



AG + OPEN SPACE
SONOMA COUNTY

Thursday, December 13, 2018

REGULAR MEETING
SONOMA COUNTY AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION AND OPEN SPACE
DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting begins at 5:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PLEASE CALL IF UNABLE TO ATTEND

AGENDA

1. **Public Comment** - Comments on items not listed on the agenda
(Time is limited to 3 minutes per person/item)
2. **Approval of Minutes** [Attachment "A"] ***ACTION***
October 25, 2018
3. **General Manager's Report** ***INFORMATIONAL***
4. **Subcommittee Report Out** ***INFORMATIONAL***
Matching Grant Program
5. **Vital Lands Initiative Update** ***INFORMATIONAL***
Karen Gaffney, Conservation Planning Program Manager
6. **Update on Work of the Ag Advisory Team** ***INFORMATIONAL***
Bill Keene, General Manager
7. **Mayors and Councilmembers' Letter** ***INFORMATIONAL***
Bill Keene, General Manager
8. **Projects in Negotiation** [Attachment "B"] ***INFORMATIONAL***
9. **Announcements from Advisory Committee Members** ***INFORMATIONAL***
10. **Adjournment** Next Meeting: January 24, 2019

Future Meeting Topics
(subject to change)

1/24/19

Fiscal Update
Vital Lands Update

2/28/19

Process Improvements
Vital Lands Update
Acquisitions Program Update

DISABLED ACCOMMODATION: If you have a disability which requires the agenda materials to be in an alternative format or requires an interpreter or other person to assist you while attending this meeting, please contact Mariah Robson at (707) 565-7363, at least 72 hours prior to the meeting to ensure arrangements for accommodation

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Any member of the audience desiring to address the Committee on a matter on the agenda will have an opportunity to speak. In order that all interested parties have an opportunity to speak, please be brief and limit your comments to the subject under discussion. Each person is usually granted 3 minutes to speak; time limitations are at the discretion of the Chair.



Attachment "A"

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

October 25, 2018 MINUTES

5:04 pm Meeting convened at the District office, 747 Mendocino Avenue,
Suite 100, Santa Rosa, California

Members Present

Bill Smith	Curt Nichols	Jan McFarland
Neysa Hinton	Cary Fargo	Steve Barbose
John Dell'Osso	Taj Hittenberger	Tawny Tesconi
John Nagle	Steve Rabinowitsh	

Members Absent

Evan Wiig	Doug Lipton	Don McEnhill
Paul Martin	David Cook	Halei Trowbridge

Staff Present

Bill Keene, General Manager; Misti Arias, Acquisition Program Manager; Sheri Emerson, Stewardship Program Manager; Sara Press, Land Acquisition Associate; Amy Ricard, Community Relations Specialist; Kathleen Marsh, Stewardship Coordinator; Kim Batchelder, Conservation Planning Associate Planner; Allison Schichtel, Conservation GIS Analyst; Seamus Rafferty, Stewardship Technician; Catherine Iantosca, Stewardship Technician; Aldo Mercado, County Counsel; Mariah Robson, Advisory Committee Clerk

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

Public Comment

Chair Dell'Osso asked for public comments on items not on the agenda.

Caryl Hart proposed to the Chair to pass out a flyer to the Advisory Committee members regarding an industrial marijuana operation along the West County Trail in Graton. She asked the committee members and Ag + Open Space staff to follow this development and perhaps purchase the property to keep it from becoming a marijuana operation.

Duane DeWitt announced that there will be a Roseland Beautification Project on Saturday, October 27, 2018 from 9:00 to 1:00 pm at the Bayer Parks and Gardens. This is a clean-up event with a BBQ to follow later in the day. He passed out a flyer to the Advisory Committee members and staff.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Dell'Osso asked for approval of the September 27, 2018 minutes. Tawny Tesconi motioned to approve the minutes, and Curt Nichols seconded the motion. All in favor, with two abstentions from Steve Rabinowitsh and Steve Barbose who were not in attendance at the September meeting.

