

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

March 5, 2014

PRESENT:

Commissioner Marks
Commissioner Wilson
Commissioner Higgins
Commissioner Newman
Commissioner Dale

President Marks called the Executive Closed Session to order at 6:00 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 7:05 p.m.

President Marks asked the Sea Scouts to lead those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

District Counsel reported out of the Executive Closed Session as follows: Conference with Labor Negotiator: no action taken; Conference with Real Property Negotiator: no action taken.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

CONSENT CALENDAR: None

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT:

- ❖ Redwood Terminal 2 Cleanup: Washington Department Of Ecology approves variance to accept chemicals; test liquors (30k gallons) and Hydrochloric acid shipped; EPA/KapStone Consent to Access and Receipt of Pulping Liquors awaiting signatures; Foss Barge mobilization cost increases from \$226K to \$500K due to modifications; Port of Longview dockage cost at \$810,000; Total barge cost \$2.4M; Truck RFP low bidder \$1,680,000; First 200 trucks on EPA contract; if barge costs cannot be resolved, second 400 trucks on Harbor District contract; staff will distribute a RFP for trucking services soon.

STAFF REPORTS

Director of Conservation

- ❖ Public Scoping Meeting for Mariculture Pre-Permitting Project held March 4, 2014.
- ❖ Contract with RCAA to coordinate Spartina Eradication is in place.
- ❖ Attended Pulp Mill and Aquaponics tour with CA Department of Fish & Wildlife staff on March 4, 2014.
- ❖ Dock block washed ashore on Samoa Peninsula. The existing grant will help cover debris removal costs.
- ❖ Attended a field tour with NOAA grant staff this morning for marine debris/dock block removal.
- ❖ Wiyot Tribe planning to hold first World Renewal Ceremony at Tuluwat Village since 1864 Massacre.

Director of Facilities Maintenance: Reported on Sea Scouts activities as follows:

- ❖ The Sea Scout's attendance was significantly down when they first started meeting again, but with help from the Skipper they were able to recruit quite a few new members.
- ❖ Slide presentation to display the Sea Scouts' recent adventures.
- ❖ Brian Enloe "Skipper" extended gratitude to the Harbor District and to the Commodores; presented appreciation plaque to the Harbor District.

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DISTRICT COUNSEL REPORT: None

STAFF REPORT:

District Planner Report

- ❖ Reported that Jacqueline Debets, County of Humboldt, was a big help with the application for the CDBG Grant; sent correspondence letter to Timber Heritage Association (THA) to see what they could do to help; the County's General Plan includes the redesignation of Samoa Shops to commercial recreation; reported the petition was filed and that he feels optimistic about it; Timber Heritage Association may designate a volunteer to help navigate the process as well.
- ❖ Commissioner Wilson wanted to make sure that District Planner was keeping track of his work time used to help the THA. District Planner stated that he is in constant communication with the THA and has not spent much time thus far. CEO confirmed. Commissioner Wilson suggested that District Planner's time might be a credit toward the lease.
- ❖ Reported that he is making progress with the Water Trails administrative draft CEQA document, which will be reviewed in two weeks; the three part Coastal Development Permit process includes the Peninsula Boat Launch, Arcata CDP Application at South G Street, and Marina CDP Application.

COMMISSIONER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Newman:

- ❖ Reported he attended the Harbor Working Group meeting on Wednesday. The Timber Heritage Association President made a presentation.

Commissioner Dale:

- ❖ Reported that he spent the last week in Washington D.C., spoke with Longview area shellfish representatives about the Redwood Terminal 2 activities; he feels they were supportive.
- ❖ Commended Jack Crider for all of his hard work on the Redwood Terminal 2 project and gave him a hat with an FBI logo on it, stating it was for his drives in the "cop car."
- ❖ Attended the Public Scoping Meeting for the Mariculture Pre Permitting and thought they did an excellent job informing everyone.

Commissioner Marks:

- ❖ Attended the Public Scoping Meeting for the Mariculture Pre-Permitting Project.
- ❖ Also attended the New Harbor Committee Meeting, where they discussed the possibility of cruise ships coming to Humboldt Bay, docking on the Eureka side and using a "speeder car" from there into town.
- ❖ Reported Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District may use a rail right of way when building a pipeline from Mad River to San Francisco.
- ❖ Attended the North Coast Rail Authority Property Meeting where they finalized a deal with Trail Project in Ukiah.

Commissioner Wilson:

- ❖ Attended the New Harbor Committee Meeting; asked if Commissioner Marks would switch roles making Commissioner Wilson the Alternate and Commissioner Marks the Actual Member; Commissioner Marks agreed.
- ❖ Reported that the Wiyot World Renewal Ceremony will be held at the end of the week.

Commissioner Higgins:

- ❖ Attended the Economic Development Committee Meeting February 10, 2014; the meeting recordings are available on Access Humboldt.

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- ❖ Reported that he was happy about the Timber Heritage Association moving forward on permits.
- ❖ Attended the Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District meeting; hopes that the HBMWD and the Harbor District can find ways to help each other.
- ❖ Caught a steelhead.
- ❖ 15-30,000 Chinook Salmon returned this year.

NON-AGENDA: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS

A. CONSIDERATION OF AGREEMENT FOR DREDGING AND TRANSFER OF FISHERMAN'S CHANNEL.

CEO reported PG&E would fund the dredge permitting, provide \$2 million to the District for purchase and operation of the dredge, and transfer ownership of the Fisherman's Channel to the District; the District will perform one-time dredging of Fisherman's Channel, repair the breakwater wall, and accept the transfer of ownership.

