



AG + OPEN SPACE
SONOMA COUNTY

SONOMA COUNTY OPEN SPACE DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Online Meeting Due to Sonoma County's Shelter in Place Order

July 22, 2021 | 5:00 pm

MEMBERS PLEASE CALL IF UNABLE TO ATTEND

In accordance with Executive Order N-29-20, the June 24, 2021 Advisory Committee meeting will be held virtually via Zoom.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY NOT ATTEND THIS MEETING IN PERSON

***UPDATE REGARDING VIEWING AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN
July 22, 2021 ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING***

July 22, 2021 Advisory Committee Meeting will be held online through Zoom. There will be no option for attending in person. Members of the public can watch or listen to the meeting using one of the following methods:

Join the Zoom meeting on your computer, tablet or smartphone by clicking:

<https://sonomacounty.zoom.us/j/92034070951?pwd=azZqc0dMVWtZT0hBc20zMUk1aWVQdz09>

1. If you have the Zoom app or web client, join the meeting using the Password: 546921
2. Call-in and listen to the meeting: Dial 1 669 900 9128 Enter meeting ID: 920 3407 0951

PUBLIC COMMENT DURING THE MEETING: You may email public comment to Mariah.Robson@sonoma-county.org. All emailed public comments will be forwarded to all Committee Members and read aloud for the benefit of the public. Please include your name and the relevant agenda item number to which your comment refers. In addition, if you have joined as a member of the public through the Zoom link or by calling in, there will be specific points throughout the meeting during which live public comment may be made via Zoom and phone.

DISABLED ACCOMMODATION: If you have a disability which requires an accommodation or an alternative format to assist you in observing and commenting on this meeting, please contact Mariah Robson by email to Mariah.Robson@sonoma-county.org by 12pm Wednesday, July 21, 2021 to ensure arrangements for accommodation.

END OF UPDATE

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Public Comment**
Comments on items not listed on the agenda. Time is limited to 2 minutes per person/item.
3. **Approval of Minutes from June 24, 2021 Attachment A**
4. **General Manager's Report**
5. **Paula Lane Update**
Misti Arias, General Manager
6. **Vital Lands Network Update**
Misti Arias, General Manager
Jennifer Kuszmar, Interim Acquisition Manager
Allison Schichtel, Senior Conservation Planner
7. **Projects in Negotiations Attachment B**
8. **Announcements from Advisory Committee Members**
9. **Adjournment**
Next Scheduled Meeting: September 23, 2021





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SONOMA COUNTY

SONOMA COUNTY OPEN SPACE DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

UNAPPROVED MINUTES

Virtual Meeting Due to Sonoma County's Shelter in Place Order
June 24, 2021 | 5:00 pm

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Don McEnhill	Steve Rabinowitch	Jan McFarland	Brian Barnacle
Michelle Whitman	Bill Smith	Ariel Kelley	John Nagle
Curt Nichols	Neysa Hinton	Paul Martin	Sue Conley
Kristina Tierney			

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Cary Fargo
Tawny Tesconi
Doug Lipton

STAFF PRESENT:

Misti Arias, General Manager; Caryl Hart, Vegetation Management and Climate Resilience; Mary Chambers, Agricultural Specialist; Sara Ortiz, Administrative Aide; Aldo Mercado, County Counsel; Mariah Robson, Advisory Committee Clerk

Call to Order

Vice Chair, Don McEnhill, standing in for Chair Michelle Whitman, called the meeting to order at 5:02 pm.

Public Comment

Vice Chair McEnhill asked for any public comments on items not on the agenda.

Susan Sullivan, who resides on Paula Lane, expressed concern for the destructive work on the Paula Lane Preserve recently. She said there was a large are of land that is being destroyed by the building of a road and she feels it is contradictory to the preservation of the natural areas.


