

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
HUMBOLDT BAY HARBOR, RECREATION AND CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

January 8, 2015

PRESENT:

Commissioner Newman
Commissioner Dale
Commissioner Marks
Commissioner Wilson

ABSENT:

Commissioner Higgins

President Marks called the Executive Closed Session to order at 6:02 p.m.

President Marks adjourned the Executive Closed Session at 6:55 p.m.

President Marks called the regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners to order at 7:03 p.m.

President Marks led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

District Counsel reported on the Executive Closed Session as follows: Status of Conference with Real Property Negotiators for Exclusive Right To Negotiate with Sustainable World Solutions, LLC for the Redwood Terminal 2 property and Freshwater Tissue Company Notice of Retaining Parcel C per the Option Agreement – No action taken on these items. Threatened Litigation – Nixon Peabody and Freshwater Tissue Company – No action taken.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kent Sawatzky said the Mad River Hatchery opened; the spillway is down and the fish are going home. He also talked about the lawsuit filed by EPIC precluding intermingling of fish at the hatchery.

Karen Brooks thanked the District for moving forward with restructuring the District's website. Ms. Brooks also announced a Harbor Working Group meeting on January 28th at the Samoa Cookhouse. Bob Merrill from the California Coastal Commission will be the guest speaker.

Pete Oringer, representing Timber Heritage Association (THA), said he was pleasantly surprised at the new website layout. Mr. Oringer reported the goal of the THA Board is to enter into an option agreement to acquire the buildings below the Samoa Cookhouse. Michael O'Hern will be on site on January 19th to survey the property. Mr. O'Hern will also flag other parts of the property that could be part of the option agreement.

CONSENT CALENDAR: None

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- ❖ Reported the refinancing of the 2004 Harbor Deepening bond and the Department of Boating and Waterways loan is complete; lower interest rate, no annual fees and a reduced term.
- ❖ Announced the District's new staff: Deputy Director Adam Wagschal, Bookkeeper Peggy Mecham-Carlotti, Harbor Maintenance Worker III Steve Stachel and Harbor Maintenance Worker I Robert Provoit.
- ❖ Bruce Conner, cruise ship consultant, reported by phone on items he has been working on: discussion of use of Schneider Dock, transportation from/to cruise ship, local shore excursion proposals, US Customs and Border Protection, Cruise the West, Response to the Letter to the

Minutes

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Editor, Planning another visit to Eureka at the end of January, 2017 Berth Request for the MV *EUROPEAN* on May 7, 2017.

Pete Oringer asked Mr. Conner if he had talked with Tony at the Humboldt County Visitors and Convention Bureau and suggested Mr. Conner attend their quarterly meeting on January 28th. He said making quality experienced and financially reasonable decisions is the first order of business, but helping local merchants benefit from cruise ship visits is also important.

- ❖ Adam Wagschal, HT Harvey & Associates, gave an update on the Mariculture Pre-Permitting Project. Mr. Wagschal stated there are two categories of efforts: 1) permitting and 2) site lessees. On site lessees, currently the committee is ranking the proposals and will meet next week to discuss. Executive Director said a few of the ranking sheets from the committee are in and how to make the selections and divide up the sites will be interesting. He also spoke on the water quality sampling, which must be done during inclement weather – most likely January – May, October and November.

Executive Director stated a few of the ranking sheets are in and the committee is fairly close in their ranking of the proposers. It must still be determined how to make the selections and divide up the sites.

Mr. Wagschal also reported that regulatory agencies met to discuss the environmental concerns of Coast Seafoods Company's Humboldt Bay Shellfish Permit Renewal; concentration is on eelgrass effects.

Commissioner Dale reported there will be a CA Shellfish Initiative meeting on January 28 and 29 at Humboldt State University. He asked Mr. Wagschal to make a presentation on the mariculture pre-permitting project.

STAFF REPORTS:

Director of Facility Maintenance

- ❖ CalFire workers are set to demolish the "lean-to" at Redwood Terminal 2.
- ❖ The dredge has been newly painted – CalFire workers helped with the painting.
- ❖ The gravel area at the Fields Landing Boat Yard is being fenced to make more space for boats – CalFire, again, is assisting with the fencing of the yard.
- ❖ The crane at Redwood Marine Terminal Berth 1 will be fully operational within days.

Director of Harbor Operations

- ❖ Redwood Marine Terminal Berth 1 has new storage area outside Building 3 – 12 spaces, 20'x30'.
- ❖ Buoy 2 of the PORTS program is again working.
- ❖ California Redwood Company is expecting five chip ships in 2015.
- ❖ California Redwood Company and Humboldt Bay dock owners are concerned with shoaling. Corps of Engineers will be here to do soundings – the survey boat will be here later this month.

District Planner

- ❖ Currently reviewing bathymetric information for the dredging of 13 bay docks and Woodley Island Marina. Receiving good cooperation from the City of Eureka.
- ❖ Working with Director of Facility Maintenance to GPS mark and locate the storm drains and plugs at Redwood Terminal 2 for reporting to Regional Water Quality Control Board, at their request.
- ❖ Working on the District's land parcel inventory, which will become a part of the District's asset inventory.

DISTRICT COUNSEL REPORT

- ❖ Reported he attended an Anderson City Council meeting where they said the Pledge of Allegiance and had a five minute invocation.

