



Attachment "A"

*SONOMA COUNTY AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION AND OPEN SPACE  
DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE*

*October 27, 2016 MINUTES*

5:06 pm Meeting convened at the District office, 747 Mendocino Avenue,  
Suite 100, Santa Rosa, California

**Members Present**

Don McEnhill	Curt Nichols	Bill Smith	Laurie Gallian
Jan McFarland	John Nagle	Kristin Thigpen	Sue Conley
John Dell'Osso	Gary Wysocky		

**Members Absent**

Cary Fargo	Doug Lipton	Annaleigh Nguyen
Steve Rabinowitsh	Jeffrey Holtzman	Regan Connell

**Staff Present**

Bill Keene, General Manager; Karen Gaffney, Conservation Planning Program Manager; Amy Ricard, Community Relations Specialist; Kathleen Marsh, Stewardship Coordinator; Kelsey Setliff, Stewardship Technician; Melina Hammar, Stewardship Technician; Seamus Rafferty, Stewardship Technician; Catherine Iantosca, Stewardship Technician; Bob Pittman, County Counsel; Mariah Robson, Advisory Committee Clerk

Chair Gallian called the meeting to order at 5:06 pm.

**Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

**Approval of Minutes**

Chair Gallian asked if there were any corrections to the minutes. No corrections were requested. Bill Smith motioned for the minutes to be approved, and John Dell'Osso seconded the motion. The minutes of September 22, 2016 were approved.

**General Manager's Report**

- Bill Keene, General Manager, introduced four new staff members, all Stewardship Technicians who monitor the District properties: Kelsey Setliff was hired 6 months ago, and Catherine Iantosca, Melina Hammar and Seamus Rafferty were all hired this week. They introduced themselves to the Advisory Committee members and described what they will be working on.

- Mr. Keene attended a California Forward Symposium put on by the California Economic Summit today. The topic was groundwater and managed lands, which is relevant to the District's land conservation priorities.
- Mr. Keene and Karen Gaffney, Conservation Planning Program Manager, will not be attending the next Advisory Committee meeting on December 8, 2016. They will be at a Poff Ranch Management Plan public meeting that the District is hosting. Stewardship Manager Sheri Emerson will be bringing a revision of the mitigation policy back to the Advisory Committee for consideration at the Dec 8<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- District staff participated in the Russian River Confluence Descent from Forestville to Jenner.
- The Board of Directors approved the staff Matching Grant recommendations on Tuesday. \$3.4 million was recommended by staff and was approved by the Board.
- The Wendle property will be taken to the Board on December 6, 2016 as a joint item with Regional Parks.
- The District Land Management Services Agreement is going to the Board on January 10, 2017.
- The Calabazas Creek and Poff Ranch Management Plan approvals and CEQA adoptions will be going to the Board on January 24, 2017.

### **Subcommittee Report Out**

Sue Conley, Chair of the Advisory Committee Ag Subcommittee, reported out that the committee has met two times since the last Advisory Committee meeting, on October 5<sup>th</sup> to review the Ag & Open Space center business plan and the approach to the comprehensive plan.

The staff and Advisory Committee members discussed keeping the Matching Grant Program subcommittee active as there will be more work to be done. This decision will be made at the January 2017 meeting.

### **District Ag & Open Space Center Business Plan**

Ms. Dodge gave a PowerPoint presentation of the Ag and Open Space Center Business Plan. Ms. Dodge will bring this item back to the Advisory Committee after it has been reviewed by the Fiscal Oversight Commission and the Board, who will guide the District on how best to proceed.

For more information on the District Ag & Open Space Center Business Plan, the PowerPoint presentation and handouts are available at the District upon request.

### **Form Comprehensive Plan Sub-committee**

Ms. Gaffney requested that the Advisory Committee form a Comprehensive Plan Subcommittee that will review and provide input on the District's Comprehensive Plan. Chair Gallian asked for subcommittee volunteers: Kristin Thigpen, Don McEnhill, Jan McFarland, and Laurie Gallian all volunteered. Steve Rabinowitsh had shown interest prior to the meeting but was absent tonight, so he was included as well. Chair Gallian asked for a vote. John Dell'Osso motioned to go forward, Jan McFarland seconded the motion. All were in favor. Since a few members were absent from tonight's meeting, and there is room for one more participant, Mariah Robson, Advisory Committee Clerk, will email the absent members to see if anyone would like to volunteer.

### **Comprehensive Plan Update**

Amy Ricard, Community Relations Specialist, provided a PowerPoint presentation on the District Comprehensive Plan.

Following the presentation, Chair Gallian turned the meeting over to the Advisory Committee members for discussion. Comments by the members were in support of the plan, the process and the timeline.

For more information on the Comprehensive Plan Update, the PowerPoint presentation is available at the District upon request.

### **Projects in Negotiations**

Mr. Keene noted that the Wendle property will be going to the Board soon and will be added to the spreadsheet, as well as the new Matching Grant projects.

### **Announcements from Advisory Committee Members**

#### **Laurie Gallian**

The Water Agency is hosting tours on November 4<sup>th</sup> and November 12<sup>th</sup> that are open to the public. These are free half day tours of the Russian River water supply system.

#### **Gary Wysocky**

Mr. Wysocky announced that there are changes at the Council and that this may be his last meeting. The Mayors' and Councilmembers' will be appointing a new representative.

**Adjournment:** 6:45 pm

Next scheduled meeting date: December 8, 2016

Respectfully submitted,

Mariah Robson,  
Advisory Committee Secretary