Susan Kirks said there was work being done at the entrance of the Paula Lane property and throughout the whole property. She is disappointed by the violations of the terms of the conservation easement. She feels this error needs to be reversed and the habitat restored. She asked the Advisory Committee members to support her and the Paula Lane Network in saving the wildlife species on this property.

Approval of Minutes from May 27, 2021

Vice Chair McEnhill asked for any comments or revisions regarding the May 27, 2021 minutes. There were none. Ariel Kelley motioned for the minutes to be approved as is and Jan McFarland seconded the motion. There were no public comment on the minutes.

A roll call was taken and all were in favor: Sue Conley, yes. Paul Martin, yes. Neysa Hinton, yes. John Nagle, yes. Bill Smith, yes. Steve Rabinowitsh, yes. Michelle Whitman, yes. Kristina Tierney, yes. Jan McFarland, yes. Don McEnhill, yes. Curt Nichols, yes. Ariel Kelley, yes. Brian Barnacle, yes.

General Manager's Report

- A surveyor contract extension will go to the Board on July 13, 2021.
- The Lang Conservation Easement Amendment will go to the Board on July 13, 2021.
- The Advisory Committee meetings and the Fiscal Oversight Commission meetings will continue to be virtual until the fall of this year, and then a hybrid meeting consisting of committee and staff in person and public as virtual will begin until further notice. 
- We are currently recruiting for two new youth members to join the Advisory Committee and would appreciate the Committee's help in spreading the word. More information and application materials are on our website
- Mary Chambers, Agricultural Specialist, is participating in the Inter-agency Drought Task Force with various government agencies discussing impacts of the current drought and working on opportunities to address current challenges.
- We are currently recruiting for two positions at Ag + Open Space: Acquisition Program Manager and Vegetation Management Coordinator.

Brian Barnacle asked Misti Arias, General Manager, if there could be a discussion about Paula Lane at this meeting. Aldo Mercado, County Counsel, advised to agendize that topic for the next meeting.

Member of the public, Susan Kirks, noted that she was in support of the Paula Lane item being agendize for the next meeting.

Formation of Ag Subcommittee

Ms. Arias introduced and discussed forming an Ag Subcommittee. Committee members Paul Martin and Sue Conley had reached out to the Ag + Open Space staff to ask to reengage this subcommittee again. Ms. Chambers continued to explain that the Ag Subcommittee would help build a foundation for communication and engagement with the agricultural community. Ms. Chambers shared a draft charter of the subcommittee that was included in the Advisory Committee packet. She expressed that the purpose of the Subcommittee would be to provide collaboration and input on Ag + Open Space's agricultural programs, strategies, and initiatives, and to support productive engagement between Ag + Open Space and the broader agricultural community. The Subcommittee will meet approximately monthly for one to two hours and will evaluate the frequency of the meetings six months after initiation. She asked if there were any volunteers for the subcommittee, with the maximum number of six, to avoid a quorum, and the following committee members volunteered:



John Nagle, Paul Martin, Sue Conley and Jan McFarland. Tawny Tesconi had expressed interest prior to this meeting but was not in attendance this evening. Some members in attendance also suggested that Doug Lipton or Cary Fargo, who were not in attendance, might also be interested in joining. Mariah Robson, Advisory Committee Clerk, will email the missing members and ask if they are interested in volunteering for the Subcommittee. John Nagle motioned to form the Subcommittee with the four members who volunteered and were present, and Ariel Kelley seconded the motion. There were no public comments.

Roll call on the vote was taken: Jan McFarland, yes. Michelle Whitman, yes. Paul Martin, yes. Curt Nichols, yes. Steve Rabinowitsh, yes. Brian Barnacle, yes. Kristine Tierney, yes. Sue Conley, yes. Ariel Kelley, yes. Neysa Hinton, yes. Don McEnhill, yes. Bill Smith, yes. John Nagle, yes.

The Agriculture Advisory Subcommittee was voted in.

