

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 12, 2018

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 HCRCDD Director Updates and Announcements – Directors may provide updates on their activities related to the HCRCDD such as other meetings attended and other relevant announcements.
 - 5.3 NRCS Update – *Jon Shultz, NRCS District Conservationist*
 - 5.4 University of California Cooperative Extension Report – *Jeffery Stackhouse, UCCE Livestock Advisor*
 - 5.5 USFWS Partners & Coastal Programs Update – *Liisa Schmoele, USFWS Coastal & Partners Program*
6. **BOARD ACTION ITEMS**
 - 6.1 Minutes for meeting of March, 2018* presented for approval
 - 6.2 April Financial Report presented for approval (*Handout*)
 - 6.3 Bidding Policy* – review and possible action to update
7. **SALT RIVER ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECT *- ACTION**
 - 7.1 Discuss Upper Phase 2A progress of riparian and wetland plug replanting

7.2 Discuss progress of 2018 implementation planning and possible action regarding landowner agreements and requested modifications to project, project funding proposals, and bid schedule

7.3 Discuss monitoring and management of Riverside Ranch (Salt River Unit of the CA Department of Fish and Wildlife's (CDFW) Eel River Wildlife Management Area).

7.4 Discuss Salt River Ecosystem Restoration Project Adaptive Management Plan (AMP).

8. RCD PROJECT UPDATES and STAFF REPORTS*

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

10. NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Thursday, May 10, 2018 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 Director's Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes

March 8, 2018

Humboldt Agricultural Center 5630 South Broadway Eureka, CA

1. **Meeting called to order** by Board Chairman Dan Cohoon at 8:06 am.
2. **Attendance**
 - Directors Present-D. Cohoon, G. Markegard , M. Moore, P. Bussman , J. Renner
 - Directors Excused - H. Klopper, G. Belli
 - HCRCD Staff -J. Demers- Executive Director, C. Ihle-Program Manager, D.Hansen-Project Coordinator, L. Barnwell-Office Manager, F. Tjarnstrom-Project Coordinator, S. Daugherty-Project Coordinator
 - Staff Excused- S. Rowe-Project Coordinator
 - Guests - Jon Shultz-NRCS District Conservationist, Jeremy Svehla-GHD, Kathy Phillis, Jim Regli
3. **Changes or Additions to agenda**

No Changes
4. **Public Comment**

Landowner Jim Regli thanked the HCRCD Board of Directors for the continued support of the Salt River Ecosystem Restoration Project despite challenges along the way. Mr Regli expressed concern for the upstream landowners and the tremendous losses that would affect them should the project experience delays. As Vice President of the Watershed Council, he offered to work with the Board to continue outreach efforts.
5. **Informational Items**
 - 5.1 District Correspondence was discussed and circulated for review during the meeting.
 - 5.2 Upcoming funding opportunities were outlined and the role of the HCRCD to assist producers with applications for the Alternative Manure Management Program and California Healthy Soils Program.
 - 5.3 California Department of Fish and Wildlife released requests for proposals for excessive vegetation control on Humboldt County Wildlife Management Areas, including Ocean Ranch and the Salt River Unit of the Eel River Wildlife Area.
 - 5.4 Director Bussman provided a brief update on Sea Level Rise as discussed at a Farm Bureau hosted meeting. Director Moore provided an overview of topics discussed by the HCRCD Salt River Committee in response to the Scalvini Landowner letter received in February.
 - 5.5 NRCS Update-Jon Shultz, NRCS District Conservationist provided an update on current contracts, EQIP funding signup and ranking period. NRCS is working with the Yurok Tribe on a cultural land management plan. Current staffing is reduced with an employee out due to an injury. NRCS and HCRCD continuing to work on NACD agreement for funding of a resource engineer.
 - 5.6 USFWS Partners and Coastal Programs Update-No Report
 - 5.7 University of California Cooperative Extension Update- No Report
6. **Salt River Ecosystem Restoration Project-Action**
 - 6.1 Upper Phase 2A(2017)-Construction for 2017 has been completed. The Notice of Completion has been filed with the County Clerk. Final construction contract total for Phase Upper 2A was \$3,258,587.22. Riparian re-vegetation is ongoing, staff is working

with landowners on management practices to address invasive species, and small maintenance areas in the channel are being corrected as needed.

