9

HOW TO SUBMIT PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Before the Meeting: Please email your comments to jillhcrccd@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 Chairman or designee will announce the opportunity to make public comments and identify the cut off time for each attendee. Attendees may also "raise" their hand in Zoom or via telephone by pressing *9 to make comments. The chat feature within Zoom will also be monitored for comments submitted during the meeting.

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Ryan Rice, Chairman

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

_____ Lane Russ, Vice-Chairman

_____ Mark Moore, Secretary/Treasurer

_____ Dan Cohoon, Director

_____ Zach Cahill, Director

_____ Christine Manhart, Director

_____ Jim Cotton, Director

_____ Jill Demers, Executive Director

_____ Curtis Ihle, Program Manager

_____ Doreen Hansen, Watershed Coordinator

_____ Jake Taulbee, Project Coordinator

_____ Anita Hipp, Office Manager

_____ Cessair McKinney, Project Assistant

_____ Ellie Higgins, Project Assistant

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 CDFW, Cannabis Restoration Grant Program, Virginia O'Rourke - Senior Environmental Scientist

5.4 NRCS Update – *Todd Golder, NRCS District Conservationist*

6. **BOARD ACTION ITEMS**

6.1 Resolution No. 23-01 making findings pursuant to Government Code Section 5493, as amended by Assembly Bill 361, and authorizing the continued use of virtual meetings*

6.2 Board Of Directors Annual Organizational Session*

a. Oath of Office for Appointed Directors - The Humboldt County Board of Supervisors acted on January 10, 2023 to reappoint HCRCD Directors Daniel Cohoon and Zach Cahill to and to appoint Jim Cotton to vacant Director position.

b. Review Director Roster and Discuss Vacancy – Director Rice, whose term ends Nov 2024, requested not to be reappointed to Director position.

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 or email hcrcd@yahoo.com. 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.

- c. Elect Board Officers – Appoint Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Secretary/Treasurer positions.
- d. Committee Assignments – Discuss current committees, establish or abolish any new committees as may be needed, appoint committee members and chairs to serve a one-year term.

Current Standing Committees (Approved January 2022):

- Executive Committee – Rice (Chair), Russ, Moore
- Soil Health Committee – Cahill (Chair), Shultz NRCS, Stackhouse UCCE
- Dairy Committee - Director Cahill (Chair)
- Forestry Committee - Cohoon (Chair), Moore, Rice

Current Ad Hoc Committees (Approved February 2022):

- Salt River Implementation & Adaptive Management Committee – Cohoon (Chair), Russ, Manhart
- Riverside Ranch Committee – Rice (Chair), Cahill, Manhart
- Reserve Fund Committee – Moore (Treasurer/Chair), Russ, Manhart

- e. Review Conflict of Interest Code and Form 700

6.3 Resolution No. 23-02 Approving Addendum #3 to the Environmental Impact Report Previously Certified for the Salt River Ecosystem Restoration Project*

The Addendum analyzes proposed Project modifications at the Riverside Ranch property, including (1) the construction of public access trails and associated amenities and (2) the lowering of the Riverside Ranch levee in limited, discrete locations, construction of new and realigned drainage ditches in limited, discrete locations, and installation of tide gates to reduce flood impacts to the surrounding agricultural areas.

The Addendum has been posted at <http://humboldttrcd.org/>.

6.4 Discussion and possible action regarding HCRCD facilities and office spaces

6.5 Financial Reports - Review and potential action to approve January 2023 Financial Report and Staff Recommendations to approve reserve for payroll and tax liabilities and approve and issue payments for operating expenses and contractor payments as outlined in financial report.

6.6 Review and potential action to approve Minutes for Regular Meeting of December 8, 2022*

7. RCD PROJECT UPDATES and STAFF REPORTS*

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

9. NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Thursday, February 9, 2023 at 8 a.m.

Meeting location: Humboldt Agricultural Center and Teleconference

10. ADJOURNMENT

Humboldt County Resource Conservation District
Board of Directors Monthly Board Meeting Minutes
Humboldt County Agricultural Center, 5630 South Broadway, Eureka
and
Video and Teleconference
December 8, 2022

