



## HUMBOLDT COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Working in Cooperation with USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services

### Board of Directors Meeting

#### AGENDA

Thursday January 12, 2012

8:00 A.M.

Agriculture Center Auditorium 5630 South Broadway Eureka

Please notify Donna Chambers, Executive Director, as soon as possible if you have any questions or need special accommodations (707) 444-9708 extension 117 or by email: [donna@hcrccd.com](mailto:donna@hcrccd.com) Items marked with \* are attached to the director packets and can be made available upon request.

*The Mission of the Humboldt County Resource Conservation District is to enhance and improve the sustainability of natural resources by educating, training and assisting private and public landowners and land users.*

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Dan Cohoon, Chairman
2. **INTRODUCTIONS**
3. **ADDITIONS OR CHANGES TO AGENDA**
4. **DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES for December 8, 2011– ACTION\***
5. **DISTRICT CORRESPONDENCE** (Circulated at meeting)  
Incoming:
  - California Association of Resource Conservation Districts (CARCD) – Minutes from November 8, 2011 meeting.
  - Humboldt County Farm Bureau – Copy of letter submitted to North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board providing comments on the Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements of Existing Cow Dairies in the North Coast Region.
  - Western United Dairymen - Copy of letter submitted to North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board providing comments on the Regulatory Program for Waste Discharges from Dairies in the North Coast Region.
  - Natural Resources Conservation Service – Letter acknowledging all terms and conditions of the cooperative agreement have been met and closing Agreement # 65-9104-9-714.

- State Water Resources Control Board \_ Letter advising HCRCD of single audit act requirements associated with ARRA funding.
- Redwood Community Action Agency / Natural Resources Services Division – Invitation to participate in the “Lower Elk River Restoration Summit” on February 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> at the Ag Center.
- Humboldt Area Foundation – Letter advising HCRCD that proposal to the Field of Interest grant program was not selected for funding.
- Del Norte Resource Conservation District – Agenda for December 21<sup>st</sup> meeting, no minutes were received.
- Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation and Conservation District – Notice of draft Negative Declaration for project entitled “Coast Seafoods Clam Raft Expansion” and invitation to review and comment by January 27, 2012.
- County of Humboldt, Treasurer/Tax Collector – Fund Balance report from the County Treasury is \$3.95.
- Salt River Watershed Council January agenda and December minutes.

Outgoing:

- None.

## 6. FINANCIAL REVIEW AND REPORT

### A. Review Financial Statement – Handout

- 1) Review of checks issued since last Board meeting
- 2) Current Status of Invoices and Payments Received
- 3) Discuss and Approve List of Payments – **ACTION**

## 7. PRESENTATION OF AUDIT – AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2011 – Stacey Edgmon, CPA Aycok and Edgmon **ACTION**

BACKGROUND: The Draft Audit for fiscal year ended June 30, 2011 was provided to the Board for review at its December meeting. The Board will be asked to approve and accept the audit as presented.

## 8. NEW BUSINESS

### A. HCRCD ANNUAL CALENDAR - Handout **ACTION**

BACKGROUND: Staff has updated the annual calendar for 2012 and is presenting it to the Board for information and approval.

### B. OPERATIONAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS) AND HUMBOLDT COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT (HCRCD)\* **ACTION**

BACKGROUND: The Operational Agreement spells out agreements between the two agencies to work cooperatively to achieve mutual objectives to help people conserve natural resources in Humboldt County. It describes the working relationship between NRCS and HCRCD, the equipment and services provided by NRCS, and how the two agency’s business

and planning documents interface. The document is being updated to reflect the signature of the current HCRC Board Chair; no substantial changes have been made to the agreement.

**C. APPROVE ONE-YEAR EXTENSION OF WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA LEASES  
BASED ON SATISFACTORY PERFORMANCE ACTION**

BACKGROUND: Leases for Agricultural Activities on Wildlife Management Areas are eligible for annual extensions for a period of up to five years from the original agreement, dependent on the Lessee satisfactorily meeting all terms and obligations. Year-end reviews have been completed and all Lessees have been determined eligible for a one-year extension. The Board is asked to authorize the Executive Director to execute lease agreements for the following Wildlife Management Areas:

- A. Fay Slough: Grant Pedrotti, Lessee
- B. Mad River Slough: Domingo Santos, Lessee
- C. Eel River (Ocean Ranch, Table Bluff, Cannibal Island): Dennis Leonardi, Lessee
- D. Cock Robin Island: Dennis Leonardi, Lessee

**D. ESTABLISH SALT RIVER ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECT COMMITTEE  
DISCUSSION/POTENTIAL ACTION**

BACKGROUND: The Salt River Project has multiple partners involved in various aspects of the project – from design, to funding, coordination, implementation and monitoring. The RCD is the primary project proponent. HCRC currently holds contracts valued at \$7,474,664 for design, permitting and implementation of the Salt River Project. The RCD is “Lead Agency” for CEQA compliance and adopted the Environmental Impact Report for the project last year. The RCD also holds the required project permits.

Other entities holding implementation funds include; Western Rivers Conservancy/DFG, State Coastal Conservancy, Ducks Unlimited (DU), and the City of Ferndale. Funding held by these other entities will be subcontracted to the RCD (or DU as appropriate) for implementation.

Ducks Unlimited has secured project implementation funding that also includes funds intended to cover DU administrative and direct costs associated with project bidding, construction oversight, project management, scheduling, and budget management. DU intends to work closely with HCRC to oversee on-the-ground implementation, conduct quality assurance, provide technical assistance, process progress payments and any contract modifications needed, and coordinate communications between construction personnel, regulatory agencies, landowners, and environmental and cultural resource compliance observers.

The Salt River Watershed Council has formed as a nonprofit organization to assist with project and landowner education and outreach, maintenance and monitoring.

The Project is very close to securing the last items needed to begin the implementation process. As the Project moves from the design and permit phase toward implementation, it will be imperative to have active coordination and close communication between all parties.

The Board wishes to discuss establishing a Salt River Project Committee and identify its function and potential members.

**9. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

**10. DISTRICT STAFF ACTIVITIES REPORTS and PROJECT UPDATES \***

**11. NRCS DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST REPORT - Jon Shultz, Acting District Conservationist**

12. **TIME SET 9:15am – 9:30am**  
**INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION: STREAMLINE PLANNING CONSULTANTS** - Handout  
Sam Polly has asked to introduce the Board to Streamline Planning Consultants and provide an overview of their services.
13. **HCRCD DIRECTOR'S REPORTS OR ANNOUNCEMENTS**
  - a. Reports From Other Meetings Attended By Board Members
  - b. Board Requests For Future Agenda or Information Items
  - c. Other Announcements from Board Members
14. **NEXT REGULAR MEETING - Thursday, February 9, 2012 at 8 a.m.**
15. **PERSONNEL: ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION FOR ANNUAL PERFORMANCE EVALUATION OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - ACTION**
16. **ADJOURNMENT**