Vegetation Management Grant

Caryl Hart, Vegetation Management and Climate Resilience, is involved with working with the Board on a strategy for the PG&E funds for special fire protection. Climate change and lack of forest management has increased destruction from wild fires in the county. The goal of the Vegetation Management program is to contribute two to four million dollars to the most hazardous areas of Sonoma County. County staff received ninety applicants for over sixteen million dollars. Twenty applicants were selected and the contracts have been created and will be ready for funding in less than two months. There are challenges that need to be overcome, but the projects are making headway. An excel list of the approved projects will be sent out.

No public comments.

Projects in Negotiations

Vice Chair McEnhill opened up the meeting for member and public comments but there were none.

Announcements from Advisory Committee Members

Ariel Kelley

This week Ms. Kelley's children are attending the LandPaths camp at the Preston property, which is on the Projects in Negotiations list. This camp is for children 5 to 12 years old.

John Nagle

There is a voluntary drought initiative in California from Fish and Wildlife asking people to curtail water use.

Brian Barnacle

Mr. Barnacle went to the Sonoma Clean Power store in downtown Santa Rosa and saw carbon-free appliances, induction stoves with cooking demos, a children's area with mini electric vehicles, and other clean power gadgets. A great place to visit.

Michelle Whitman

Chair Whitman was late to join the meeting tonight and thanked Vice Chair McEnhill for chairing the meeting for her.



Adjournment

Vice Chair McEnhill adjourned the meeting at 5:59.

Next Meeting: July 22, 2021

Respectfully submitted,

Mariah Robson
Advisory Committee Secretary



PROJECT	Acres (approximate)	Supervisory District	Acquisition Plan Category	Project Design	Appraisal Process	Approvals/Baseline Escrow	Comments
Abril Ranch	1,929	5	Water, Wildlife & Natural Areas	x			Initiating project
Armstrong Redwoods SNR - Ayers Addition	320	5	Water, Wildlife & Natural Areas				Initiating project
Baumert Springs	372	5	Water, Wildlife & Natural Areas				Initiating project
Big Sulphur Creek (Krasilisa)	507	4	Water, Wildlife & Natural Areas				Initiating project
Correia Family Dairy	146	2	Farms & Ranches				Initiating project
Deniz (Old Adobe Road)	217	2	Farms & Ranches				Initiating project
Deniz (Sonoma Mountain Road)	355	2	Farms & Ranches				Initiating project
Denner Ranches	489	4	Farms & Ranches	x			Initiating project
Diamond W Ranch	849	2	Farms & Ranches				Initiating project
EARTHseed	14	5	Farms & Ranches	x	x		CE under negotiation
El Recreo	289	1	Greenbelts & Scenic Hillside	x	x		Appraisal process
El Recreo - West	168	1	Greenbelts & Scenic Hillside				Initiating project
Fornage Ranch	1,360	5	Water, Wildlife & Natural Areas				Initiating project
Hardy Ranch	525	2	Farms & Ranches				Initiating project
LaFranchi (Laguna)	127	4	Water, Wildlife & Natural Areas	x			Initiating project
Limping Turkey Ranch	158	2	Farms & Ranches				Initiating project
McCormick	253	1	Water, Wildlife & Natural Areas	x	x		Appraisal process
Miguel-Tocci Ranch	489	5	Farms & Ranches				Initiating project
Paulin Meadow (Parcel J)	10	3	Water, Wildlife & Natural Areas	x	x		CE under negotiation
Preston Farm	133	4	Farms & Ranches	x			CE under negotiation
Riebli Family Farm	139	2	Farms & Ranches				Initiating project
Russian River Habitat Restoration	63	4	Water, Wildlife & Natural Areas				Initiating project
Ryan Ranch	806	5	Water, Wildlife & Natural Areas				Initiating project
Saddle Mountain OSP – Lobban Addition	266	1	Recreation & Education	x	x		Initiating project
Sonoma Developmental Center 5 (Transfor	945	1	Greenbelts & Scenic Hillside				Land protection proposal underway
Sonoma Mountain Vernal Pools	174	1	Recreation & Education				Initiating project
Wikiup Mark West	31	4	Water, Wildlife & Natural Areas	x			Initiating project
Witt Home Ranch	395	2	Farms & Ranches				Initiating project
Wolf Creek Ranch	1,195	5	Water, Wildlife & Natural Areas				Initiating project
Total Acres:	12,724						

