



**AG + OPEN SPACE**  
SONOMA COUNTY

SONOMA COUNTY OPEN SPACE DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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**APPROVED MINUTES**

**747 Mendocino Avenue – Suite 100, Santa Rosa, CA 95401**

**February 27, 2020 | 5:00 pm**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Bill Smith	John Nagle	Don McEnhill
Curt Nichols	Taj Hittenberger	
John Dell’Osso	Cary Fargo	

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Jennielynn Holmes	Evan Wiig	Leah Gold	Austin Maners
Steve Barbose	Doug Lipton	Tawny Tesconi	Paul Martin
Neysa Hinton	Jan McFarland		

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Bill Keene, General Manager; Misti Arias, Acquisition Manager; Stephanie Tavares-Buhler, Senior Acquisition Specialist; Louisa Morris, Acquisition Specialist; Jennifer Kuszmar, Matching Grant Coordinator; Lauren Alpert, Community Relations Assistant; Aldo Mercado, County Counsel; Mariah Robson, Advisory Committee Clerk

**Call to Order**

Chair Dell’Osso called the meeting to order at 5:04 pm.

**Public Comment**

No public comment.

**Approval of Minutes**

John Nagle motioned to approve the minutes from January 23, 2020 as is, and Bill Smith seconded the motion. All were in favor, with two abstentions from Don McEnhill and Taj Hittenberger who were not in attendance at the January meeting.

**General Manager’s Report Out**

- Bill Keene, General Manager, let members know that Steve Rabinowitsh’s wife had passed away recently. A condolences card was passed around for members to sign and will be sent to Steve.
- The Vital Lands Initiative is going to the Board on April 7, 2020.

- Gloeckner Ranch is going to the Board on March 24, 2020. This is a 3,400 acre property on Rockpile Road.
- There was a Strategic Board Planning Retreat that Mr. Keene attended that focused on climate action and resiliency. The County is taking on climate change as an emergency. On April 21, 2020 the Board will adopt the goal of the whole county going carbon neutral by a certain date. Mr. Keene will let the Advisory Committee know how the work of Ag + Open Space fits into this process.
- The Outings and Youth Education Contract is going to the Board on April 7, 2020.
- The Stewardship Workshop/Update will go to the Board on April 21, 2020.
- The Matching Grant Program Recommendations will go to the Board in late summer or early fall. We are still accepting applications right now.

### **Subcommittee Report Out**

The Advisory Committee currently has one active subcommittee, the Matching Grant Program. When the application process closes this spring, the committee will create a new subcommittee, which may include new members.

### **Acquisition Updates**

Misti Arias, Acquisition Manager, introduced two new acquisition staff, Stephanie Tavares-Buhler and Louisa Morris. Ms. Tavares-Buhler presented a PowerPoint presentation on two acquisition projects: Haroutunian North and Joseph Camozzi Dairy. Ms. Morris also presented a PowerPoint presentation on two acquisition projects: the Torr and McCormick properties.

For more information on these acquisition projects, the PowerPoint presentation is available at Ag + Open Space, or contact Ms. Tavares-Buhler, Ms. Morris or Ms. Arias.

### **Projects in Negotiation**

Gloeckner Ranch is going to the Board for approval on March 24, 2020.

### **Announcements from Advisory Committee Members and Members of the Public**

#### **Don McEnhill**

Mr. McEnhill has been hiking several open space preserves in Healdsburg and the coast and has noticed many dogs off leash on trails that require a leash. He spoke with some people about this and the message was well received. He was not sure what his role is as a Committee member but staff and other members agreed that it is appropriate to talk to people about this if it seems safe.

#### **Cary Fargo**

Mr. Fargo discussed the fact that it used to be quiet while hiking but now many people have amplified music on the trails. He suggested posting signs that amplified music is not allowed on trails.



John Dell'Osso

Mr. Dell'Osso said that the Veronda Falletti property in Cotati that was purchased 12 years ago through the Matching Grant Program will begin trail construction in three weeks.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Next Meeting: March 26, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

Mariah Robson

*Advisory Committee Secretary*