General Manager's Report Out

- Tawny Tesconi, who is a member of the Ag + Open Space Advisory Committee and Sonoma County Farm Bureau Executive Director, will be kicking off the first meeting tomorrow of the Ag Advisory Team being held at the Farm Bureau. This team will give advice to the Ag + Open Space staff on the Vital Lands Initiative. Bill Keene, Ag + Open Space General Manager, will report back to this Advisory Committee in future meetings on the progress of the team.
- On December 11, 2018 the Recovery and Resiliency Plan, which consists of 250 actions that have come out of the fires from last year and will help the county to prepare for the next disaster, and for long-term recovery, will go the Board of Supervisors for approval.
- Wilroth conservation easement, a matching grant project, will go the Board on November 13, 2018, for approval of the installation of a fire camera on the Fairfield Osborne Preserve to help catch fire activity early.
- The Graton Green matching grant project is also going to the Board on November 13, 2018.
- A Stewardship Workshop will go to the Board on December 4, 2018.
- On December 11, 2018 Weeks Ranch Conservation Easement on Los Alamos Road will go to the Board.
- Rips Redwoods will go to the Board on January 8, 2019 to approve a trail easement on the Gualala River.
- Mr. Keene passed out a letter to the Advisory Committee members from the Mayors and Councilmembers referring to the managing of the Ag + Open Space Matching Grant Program Subcommittee. Neysa Hinton, Advisory Committee Member appointed by the Mayors and Councilmembers, made a presentation to the Mayors and Councilmembers regarding the long standing practice of recusing oneself from the subcommittee if there is a conflict of interest. Mayors and Councilmembers would like this practice reconsidered. Mr. Keene will meet with Mayors and Councilmembers at their January meeting to discuss the policy and will report back to the Advisory Committee.

Subcommittee Report Out

The Advisory Committee currently has one active subcommittee, the Matching Grant Program, and there was no report out.

RCPP Projects

Sara Press, Land Acquisition Associate, spoke about the Regional Conservation Partnership Program, which is an \$8,049,000 grant with the Natural Resources Conservation Service. It is a five year program from 2017 to 2021 and Sara explained what we have been doing with the funds for the first two years. The grant's purpose is to offer new opportunities for the NRCS, conservation partners and agricultural producers to work together to increase the restoration and sustainable use of soil and water resources, and wildlife habitat in Sonoma County.

For more information, contact Sara Press at Ag + Open Space.

Stewardship Update and Reserve

Sheri Emerson, Stewardship Program Manager, presented a PowerPoint presentation on Stewardship and the Stewardship Reserve. This same presentation will go to the Board on December 4, 2018, and the Fiscal Oversight Commission on November 1, 2018.

Ms. Emerson explained that this presentation is intended to explain what stewardship means and what happens with properties once they are acquired by the Ag + Open Space. She asked for any input the Advisory Committee had in regards to the presentation.

Chair Dell'Osso asked that comments from the Advisory Committee be sent to Ms. Emerson no later than November 2, 2018.

For more information on the stewardship update and reserve, the PowerPoint presentation is available upon request.

Projects in Negotiations

Cresta 3 closed, the Graton Green project is going to the Board November 13, 2018, Weeks Ranch is going to the Board December 11, 2018, and Rips Redwoods will go to the Board January 2019.

Announcements from Advisory Committee Members and Members of the Public

There were no announcements.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 6:59 pm.

