MINUTES
ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
HUMBOLDT BAY HARBOUR, RECREATION AND CONSERVATION DISTRICT

January 24, 2013

PRESENT
Commissioner Dale
Commissioner Wilson
Commissioner Marks
Commissioner Higgins

ABSENT
Commissioner Newman

President Wilson called the Executive Closed Session to order at 6:00 p.m.

President Wilson adjourned the Executive Closed Session at 7:00 p.m.

President Wilson called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners to order at 7:07 p.m.

President Wilson led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

District Counsel reported on the Executive Closed Session as follows: Freshwater Tissue Company property purchase negotiations – no action to report.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kim McCollough, a liveaboard tenant of Woodley Island Marina, said she wanted to voice a few inadequacies she feels are present in the existing facilities; namely, the availability of one tenant shower not being adequate for all females living on the Island, and men occasionally using the women’s restrooms. Mrs. McCollough stated an appointment is required to use the boat pump-out; she encouraged the District to review portable pump-outs to possibly ease the strain on the existing facilities.

Melvin Wright, owner of Wright RV Sales, reported RV parks along the West Coast reap a fair amount of income if planned well; he encouraged the Board to continue in its RV Park plans.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Commissioner Marks reported Commissioner Dale’s Report in the December 6, 2012 minutes should reflect Commissioner Higgins went to Shelter Cove with Commissioner Dale and CEO.

Susan Penn said her comment in Item 11a of the December 06, 2012 Minutes should read that she would like the Board to consider a floating hotel at Woodley Island Marina instead of a regular land hotel.

COMMISSIONER HIGGINS MOVED FOR APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR WITH CORRECTIONS. COMMISSIONER MARKS SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT.

CEO asked President Wilson to change the order of the reports for this meeting.

DISTRICT COUNSEL REPORT: None
COMMISSIONER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Dale

- Met with the RV Park Subcommittee yesterday and discussed many things, including Eureka's City Code and the protection of Woodley Island Marina primarily for commercial fishing tenants. Reported George Williamson of Planwest Partners Inc. proposed text amendment protects the commercial fishermen even more.

  Ken Bates stated he believes the City Code and the revisions in the 1980's adequately protect commercial fishermen.

  Commissioner Higgins said the RV Park Subcommittee is productive and dynamic.

Commissioner Dale reported he wants to discuss the quantity and quality of the facilities on Woodley Island with Commissioner Higgins and Director of Facility Maintenance.

Director of Facility Maintenance stated the topic comes up two or three times per year, usually around January and July when the Marina is close or at maximum capacity; said there have been a few options considered and they will be brought to CEO.

Ken Bates reported he would like there to be more structure at the RV Park Subcommittee meetings, possibly with an agenda. Commissioner Higgins stated he likes that idea.

Susan Penn said when committees exist, there are usually action items; reported there is no one taking notes and she is concerned the ideas being discussed will be overlooked.

Commissioner Dale stated the Commission is looking for ways to increase Marina revenue; said Ms. Penn has been actively researching ideas.

Commissioner Wilson requested another RV Park Subcommittee meeting with an agenda; reported the Marina loses about $500,000 per year. Commissioner Wilson asked Ken Bates if he felt the wording in the City’s Code is thorough enough for protecting fishermen.

Ken Bates reported that he does believe the wording is sufficient and that it has been slightly modified since the 1976 Permit; stated the City of Eureka and the California Coastal Commission had a lot of influence on the language and that it exists nowhere else. Mr. Bates reiterated that the Humboldt Fishermen’s Marketing Association feels the language is adequate and precise.

Commissioner Wilson said Commissioner Dale feels the proposed amendment written by Mr. Williamson makes the protection stronger.

Ken Bates reported the Association did a multiple-page critique on this topic; when a presentation was made to the Humboldt Fishermen’s Marketing Association, it was said that City's online code differed from the printed version. Mr. Bates stated this is not so.

*Commissioner Wilson asked that Ken Bates' letter dated March 28, 2013, on Humboldt Fishermen's Marketing Association letterhead, be attached to these minutes.

Commissioner Wilson reported the next time the RV Park Subcommittee meets the agenda should include these issues.
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Commissioner Wilson

- Met with CEO and Schotz Energy Research representatives regarding a national energy research center at the pulp mill site.
- Attended the Cascadia Leadership Conference with CEO; has already had an opportunity to use some of the skills acquired.
- Met with Lori Richmond’s HSU Planning Practicum class, who is weighing class projects; they are considering a class project on Fields Landing planning.
- Stated the District’s budget process will start next month; Commissioners Dale and Marks volunteered to be on the Budget Committee.
- Said there has been a lot of community discussion regarding the Harbor and trains, but no one on the Board is a representative to the various rail committees; reported Commissioner Marks is going to be the District’s liaison to these committees. Commissioner Higgins volunteered to be Commissioner Marks’ alternate.

Commissioner Marks

- Attended the Prosperity planning meeting and noticed that while there are many items in their documents about Humboldt Bay, the District Board has not been approached for any information or support; reported the two groups need to work parallel.
- Reported the recent cold weather temporarily interrupted water service in Samoa.

Commissioner Higgins

- Does not feel there is enough business to justify the cost of an East-West railroad.
- Attended a productive North Coast Local Agency Coastal Coordination Committee (NCLACCC) meeting to discuss the potential four million dollars in grant funds coming to the North Coast for MPA monitoring; reported the goal should be to conserve the stocks, but maintain access to fish. Said there must be data collected, especially on Pacific Halibut; stated people will come from around the world if the area’s quota of Halibut is increased.
- Has not caught any steelhead after six trips.

Commissioner Dale

- Stated Roy Curless, former Commissioner, fell and injured himself; Mr. Curless is being treated at UC Davis hospital; all wished Roy a speedy recovery.