COMMISSIONER DALE MOVED FOR APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT FOR DREDGING AND TRANSFER OF FISHERMAN'S CHANNEL. COMMISSIONER NEWMAN SECONDED.

Commissioner Wilson was concerned about the transfer of property issues.

Alison Talbot, Local Government Representative for PG&E, reported that this is a terrific example of a public/private partnership and it benefits the community. She thanked the District for its leadership and said PG&E will continue to communicate with King Salmon residents by sending out a notification on the vote and by meeting with them to answer any questions or concerns.

Chet Albin, Eureka City Council, voiced that he was excited about the partnership and supports this transaction.

MOTION CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT.

B. CONSIDERATION OF LEASE AGREEMENT WITH AGRIMARINE HOLDINGS INC. FOR AQUAPONICS DEMONSTRATION PROJECT.

CEO stated that the interested party, AgriMarine Holdings Inc., is back and has submitted a proposal to the Harbor District. He reported that Ted Kuiper has been very valuable in the process. It is a two-year lease agreement, no cost, and AgriMarine will pick up all of the out of pocket expenses and will renew the Aquaponics Pilot Project Permit.

Ted Kuiper, Community Volunteer in Aquaculture, did background and reference checks on proposing parties, approving AgriMarine.

Commissioner Marks thanked Ted Kuiper for all of his hard work.

Robert Zack, U.S. Business Developer for AgriMarine, stated that AgriMarine is very interested in leasing the existing Aquaponics Green House. They are looking to create initially a demonstration project, which will turn into a complete 5-10 acre project, and hire a local workforce providing all funding necessary. They are focused on the Redwood Marine Terminal Berth 1 site. The final project will produce both fish and produce, utilizing the aquaponics method of farming.

Commissioner Marks stated there would be well over 150 local workers employed by the project, which would be very beneficial to the community.

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Commissioner Wilson voiced his concern that the project would continue to run and asked when AgriMarine would begin their project. Mr. Zack stated that AgriMarine would like to start in less than six months.

CEO confirmed that it should be up and running within a month or two.

Commissioner Wilson was concerned about the no-cost lease not holding anyone accountable to keep the project going.

Commissioner Higgins stated that he thought it was the capitalistic interest that would keep things going and is confident that there will be a market.

CEO stated that lease terms will be communicated to the Commissioners.

Commissioner Wilson was concerned about a large company coming in versus a smaller, local company.

COMMISSIONER HIGGINS MOVED FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE LEASE AGREEMENT WITH AGRIMARINE HOLDING INC. FOR AQUAPONICS DEMONSTRATION PROJECT. COMMISSIONER NEWMAN SECONDED.

Commissioner Marks stated that this agreement would create jobs and knowing that it will create commerce makes the project very worthwhile to the community.

Commissioner Dale stated that he appreciates all the people that helped put this deal together and thinks that moving forward with the agreement is a good idea.

Commissioner Wilson thanked the Headwaters Fund for funding the project.

Luke Besner, also a lease proposer for the Aquaponics project, stated that he was wary about a big company coming in, but is now excited about it. He is concerned about higher paying jobs being scarce as well as diseased crops hurting the project if only one type of crop is being grown. He thinks that growing the right types of crops could in turn help support other local businesses. He hopes to make sure that the interests of our community are kept at the highest priority.

Tim Ross, aquaculture volunteer, thinks that there is no detriment at all to this deal and hopes to move ahead rapidly.

MOTION CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT.

C. CONSIDERATION OF HIRING Z & Z MARINE TO INSPECT DREDGE EQUIPMENT IN OREGON.

CEO reported that the District distributed an RFP for the purchase of dredge equipment and received six responses. Two proposals were for equipment located in Oregon. He stated that the cost would not exceed his spending limit. Surveys on both vessels, recommendation from Z&Z Marine and a report from Commissioner Newman will all be available at the next Board Meeting.

Commissioner Marks thanked Z&Z Marine for their participation.

D. CONSIDERATION OF AGREEMENT AND PERMIT TO BRIAN SAXTON DBA, HUMBOAT KAYAK ADVENTURES.

COMMISSIONER DALE MOVED FOR THE APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT AND PERMIT TO BRIAN SAXTON, DBA, HUMBOAT KAYAK ADVENTURES. COMMISSIONER HIGGINS SECONDED.

CEO reported Humboats yearly payment to the District is roughly \$6,100.00. This is a transfer of lease and Mr. Saxton is waiting for Escrow to close.

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Brian Saxton, new owner of Humboats, stated that he is excited and intends to maintain the integrity of the business and thanked the District.

MOTION CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT.

E. CONSIDERATION OF PULP MILL BLIGHT DESIGNATION FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT AND PROVIDING \$5000 CASH MATCH.

CEO reported that the County of Humboldt will designate the Pulp Mill site as blighted; EDA Grant requires a match and CEO is very glad that Community Development Block Grant has been made available; \$100,000 Community Development Block Grant and \$150,000 EDA Grant to develop the Pulp Mill site property.

COMMISSIONER HIGGINS MOTIONED FOR THE APPROVAL OF PULP MILL BLIGHT DESIGNATION FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT AND PROVIDING \$5000.00 CASH MATCH.
COMMISSIONER NEWMAN SECONDED.

Commissioner Higgins said he appreciates the County's support.

MOTION CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND EMERGENCY PERMITS:

Director of Conservation reported the District issued an Administrative Permit to the Department of Fish and Wildlife for the placement of crab larvae trap at Woodley Island Marina. A small trap monitors the abundance of crab larvae for a few months.

An Emergency Permit was granted to Englund Marine for replacement of some of their pilings.

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

APPROVED BY:


Greg Dale
Secretary

RECORDED BY:


Megan Smith
Clerk