1. Called to Order Chairman Ryan Rice at 8:04am
2. Roll Call-
 - Ryan Rice, HCRCD Chairman- Present
 - Lane Russ, HCRCD Vice Chairman- Absent
 - Mark Moore, HCRCD Secretary/Treasurer- Present
 - Dan Cohoon, HCRCD Director- Present
 - Zach Cahill, HCRCD Director- Present
 - Christine Manhart, HCRCD Director- Present
 - Jill Demers, HCRCD Executive Director- Present
 - Curtis Ihle, HCRCD Program Director- Present
 - Anita Hipp, HCRCD Office Manager- Present
 - Doreen Hansen, HCRCD Watershed Coordinator- Present
 - Jake Taulbee, HCRCD Project Coordinator- Present
 - Jim Cotton
 - Conor Shea, USFWS
 - Jeff Stackhouse, UCCE
 - Blaze Shannon, Lower Trinity River PBA
3. Additions or Changes to the Agenda: Due to the absence of a NRCS representative, consider removing agenda item 5.5 – NRCS Update
4. No public comments received.
5. Informational Items
 - District correspondence received the past month:
 - Incoming: LAFCO – Results of LAFCO board member votes
 - Outgoing: County Board of Supervisors regarding HCRCD board of directors; Support letter to NOAA/NMFS’ programmatic Coastal Development Permit
 - District Director Updates and Announcements: Director Moore described the installation of a virtual fence system on his ranch. Director Cahill discussed regional dairy struggles due to low organic milk prices, high feed costs, and drought conditions.
 - UCCE Update, Jeff Stackhouse, UCCE Livestock and Natural Resource Advisor: UCCE is hiring an economic development advisor, a specialty crop and horticulture advisor, and a prescribed fire research associate. Additional discussion included updates on Tribal mobile meat processing unit, home hardening and prescribed fire, deworming research, tick borne diseases, manure application, oak woodlands research, and the Aleutian Goose Working Group.

- USFWS Update, Conor Shea, Coastal and Partners Program: USFWS assisting with Russ Creek and Centerville restoration project design plans. Discussions also involved White Slough post-project monitoring and Mad River off channel habitat headed by the McKinleyville CDS.
 - NRCS Update- provided by Jeff Stackhouse UCCE & HCRCD staff. A new district engineer was hired, Jack Robie. Yurok tribe received RCPP funds. NRCS is updating its prescribed fire program.
6. Board Action Items
- 6.1. Resolution 22-24 making findings pursuant to Government Code Section 5493, as Amended by Assembly Bill 361, and Authorizing the Continued Use of Virtual Meetings. Motion to accept Resolution 22-24 by Director Moore; second by Director Cohoon. Roll Call Vote: Rice – Aye; Moore – Aye; Cohoon – Aye; Manhart – Aye; Cahill – Aye; Noes – none. Absent – Director Russ.
 - 6.2. Action to recommend Jim Cotton to fill HCRCD Board vacancy to County Board of Supervisors and to reappoint Directors Rice, Cohoon, Cahill. Motion to accept recommendations by Director Moore; second by Director Cohoon. Roll Call Vote: Rice – Aye; Moore – Aye; Cohoon – Aye; Manhart – Aye; Cahill – Aye; Noes – none. Absent – Director Russ.
 - 6.3. Possible Action regarding HCRCD facilities and office spaces. No Action taken. Discussion included current staff telework situation; retain Eureka office space; likely discontinue Ferndale office, though explore renting meeting space on a as-needed basis; Director Cahill will investigate the need for a physical presence of the HCRCD in the Salt River watershed.
 - 6.4. Possible Action regarding HCRCD 2023 staff health benefits. No action. Board previously agreed to provide health insurance under approved budget and encourages the executive director to make appropriate decisions within budget allowance.
 - 6.5. Review and approve minutes from the November 10, 2022 Board Meeting. Motion to approve minutes by Director Cohoon; second by Director Moore. Roll Call Vote: Rice – Aye; Moore – Aye; Cohoon – Aye; Manhart – Aye; Cahill – Aye; Noes – none. Absent – Director Russ.
 - 6.6. Financial Reports - Review December 2022 Financial Report and Staff Recommendations to approve reserve for payroll and tax liabilities and approve and issue payments for operating expenses and contractor payments as outlined in financial report. Motion to accept the November Financial Report and Staff Recommendations by Director Moore; second by Director Cahill. Roll Call Vote: Rice – Aye; Moore – Aye; Cohoon – Aye; Manhart – Aye; Cahill – Aye; Noes – none. Absent – Director Russ.
7. Staff Report:
- 7.1. HCRCD Watershed Coordinator Doreen Hansen led a discussion around opportunities and challenges in funding and implementing natural resource conservation projects with Humboldt County cannabis producers.
 - 7.2. Project updates. Board was directed to the staff report. Discussion included the unprecedented amount of state funding becoming available for forestry and restoration.
8. Future Agenda Items
- Office location discussion
 - Update on Aleutian Goose Working Group by Shawn Fresz, CDFW

- Update with Michael Van Hattem, CDFW
- Update on health insurance

9. Next Regular Meeting: Thursday, January 12, 2023 at 8am

10. Adjournment of Meeting: 11:04am