- 6.2 2018 Implementation Planning- Discussions are continuing to be held with landowners, design team and agencies regarding 2018 design and implementation activities. Unresolved activities on the Albin floodplain are continuing to be addressed. The HCRCD staff has identified the Alternative Manure Management Program possible funding opportunities for the landowner to address his concerns about property access and will assist Mr. Albin apply to the program. Conversations are continuing to best identify solutions to ensure a successful project.

HCRCD Executive Director and Salt River Committee updated Board on HCRCD's counter-offer to Scalvini Family's letter dated February 11, 2018 and circulated at HCRCD February 2018 Board Meeting outlining their stipulations for participating in the Salt River Ecosystem Restoration Project, and Scalvini Family's March response to HCRCD that their stipulations stand. The HCRCD works in cooperation with landowners, and at this time the Scalvini's and HCRCD are at an impasse. Board did not authorize any additional counter-offers and directed staff to work with willing landowners, Scalvini's lessee, and the Salt River Watershed Council to identify solutions and avenues forward.

Project Engineer Jeremy Svehla discussed possible 2018 Salt River Ecosystem Restoration Project footprint and timing for bid release given the current impasse with the Scalvini Family. Given landowner permissions, it is likely that the project will extend to Fulmor Bridge in 2018 (on Mr. Albin's property). This is a small footprint and project (likely less than \$500,000) and smaller than the target footprint of extending the project to Highway 211. In terms of flood relief, the truncated project will result in continued flooding of 20+ acres of Scalvini property and continued flooding and ponding near HWY 211 compared to a project terminating at HWY 211. However, Fulmor Bridge isn't an ideal location for placement of the rocked grade control structure that controls grade and directs water from the un-restored floodplain into restored Salt River. Board directed staff to work with Scalvini lessee Daniel DelBiaggio to attempt to secure permission to pass through a Scalvini parcel east of Fulmor Bridge (APN 100-191-15) in order to place grade control in a more ideal location. This is a small parcel and not used by the family or leased by DelBiaggio, but is critical for the path of Salt River and sits between two of Albin's parcels. Board directed staff and engineers to work on designs until early May, then prepare the bid package based on current landowner approvals in hopes of issuing a Salt River bid package in late May/early June of this year for a 2018 construction season.

- 6.3 Resolution 18-01-review and approval of resolution 18-01 Addendum to Salt River Ecosystem Restoration Project Environmental Impact Report Project Description. Discussion held in regards to any changes in findings as well as process of review. Executive Director to file Notice of Determination upon Board approval of Addendum to start the 35 day comment period.

Motion by Director Markegard to accept and approve Resolution 18-01 addendum to the Salt River Ecosystem Restoration Project Environmental Impact Report Project Description. Second by Director Moore. Ayes- Ayes-Directors Bussman, Renner. Noes-No

- 6.4 Monitoring and Adaptive Management Activities- Kamman Hydrology, GHD and HCRCD Staff have been implementing the monitoring plan for the study of the flooding and drainage around Riverside Ranch. Data from transducers has been downloaded,

analysis to be completed and report compiled. Seeking funding for additional monitoring sites.

6.5 Adaptive Management Program- No update.

7. **RCD Project Updates and Staff Report**- handout was provided for review. Additional discussion held on fee for service through technical assistance to landowners with application and permitting processes as related to funding opportunities, engineering position opportunity announcement through National Association of Conservation Districts updated to a request for proposals, and staff preparing various grant funding proposals as they are announced .

8. Board Action Items

8.1 Motion by Director Markegard to approve the Humboldt County Resource Conservation District minutes of February 15, 2018. Second by Director Renner. Ayes-Directors Bussman, Moore. Noes-None

8.2 Motion by Director Markegard to approve the Humboldt County Resource Conservation District monthly financial statement and authorize payment of expenses as presented in the staff recommendation. Second by Director Moore. Ayes-Directors Bussman, Renner. Noes-None

8.3 Annual Form 700 distributed to Directors.

9. Future Agenda Items requested by Directors:

10. **Next regular monthly meeting** scheduled for **Thursday, April 12, 2018** 8am at the Humboldt Agricultural Center.

11. **Business Meeting adjourned** by Chairman Cohoon at 10:30am.