



AGENDA ITEM 5A

JULY 15, 2015
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. in the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors Chamber, with Chair Bass presiding.

2. FLAG SALUTE

3. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Virginia Bass, Estelle Fennell, Gordon Johnson, Robert McPherson, Troy Nicolini, Bruce Rupp, and Alternate Public Member Skip Jorgensen

Commissioners Absent: Sue Long

Staff: George Williamson, Executive Officer
Colette Metz, Administrator

4. PUBLIC APPEARANCES

None

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

A) Approval of May 20, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion Fennell/ Johnson to approve the consent calendar. The motion was passed by a vote of 6-0-0.

6. BUSINESS ITEMS

A) Approval of Conducting Authority Proceedings for the Formation of the Fruitland Ridge Fire Protection District

Executive Officer Williamson summarized the staff report and reported on the outcome of the protest hearing, which was held at the Fruitland Ridge Fire Hall. At the closing of the hearing, only one landowner protest was filed. Mr. Williamson commented on the level of outreach and support for district formation and interest to serve on the Board of Directors.

Motion Fennell/ Nicolini to adopt Resolution No. 15-06, approving the Conducting Authority Proceedings for the Formation of the Fruitland Ridge Fire Protection District and directing the Executive Officer to work with County election officials in preparation of an appropriate ballot measure, including preparation of an impartial analysis for the measure. The motion was passed by a roll call vote of 6-0-0.

B) Time Extension for Garberville Sanitary District Annexation Project

Executive Officer Williamson summarized the staff report and noted that a time extension is necessary for the satisfaction of conditions, including submittal of a final map and geographic description, prior to recordation of a Certificate of Completion.

Motion Fennell/ McPherson to adopt Resolution No. 15-07, approving a one year time extension for the Annexation of Garberville Water Company Serviced Properties to the Garberville Sanitary District. The motion was passed by a roll call vote of 6-0-0.

7. PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

A) Proposed Annexation of Fire Service Out of District Good Will Response Areas and Areas Served by Water & Wastewater to the Fieldbrook-Glendale Community Services District

Administrator Metz summarized the staff report and described the proposed sphere amendment and corresponding annexation of approximately 3,244 acres of land located outside the boundaries that is currently served by the F-GCSD, with a concurrent detachment of approximately 301 acres from the Arcata FPD. Ms. Metz explained that the F-GCSD's existing special tax on property, applied at a rate of \$75 per parcel within the district, would be extended to all property within the proposed annexation area with exception of Area 5 (served by the Blue Lake FPD), and that a property tax exchange agreement was in progress with the County.

Chair Bass opened the public hearing and invited public testimony.

Ray Stonebarger, Fire Chief of the Blue Lake FPD, expressed concern about allowing additional residential hookups in Area 5 and noted that there is a need for F-GCSD to address fire flow in its capital improvement plan (CIP). Commissioner Rupp noted that the proposal's intent is not to increase demand but instead memorialize existing service connections outside the district's boundary.

Desmond Cowan, Fire Chief of the Arcata FPD, expressed concern about detaching Area 4 from the Arcata FPD. He explained that detachment would impact Arcata FPD's ability to respond by transitioning responsibility from Arcata, a primarily career department with three staffed stations, to Fieldbrook VFD and relying on its existing automatic aid agreement with Arcata. The Commission discussed current response demand and relative station distance/travel route to Area 4, as well as financial implications for removing the area from the Arcata FPD boundary.

Richard Grissom, Fire Chief of Fieldbrook VFD, discussed the District's process in identifying the annexation areas and noted that current District boundaries bisect Sunny Acres Avenue in Area 4. He explained that while Arcata FPD is a larger agency, Area 4 is closer to the Fieldbrook Fire Station and is considered part of their typical response area.