Matching Grant Project	Acreage (approximate)		Supervisory District	Location	Begin Grant Process				Comments
					Appraisal Process	Approvals/Baseline	Escrow		
A Place to Play	87	5	Western Santa Rosa						Initiating project
AmeriCorps Trail	12	5	Sebastopol	x	n/a				Initiating project
Andy's Unity Park	4	5	Southwest Santa Rosa	x					Escrow closed in 2017. Tracking match
Badger Park	20	4	Healdsburg						Initiating project
Bayer Farm Development***	6**	5	Southwest Santa Rosa	x	x	x	x		Reimbursement ongoing, Grant term extended
Bodega Bay Trail	179	5	Bodega Bay						Initiating project
Colgan Creek Phase 3 MG***	7	5	Southwest Santa Rosa	x	n/a	x	x		Extension granted to 10/14/21
Crane Creek Regional Trail*	6	1	East of Rohnert Park	x	n/a				Drafting documents. Grant extended to 12/6/21
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 Green	1	5	Downtown Graton	x	x	x			Escrow closed April 5, 2019. Tracking match.
Guerneville River Park Phase 2***	5	5	Central Guerneville	x	x	x			Initiating project; processing extension request
Helen Putnam Regional Park Extension	56	2	Petaluma						Initiating project
Keiser Park Expansion	2	4	Windsor						Initiating project
Maxwell Farms	79	1	Northwest of Sonoma	x	n/a				Drafting Documents
Montage Resort Park	36	4	North Healdsburg						Initiating project
Paula Lane Open Space Preserve	11	2	West Petaluma	x	x	x	x		Tracking match
Petaluma River Park	20	2	Petaluma						Initiating project
River Lane***	1	5	West of Guerneville	x	x	x	x		Finalizing docs; Grant extended to 10/25/24
Roseland Creek Community Park - Phase 1c	3	5	Southwest Santa Rosa	x	x				City is reviewing documents (CE, RC)
Roseland Village Public Space***	1	5	Southwest Santa Rosa	x	n/a				Drafting documents
SMART Pathway – Hearn to Bellevue*	6	5	Southwest Santa Rosa	x	n/a	x			Finalizing documents
SMART Pathway - Payran to S. Point	14	2	Petaluma	x	n/a				SMART is reviewing documents (CE, RC)
Southeast Santa Rosa Greenway***	61	1	Southeast Santa Rosa	x		x			Initiating project; project extended to 10/25/24
Steamer Landing Park Development (McNe)	27**	2	Downtown Petaluma	x	n/a				Initiating project
Taylor Mtn RPOSP - Cooper Creek Addition	54	3	Southeast Santa Rosa	x					Closed 4/1/20. Tracking match
Total Acres:	674								

* District approved a 2-year extension

** Restoration/Development Project on previous acquisition.

TRANSFER	Acreage (approximate)	Supervisory District	Transaction Type	Project Design	Transfer Agreement	Approvals/Baseline	Escrow	Comments
Calabazas Creek Open Space Preserve	1,290	1	Transfer	x	x	x	x	Close escrow mid-late July 2021
Saddle Mountain Open Space Preserve	960	1	Transfer					Initiating project
Tierra Vegetables	15	4	Resale	x				Resale
Wright Hill Ranch	1,236	5	Transfer	x	x	x	x	Close escrow late August 2021
Total Acres:	3,501							