Next scheduled meeting date: December 13, 2018

Respectfully submitted,

Mariah Robson,
Advisory Committee Secretary

PROJECT	Acres (approximate)	Supervisory District	Acquisition Plan Category	Project Design	Appraisal Process	Approvals/Baseline	Escrow	Comments
Arrowhead Ranch (Maas)	245	2	Farms & Ranches	x				On hold at request of owner
Cresta 3	46	1	Recreation & Education	x	x	x		Closed and transferred to Regional Parks 11.16.18
El Recreo	289	1	Greenbelts & Scenic Hillside					CE under negotiation
Gloeckner-Turner Ranch	3,364	5	Water, Wildlife & Natural Areas	x	x			Appraisal process
Jacobsen Ranches	127	2	Greenbelts & Scenic Hillside	x				CE under negotiation
Joseph Camozzi Dairy	403	2	Farms & Ranches	x				CE under negotiation
LaFranchi	1,189	4	Farms & Ranches	x				Initiating project
Lafranconi	211	5	Greenbelts & Scenic Hillside	x				On hold at request of owner
Mattos Dairy	866	2	Farms & Ranches	x	x			Offer made
McClelland Dairy	337	2	Farms & Ranches	x	x			CE under negotiation
Preston Farm	133	4	Farms & Ranches					Initiating project
Sonoma Developmental Center 5 (Transfor	945	1	Greenbelts & Scenic Hillside					Land protection proposal underway
Terrilinda Dairy	175	1	Greenbelts & Scenic Hillside	x				On hold at request of owner
Tunzi	345	2	Farms & Ranches					Initiating project
Weeks Ranch (Rasmason)	1,372	1	Water, Wildlife & Natural Areas	x	x			To Board December 11, 2018
Witt Home Ranch	395	2	Farms & Ranches					Initiating project

Total Acres: 10,442

Matching Grant Projects	Acres (approximate)	Supervisory District	Location	Begin Grant Process	Appraisal Process	Approvals/Baseline	Escrow	Comments
Andy's Unity Park	4	5	Southwest Santa Rosa	x				Reimbursement and tracking match ongoing
Bayer Farm Development	6**	5	Southwest Santa Rosa	x	x	x	x	Reimbursement ongoing, Grant term extended
Colgan Creek Phase 3 MG*	7	5	Southwest Santa Rosa	x	n/a	x	x	Board approved 4/21/15
Crane Creek Regional Trail*	6	1	East of Rohnert Park	x	n/a			Initiating project
Denman Reach	2	2	North Petaluma	x	n/a			Drafting documents
Falletti Ranch	4	2	Cotati	x	x	x	x	Tracking match
Forever Forestville*	4	5	Downtown Forestville	x	x	x	x	Tracking match
Graton Community Park	1	5	Downtown Graton	x	x	x		Board approved 11/13/18
Guerneville River Park Phase 2*	5	5	Central Guerneville	x	x	x		Initiating project
Irwin Creek Riparian Restoration*	47**	5	West of Santa Rosa	x	n/a	x	n/a	Reimbursement ongoing
Maxwell Farms	79	1	Northwest of Sonoma	x	n/a			Initiating project
Nathanson Creek Restoration Phase 2	1**	1	Sonoma	x	n/a			Reimbursement ongoing
Paula Lane Open Space Preserve	11	2	West Petaluma	x	x	x	x	Tracking match
River Lane	1	5	West of Guerneville	x	x	x	x	Board approved 9/11/18
Riverfront Regional Park Recreation Improv	300**	4	West of Windsor	x	n/a			Initiating project
Roseland Creek Community Park - Phase 1	3	5	Southwest Santa Rosa	x				Initiating project
Roseland Village Public Space	1	5	Southwest Santa Rosa	x	n/a			Drafting documents
Southeast Santa Rosa Greenway	61	1	Southeast Santa Rosa	x		x		Initiating project
SMART Pathway – Hearn to Bellevue*	6	5	Southwest Santa Rosa	x	n/a	x		FOC approved 7/21/16
SMART Pathway - Payran to S. Point	14	2	Petaluma	x	n/a			Drafting documents
Sonoma Garden Park Phase 2*	5**	1	East of Sonoma	x	n/a	x	n/a	Completed
Steamer Landing Park Development (McNe	27**	2	Downtown Petaluma	x	n/a			Initiating project
Total Acres:	127							

* District approved a 2-year extension

** Restoration/Development Project on previous acquisition.