CEO REPORT

- Reported Cascadia Leadership training was intense and will be valuable.
- Said HSU’s Schotz Lab is a part of possible revenue potential from Freshwater Tissue; there are many opportunities and funding for research.
- Had discussions regarding recent activities bringing rock from quarries and shipping into the Bay Area.
- Has been in negotiations with representatives of Freshwater Tissue; spent a good deal of time with Jim Lund, who knows the facility well. Stated the costs will be higher than initially expected. Reported two aquaculture consultants visited the area to consider development; Ted Kuiper has been the spearhead.
- Regarding the possible Woodley Island RV Park: Susan Penn has been spending a good deal of time trying to understand costs and coming up with ideas; Ms. Penn is realizing there are challenges and a limited amount of options.
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STAFF REPORTS

Director of Administrative Services

❖ Has been training with District office staff on the new marina management software.
❖ Stated the 6-month budget and December 2012 financial reports are in the Board’s packets.

Director of Conservation

❖ Attended the NCLACC meeting.
❖ Is participating in an advisory capacity on the Sea Level Rise committee.
❖ Attended training for storm water sampling that will have to take place at Shelter Cove; this will assist Staff in deciding if it will be more effective to contract this sampling out or have Staff do it.
❖ Stated Aldaron Laird’s report has been completed and should be on the District’s website in the next few days.
❖ Reported there is a link on the District’s website for a sampling plan for the King Salmon Canal dredging.

Director of Facility Maintenance

❖ Said the Marina is at full capacity.
❖ Has been working on Redwood Marine Terminal Berth 1.
❖ Hauled a derelict boat out of the water.
❖ Has been working on remodeling the front entryway to the District office with recessed lighting and new vinyl.

Bar Pilot John Powell

❖ Has been assisting NOAA with PORTS work.
❖ Assisted hauling a derelict boat out of the water.
❖ Reported the Del Norte Pier was hit on December 29.
❖ Stated on January 8 a delegation was in the area from China; took them on a tour of Humboldt Bay.
❖ Said the cruise ship is due February 22.

NON AGENDA: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS

A. CONSIDERATION OF GRANTING PERMIT FOR USE OF WOODLEY ISLAND TO WIYOT TRIBE FOR THEIR CANDLELIGHT VIGIL CEREMONY.

COMMISSIONER MARKS MOVED FOR APPROVAL OF GRANTING PERMIT FOR USE OF WOODLEY ISLAND TO WIYOT TRIBE FOR THEIR CANDLELIGHT VIGIL CEREMONY. COMMISSIONER DALE SECONDED.

Commissioner Wilson reported this event has occurred annually on Woodley Island for ten years and hopes the public attends; it is related to the massacre at Indian Island.

MOTION CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT.
B. CONSIDERATION OF COST SHARE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NATIONAL MARINE RESEARCH AND INDUSTRIAL PARK CONCEPT.

CEO stated there is a joint financial effort for the $10,500 required for the white paper and conceptual for the possible acquisition and use of Freshwater Tissue property between HSU, the Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District and the Harbor District.

COMMISSIONER HIGGINS MOVED FOR APPROVAL OF COST SHARE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NATIONAL MARINE RESEARCH AND INDUSTRIAL PARK CONCEPT. COMMISSIONER MARKS SECONDED.

Commissioner Wilson said there are three parts to the Freshwater Tissue use: multi-use dock for general cargo, access to upland property with potential tenants already approaching the District, and national marine research. Commissioner Wilson stated aquaculture and energy research are often linked, such as in Hawaii.

CEO stated Commissioner Wilson and he will sit down with Greenway Partners to discuss.

MOTION CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT.

C. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

COMMISSIONER HIGGINS MOVED FOR NOMINATION OF COMMISSIONER WILSON FOR PRESIDENT, COMMISSIONER MARKS FOR VICE-PRESIDENT AND COMMISSIONER HIGGINS FOR SECRETARY. COMMISSIONER DALE SECONDED.

Commissioner Marks said Commissioner Wilson has done a great job as President; there are many things the District is working on and the thought of changing leadership in the middle of these projects does not sound productive.

MOTION CARRIED WITH DISSENT.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND EMERGENCY PERMITS: None

President Wilson adjourned the Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners at 8:17 P.M.

APPROVED BY:  

Patrick Higgins  
Secretary

RECORDED BY:  

Kim Farrell  
Clerk
March 28, 2013

Request to amend the minutes of the Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation, and Conservation District for the January 24, 2013 public meeting.

Ken Bates stated that he believes the City-Code City’s LCP Text for public facilities/marina zoning and the revision in the 1980’s adequately protect commercial fishermen, while the district’s proposed text amendment does not.

Ken Bates reported that he does believe the wording in the City L.C.P. Zoning description for public facilities/marina zoning at Woodley Island is sufficient and that it has been slightly modified since the 1976 permit: stated the City of Eureka and the California Coastal Commission had a lot of influence on the language in LCP description of public facilities/marina zoning and that it exists nowhere else in the City LCP document. Mr. Bates reiterated that the Humboldt Fishermen’s Marketing Association feels the language is adequate.

Commissioner Wilson asked Ken Bates if he felt the proposed amendment strengthened protection for the fishing fleet.

Ken Bates said that the proposed text amendment does not strengthen protections for the fishing fleet. Ken Bates reported the Association did a multiple page critique on this topic. When a presentation was made by Commissioner Wilson the Humboldt Fishermen’s Marketing Association, Commissioner Wilson said that the City’s online code differed from the printed version. Mr. Bates stated this was not so, another H.F.M.A. board member obtained certified signed copies of the code and provided those to the District for inspection.