



**S O N O M A C O U N T Y**

**AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION  
AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT**

**Thursday, September 28, 2017**

***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***  
August 24, 2017
3. **General Manager's Report** ***INFORMATIONAL***
4. **Subcommittee Report Out** ***INFORMATIONAL***
  - Matching Grant Program
  - Agricultural
  - Vital Lands Initiative
5. **Vital Lands Initiative Update** ***INFORMATIONAL***  
Karen Gaffney, Conservation Planning Program Manager  
Alex Roa, Conservation Planning Special Projects Planner
6. **Projects in Negotiation** [Attachment "B"] ***INFORMATIONAL***
7. **Announcements from Advisory Committee Members** ***INFORMATIONAL***
8. **Adjournment** Next Meeting: Field Trip with Fiscal Oversight Commission - October 26, 2017

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

**Future Meeting Topics**  
**(subject to change)**

**10/26/17**

Field Trip with Fiscal Oversight Commission

**11/16/17**

Joint Meeting with Fiscal Oversight Commission

**11/23/17**

Break for Thanksgiving Holiday – No Meeting

**12/14/17**

Ag and Open Space Center Options/Overview

Program Update: Administration & Fiscal

Vital Lands Initiative

RCP

**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*

*August 24, 2017 MINUTES*

5:03 pm Meeting convened at the District office, 747 Mendocino Avenue,  
Suite 100, Santa Rosa, California

**Members Present**

Curt Nichols	Doug Lipton	Bill Smith	Don McEnhill	Halei Trowbridge
Steve Rabinowitsh	John Nagle	Evan Wiig	Cary Fargo	Eddie Smith
John Dell'Osso	Paul Martin	Kristin Thigpen	David Cook	John McChesney

**Members Absent**

Jan McFarland	Tawny Tesconi
Elly Grogan	Neysa Hinton

**Staff Present**

Bill Keene, General Manager; Karen Gaffney, Conservation Planning Program Manager; Alex Roa, Associate Planner; Allison Schichtel, Conservation GIS Analyst; Indigo Bannister, Conservation Planning Technician; Bob Pittman, County Counsel; Aldo Mercado, County Counsel; Verne Ball, County Counsel; Mariah Robson, Advisory Committee Clerk

Chair Dell'Osso called the meeting to order at 5:03 pm.

**Public Comment**

Chair Dell'Osso asked for public comments on items not on the agenda and there were none.

**Approval of Minutes**

Chair Dell'Osso asked for any corrections to the June 22, 2017 minutes. Don McEnhill motioned to approve the minutes as they were. John Nagle seconded the motion. All were in favor of approval, with three abstentions: Kristin Thigpen, Cary Fargo and David Cook.

**General Manager's Report Out**

- The District's request for letters of interest for the Young-Armos Incubator Farm only resulted in one letter from the Center for Land-Based Learning that was a recommendation from Advisory Committee member Paul Martin. However, the Center will not be able to make a proposal at this time. Bill Keene, General Manager, and Sheri Emerson, Stewardship Program Manager, will meet with Leonard Diggs of Shone Farm later next month to discuss the project. The District will continue to seek partners to move this project forward.