COMMISSIONER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Commissioner Newman:

- ❖ Unfortunately, crab season will be a short one this year.

Commissioner Dale:

- ❖ Was in Sacramento today at an aquaculture development meeting
- ❖ Ventura Harbor District is developing a mariculture pre-permitting project like the Harbor District's.
- ❖ There will be a CA Shellfish Initiative meeting at Humboldt State University January 28 and 29.

Commissioner Marks:

- ❖ On a tour of Redwood Terminal 2, he was surprised to see the "lean-to" removed – the area was very clean and it was a job well done.

Commissioner Wilson:

- ❖ As a subcommittee of the Board, he met with Commissioner Dale to talk about standards related to dioxin testing in Humboldt Bay.
- ❖ Was on TalkShop today.

NON AGENDA: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS

A. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF CONTRACT TO HIRE ADAM WAGSCHAL AS THE DISTRICT'S DEPUTY DIRECTOR.

COMMISSIONER NEWMAN MOVED FOR THE APPROVAL OF CONTRACT TO HIRE ADAM WAGSCHAL AS THE DISTRICT'S DEPUTY DIRECTOR. COMMISSIONER DALE SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT.

B. CONSIDERATION OF STATE LANDS LEASE – MULTIPLE TIDELAND PARCELS – SPARTINA CONTROL.

Executive Director reported this is a standard lease with the same lease conditions the Board and staff are familiar with. A State Lands lease is their version of a permit. Spartina control is widely needed in Mad River and Eel River salt marshes.

Karen Brooks said she has no problem with the removal of Spartina; but is concerned that native species should be colonized when non-native species are removed.

Adam Wagschal, HT Harvey & Associates, said incorporated in the lease is an adaptive management approach. No active revegetation is done now. If natural revegetation does not occur, planting will be done; monitoring is a big part of the program.

COMMISSIONER WILSON MOVED FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE STATE LANDS LEASE -- MULTIPLE TIDELAND PARCELS – SPARTINA CONTROL. COMMISSIONER DALE SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT.

C. CONSIDERATION OF HUMBOLDT BAY MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT LEASE.

Executive Director reported the Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District (HBMWD) has a tideland lease for the pipeline under the Mad River Slough. The lease is for 25 years and HBMWD has offered a forklift valued at \$4,875 for the lease payment.

District Counsel stated the current installation of the water line and lease expired; there was no charge previously for the lease. HBMWD has a surplus forklift that they wanted to give to the District, but could not because it would be a gift of public funds. Therefore, they have offered it as payment for the lease.

COMMISSIONER NEWMAN MOVED FOR THE APPROVAL OF HUMBOLDT BAY MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT LEASE. COMMISSIONER DALE SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT.

D. CONSIDERATION OF IN-KIND MATCH OF \$50,000 TOWARD HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY'S CAL-ENERGY COMMISSION GRANT.

Professor Andrea Achilli is developing a new desalination system, Reverse Osmosis-Pressure Retarded Osmosis, which will turn seawater into drinkable water. He has received two grants for a four-year period for a total of \$50,000.

The District will provide a 12' x 12' space for a trailer and storage tanks, utilities and staff time to equal \$12,500/yr. for four years.

Galen O'Toole presented "Osmotically Driven Membrane Process for Seawater Desalination" to the Board of Commissioners explaining the project and its benefits. He said they are appreciative of the ability to set up shop at Redwood Terminal 2; it is potentially a good future site for ongoing research.

COMMISSIONER DALE MOVED FOR THE APPROVAL OF IN-KIND MATCH OF \$50,000 TOWARD HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY'S CAL-ENERGY COMMISSION GRANT. COMMISSIONER WILSON SECONDED.

Karen Brooks asked what kind of name recognition will be available for the Harbor District. Advertising? Logo?

Mr. O'Toole said the project will be presented in the scientific community in publications. This will be the first pilot project of this type in the United States, the second in the World – there will be much notoriety.

Executive Director said once the project is set up and established, other researchers will come. The hope is that it will be so successful, the costs will be covered.

District benefits will be: a partnership with Humboldt State University, Future research opportunities – Establishes research destination, infrastructure additions, water withdrawal and discharge permits and out of town visitors benefits area hotels and restaurants.

MOTION CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT.

E. DISCUSSION OF ENHANCED SAMOA TRAILS MAINTENANCE ASSESSMENT.

District Planner reported the County of Humboldt Public Works has initiated a project for trail enhancement for the town of Samoa and is applying for state funds. A public entity is needed to hold the easements and there are costs associated with the maintenance. Is the Harbor District interested in holding and maintaining the easements? If the Samoa Community Services District is created, the easements could be conveyed to that agency.

District Counsel asked why the County of Humboldt doesn't hold the easements. District Planner stated simply the County does not want to hold the easements.

Executive Director stated the public loves trails; but the maintenance costs always "get you". The costs are very expensive and often there is no stable source of revenue.

District Counsel stated there are also liability issues if the District is required to maintain the trails.

President Marks instructed staff to bring back more information to the Board for consideration.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND EMERGENCY PERMITS: None.

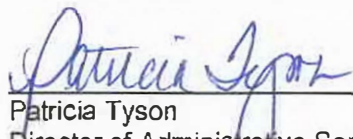
The Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

APPROVED BY:



Greg Dale
Secretary

RECORDED BY:



Patricia Tyson
Director of Administrative Services