Richard Hanger, General Manager of the F-GCSD, described the District's CIP and water pressure for Area 5. He explained that improvements have been identified; however, the District has limited funds and relies on grants and other state funding. Commissioner Rupp questioned whether there was a need to limit hookups as a condition of approval. Mr. Hanger explained that Area 5 meets minimum requirements and that the District has plans to build an additional pump station to address adequate volume and pressure. In addition, he explained that sewer services in this area are limited by the District existing contract with the City of Arcata for treatment.

John Miller, Humboldt County Planning and Building Department, explained County Planning staff's use of Title 3 funds to address gaps in fire service coverage and working with fire-related entities to either form districts or annex out of district services. He discussed the Northern Humboldt Community Plan (Volume II of the General Plan) which designates 1 dwelling unit per acre in Fieldbrook and Glendale, and noted that Areas 4 and 5 are currently served with no plans for additional development.

The Commission discussed the action and need to memorialize or document the water system capacity needs as part of the SOI findings in the resolution. Commissioner Nicolini asked about the process to solicit public input. Administrator Metz explained that mailed notices were sent to property owners and registered voters within and adjacent to the annexation areas. She explained that no written objections have been received and therefore the Commission has the opportunity to waive the protest hearing. However, if more outreach is desired, the Commission could direct the Executive Officer to hold the protest hearing in Fieldbrook.

Commissioner Rupp expressed his concern of possible reduction in the level of service by transitioning from Arcata FPD to Fieldbrook VFD. Commissioner Fennell clarified that the change of fire service coverage would actually be a more appropriate level of service to area residents. Commissioner Nicolini explained that it's important not to equate level of service to career vs. volunteer, and that volunteer departments can provide every bit as good of service as a career department and, due to proximity, can sometimes produce shorter response times. Commissioner Nicolini suggested a protest hearing be conducted to ensure property owner understand the change in service.

Motion Fennell/ McPherson to adopt Resolution No. 15-08, approving the Annexation of Fire Service Out of District Good Will Response Areas and Areas Served by Water & Wastewater to the Fieldbrook-Glendale Community Services District, as described in the staff report, subject to the recommended conditions including conducting a protest hearing and providing an additional SOI finding. The motion was passed by a roll call vote of 6-0-0.

B) Proposed Annexation of Fire Service Out of District Good Will Response Areas to the Telegraph Ridge Fire Protection District

Administrator Metz summarized the staff report and described the proposed sphere amendment and corresponding annexation of approximately 8,911 acres to the TRFPD. Commissioner Fennell explained that the boundary change would clean up the boundary and provide additional funding support from the community they serve.

Chair Bass opened the public hearing and invited public testimony.

Peter Lawsky, Fire Chief of Telegraph Ridge FPD, explained that the District has worked with both Briceland and Whitethorn FPDs to close the gaps where services are currently provided by goodwill, and hopes to see Honeydew VFC become a district and Whitethorn FPD to annex response areas in the near future. Chief Lawsky noted

that the District held a public meeting and no members of the public attended or expressed concern about the boundary change.

Motion Nicolini/ Fennell to adopt Resolution No. 15-09, approving the Annexation of Fire Service Out of District Good Will Response Areas to the Telegraph Ridge Fire Protection District, as described in the staff report, subject to the recommended conditions. The motion was passed by a roll call vote of 6-0-0.

C) Countywide Park and Recreation Services Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Updates for the Rohner Community Recreation and Park District and the North Humboldt Recreation and Park District

Executive Officer Williamson summarized the staff report and explained that there is ongoing interest to maintain the Rohner Community Recreation and Park District and that the City is exploring the subsidiary district option. With concurrence from the Commission, the Chair continued the public hearing to September.

8. INFORMATIONAL AND CONTINUING ITEMS

A) Status of Current and Future Proposals

Executive Officer Williamson summarized the staff report and answered questions from the Commission regarding project timelines. With concurrence from the Commission, the Chair received and filed the report.

9. WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE

A) CALAFCO 2015 Annual Conference and 2015-2016 Board Election

The Commission discussed the CALAFCO conference and both Commissioners McPherson and Bass expressed interest in attending.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m. Next regular meeting: September 16, 2015.