- An article on the Sonoma Veg Map was in the Sonoma West Times, the Windsor Times, Healdsburg Tribune and Cloverdale Reveille this week, both online and in print.
- The Sonoma West Times and the Press Democrat featured an article on the bequest of Don Bradley's charitable contribution of over \$200,000 back in July to the District.
- This month the District participated in the Green Festival at the Sonoma County Fair and the Gravenstein Apple Fair and will participate in the Agribusiness BBQ at the end of the month as well as Agrarian Games in September.
- Mr. Keene discussed upcoming Board items: This week the Board, which will extend the contract for another year, approved the District's Outings and Education Contracts. Andy's Unity Park Matching Grant – a joint item with Regional Parks, will go to the Board on September 19, as well as a grant application for sustainable agricultural lands for the Joseph Camozzi Dairy. An Ag easement on the Hansen property will go to the Board in early October. The Mark West properties – Cresta and McCullough, will go to the Board on October 24. The Stewardship Update and Reserve Fund Calculation will go to the Board in November. The draft for the Vital Lands Initiative will go the Board on December 5 and the final will go the Board in mid to late January.
- Mr. Keene welcomed and introduced the newest Advisory Committee member, John McChesney, who will represent the first district on the committee and was appointed by Supervisor Gorin. Mr. McChesney has extensive experience with public broadcasting through National Public Radio. He introduced himself and shared that he is a journalist by trade but has not worked at NPR for eight years now. He still writes for Valley of the Moon and has been very involved in reporting on the the Sonoma Developmental Center. He first came to Sonoma County in 1955 to visit his uncle on Sonoma Mountain and was determined to make his way back to Sonoma County one day. He has lived here now for the past nine years. The Advisory Committee members welcomed Mr. McChesney.
- Mr. Keene introduced the two new youth representatives, Eddie Smith and Halei Trowbridge. Eddie is a senior at Healdsburg High School and is very interested in composting and recycling of waste. He helped start a composting project at the Healdsburg High School that has become very successful. Doug Lipton is his mentor. Halei is a junior at Santa Rosa High School. She has a background in FFA, and lives on a small farm. She is passionate about the environment, agriculture, and conservation. Neysa Hinton will be her mentor. The Advisory Committee members welcomed the youth representatives. Mr. Keene also wanted to acknowledge Amy Ricard, Community Relations Specialist, who put great effort into the recruitment of the youth for the committee and who will work closely with Eddie and Halei.
- Bob Pittman, County Counsel, introduced the new County Counsel staff who will be working with the District and the Advisory Committee. Aldo Mercado will be working with Stewardship and Acquisitions and will be working with the Advisory Committee. Verne Ball will be working with Stewardship and Acquisitions as well, and will be a back up to Mr. Mercado for the Advisory Committee when needed. The Advisory Committee welcomed the new County Counsel staff.  
Members and staff went around the room and introduced themselves to the new Advisory Committee members and new County Counsel staff.

### **Joint Meeting in November with Fiscal Oversight Commission: Discussion**

Karen Gaffney, Conservation Planning Program Manager, recommended that the District's Advisory Committee and Fiscal Oversight Commission have a joint meeting to hear input from the public on the draft Vital Lands Initiative and a follow up discussion based on that input. John Dell'Osso, chair of the Advisory Committee, and Todd Mendoza, chair of the Fiscal Oversight Commission, will co-chair the joint meeting. The date that the District suggested is Thursday,

November 16. The location still needs to be determined. John Nagle motioned to approve the meeting and the date, and John Nagle seconded the motion. A vote was taken and all were in favor with no abstentions.

### **Kristin Thigpen Resolution**

Chair Dell'Osso presented Kristin Thigpen with a resolution of appreciation for serving on the committee since 2009. Ms. Thigpen spoke of her time on the committee and thanked the members and staff. Members and staff spoke as well and gave their farewells to Ms. Thigpen.

### **Subcommittee Report Out**

The District currently has three active subcommittees:

1. Matching Grant Program
2. Agriculture
3. Vital Lands Initiative

The Matching Grant Program Subcommittee has not met recently and there was no report out.

John Nagle, chair of the Advisory Committee Agriculture Subcommittee, gave a report out. They met this afternoon before the meeting and last month. Much of the focus has been on the Vital Lands Initiative and future meeting topics. They have been looking at objectives, strategies, and performance measures in regards to the agricultural component of the VLI.

Vital Lands Initiative Subcommittee combined their report out with the Vital Lands Initiative Update which is the next item.

### **Vital Lands Initiative Update**

Ms. Gaffney explained that the next two Advisory Committee meetings will be focused on VLI, with a detailed review of key elements of the VLI in September. Ms. Gaffney provided an overview of the schedule for completing VLI as well as upcoming and past community outreach. Alex Roa, Conservation Planning Special Projects Planner, described the goals and strategies of the VLI, and Allison Schichtel, Conservation Planning GIS Analyst, detailed the mapping data.

The PowerPoint presentation is available at the District upon request or you can contact Karen Gaffney or Alex Roa with any questions.

### **Projects in Negotiations**

Mr. Keene stated that Andy's Unity Park will go to the Board in September and Hansen will go in October.

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

#### **Don McEnhill**

September 16 is the California Coastal Clean Up Day. The clean-ups will be taking place all over Tomales Bay, the coast, and the Russian River watershed. There are 70 clean-up sites in total, and that doesn't include the creek week clean-ups in the cities.

#### **Kristin Thigpen**

The Parks Foundation and Regional Parks will have their annual Spring Lake Water Bark at the Spring Lake Swimming Lagoon on the following weekends: September 9-10, 23-24 and 30-October 1 from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. It is \$5 per dog to get in for park members and \$7 per dog for non-members.

Steve Rabinowitsh

The Sonoma County Community Foundation gave a \$250,000 grant to the Sonoma Land Trust for purchase of the Southeast Greenway and the EIR for the Project has been released by the City of Santa Rosa. It will be reviewed on September 14 by their Planning Commission.

**Adjournment:** 6:47 pm. Chair Dell'osso adjourned the meeting in thanks to Kristin Thigpen's years of service to the Committee.

Next scheduled meeting date: September 28, 2017

Respectfully submitted,

Mariah Robson,  
Advisory Committee Secretary

PROJECT	Acreage (approximate)		Supervisory District	Acquisition Plan Category	Project Design				Comments
					Appraisal Process	Approvals/Baseline	Escrow		
Arrowhead Ranch (Maas)	245	2	Farms & Ranches	x				On hold at request of owner	
Cresta 3	46	1	Recreation & Education	x	x	x		Offer accepted	
Donnell	909	1	Greenbelts & Scenic Hillside	x				Appraisal underway	
Gloekner-Turner Ranch	3,364	5	Water, Wildlife & Natural Areas	x				Project design	
Hansen Ranch (McClelland)	330	2	Farms & Ranches	x	x	x		Offer accepted	
Joseph Camozzi Dairy	403	2	Farms & Ranches					Project design	
Lafranconi	211	5	Greenbelts & Scenic Hillside	x				On hold at request of owner	
Mattos Dairy	866	2	Farms & Ranches	x				Appraisal underway	
Rips Redwoods	1,620	5	Water, Wildlife & Natural Areas	x	x			FOC approval June 1, 2017. Offer made.	
Sonoma Developmental Center 5 (Transfor	945	1	Greenbelts & Scenic Hillside					Resource assessment underway	
Terrilinda Dairy	175	2	Greenbelts & Scenic Hillside	x				On hold at request of owner	
Weeks Ranch (Rasmason)	1,372	1	Water, Wildlife & Natural Areas	x				CE under negotiation	
Wendle	47	1	Recreation & Education	x	x	x	x	Board approved 12/6/16 - in escrow to close	

Total Acres: 10,533

Matching Grant Projects	Acreeage (approximate)	Supervisory District	Location	Begin Grant Process	Appraisal Process	Approvals/Baseline	Escrow	Comments
Andy's Unity Park	4	5	Southwest Santa Rosa	x				Board approved 9/19/2017
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
Creekside Park, Phase 1A	4**	5	Monte Rio	x	n/a	x	x	Reimbursement ongoing
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	n/a			Initiating project
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				Drafting documents
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
Sebastopol Skategarden Expansion	1	5	Sebastopol	x	n/a	x	x	Tracking match
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	Reimbursement ongoing
Steamer Landing Park Development (McNe	27**	2	Downtown Petaluma	x	n/a			Initiating project

Total Acres: 128



Project Status Chart

Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District

9/22/2017

\* District approved a 2-year extension

\*\* Restoration/Development Project on previous acquisition.