



**JULY 20, 2016
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. in the Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District Office, with Chair Bass presiding.

2. FLAG SALUTE

3. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Virginia Bass, Estelle Fennell, Gordon Johnson, Debra Lake, Sue Long, Robert McPherson*, and Troy Nicolini
Members Absent: None
Alternates Present: Skip Jorgensen
Alternates Absent: Frank Scolari, Ryan Sundburg and Mark Wheatley
Staff: George Williamson, Executive Officer
Colette Metz, Administrator
Paul Brisso, Legal Counsel

**Robert McPherson took seat upon appointment at 9:05 a.m.*

4. NEW APPOINTMENTS

A) Status of Commissioner Terms

Executive Officer Williamson summarized the staff report and noted the reappointment of Commissioner Johnson as regular city member and the new appointment of Commissioner Lake as regular special district member. Mr. Williamson explained that only one application was submitted for the open public member seat. As such, the Commission discussed the appointment of Bob McPherson as regular public member for the 2016-2020 term.

Motion Fennell/ Johnson to appoint Bob McPherson as regular public member for the 2016-2020 term. The motion was passed by a vote of 6-0-0.

B) Oaths of Office for New Members

Oaths were conducted by Administrator Metz for Commissioners Johnson, Lake, and McPherson.

C) Certificate of Appreciation for J. Bruce Rupp

Chair Bass presented a certificate of appreciation to past special district member Bruce Rupp and recognized his service to LAFCo and dedication to regional water issues.

5. PUBLIC APPEARANCES

None

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

D) Approval May 25, 2016 Special Meeting Minutes

Motion Johnson/ Fennell to approve consent calendar. Motion passed by 7-0-0 vote.

7. BUSINESS ITEMS

A) Proposed Response to Civil Grand Jury Recommendation R3 in 2015-16 Report - "Earthquake, Flood, Tsunami: Is Humboldt County Ready?"

Executive Officer Williamson summarized the staff report and draft letter to the Humboldt County Civil Grand Jury. The Commission discussed emergency response coordination and readiness efforts. Commissioner Nicolini noted that dispatch is always evolving, and while it's not a contributing factor for a tsunami scenario (due to the short period of time for such an event), it is an important component of recovery. The Commission discussed dispatch, training, and the importance of preparedness. Commissioner Bass noted that there seems to be confusion surrounding Joint Powers Authorities (JPAs) and special districts.

Motion McPherson/ Fennell to direct staff to submit the response letter to the Humboldt County Civil Grand Jury, as provided in the staff report. The motion was passed by a vote of 7-0-0.

B) CALAFCO Annual Conference Items

Executive Officer Williamson summarized the staff report and the upcoming CALAFCO Annual Conference in Santa Barbara. Commissioners Bass, Fennell, Long and McPherson and Administrator Metz expressed interest in attending.

With regard to board nominations, Mr. Williamson suggested that two nominations be submitted, including nominating Commissioner Fennell for Outstanding Commissioner and nominating the South County Fire MSR for Project of the Year. A special committee was formed consisting of Commissioners McPherson, Fennell and Nicolini to review the nomination materials to be submitted to CALAFCO.

The Commission reviewed the nominations for 2016-17 CALAFCO Board of Directors. Commissioner McPherson expressed interest in running for public member seat for the Northern Region. He expressed interest in participating in statewide CALAFCO matters and increasing Humboldt LAFCos exposure at the CALAFCO level.

C) Proposed Response to Request for Hydrant Connection to the Kimtu Waterline in Garberville

Executive Officer Williamson summarized the staff report. Garberville Sanitary District General Manager Ralph Emmerson, discussed the background of the Kimtu waterline extension to serve the Kimtu Meadows Subdivision. He explained that a hydrant connection will require concurrence from the State Water Board due to prior state funding. He also noted that the GSD can't use district funds for improvements outside the district boundary. The Commission discussed the options for funding and the process, timing, and costs for hydrant installation. Commissioner Lake recommended the District approach the Humboldt County Fire Chiefs Association and discuss the potential use of Measure Z funds for hydrants.

Motion Fennell/ Nicolini to authorize the submittal of a letter as included in the staff report finding the proposed hydrant connection to the Kimtu waterline is not subject to LAFCo review under Government Code Section 56133. . The motion was passed by a vote of 7-0-0.

8. PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

A) South County Fire Protection Services Municipal Service Review (continued)

Administrator Metz summarized the staff report and noted the South County Fire MSR was continued to allow additional time for Commission review. Commissioner Fennel noted that the MSR is a significant reference document and provides a clear path for boundary change options. The Commission discussed the ISO ratings for some departments and the process for applying for and ISO review. Minor corrections were requested including a change to the sales tax discussion on pg. 4.

Motion McPherson/ Nicolini to adopt Resolution No. 16-05, approving the South County Regional Fire Services MSR and updating the spheres of influence for each fire-related district as identified in the MSR. Motion passed by roll call vote of 7-0-0.

9. INFORMATIONAL AND CONTINUING ITEMS

A) Preview of Proposed Strongs Creek Valley Annexation to the City of Fortuna

Commissioner Long recused herself due to her employer owning a parcel within the proposed annexation area, and left the room at 9:50a.m.

Liz Shorey, Deputy Director of Community Development provided a presentation of the proposed annexation to the Commission. She described the general location and noted that the area was evaluated for annexation in the City's General Plan. She discussed residences in the north requesting emergency water service connections and introduced the McLean Foundation's development proposal for a community center that would expand the public and recreation use of Newburg Park.

Commissioner Johnson noted that the annexation as proposed is a tremendous expansion of the City and asked whether the city is built out. Ms. Shorey noted that there is some vacant land available within the City and noted that this annexation was evaluated in the EIR for the General Plan Update with overriding considerations made for the conversion of agricultural land.

The Commission discussed plans for development and need for municipal services in the area. By order of the Chair, the Commission received and filed the report.

B) LAFCo Staff Comment Letter on the Draft EIR for Southern Humboldt Community Park

Executive Officer Williamson summarized the staff report and LAFCo staff comments on the Draft EIR. Commissioner Fennell noted the Park's concerns with additional delays and costs, and explained that the Park has worked to scale-back the size of events and make the park more family-oriented.

By order of the Chair, the Commission received and filed the report.

C) Status of Current and Future Proposals

By order of the Chair, the Commission received and filed the report.

10. EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Executive Officer Williamson noted the new website, introduced analyst Sarah West, and noted CALAFCO Executive Director Pamela Miller is planning to visit Humboldt and Del Norte Counties and attend Humboldt LAFCo September meeting.

11. WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE

None

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 a.m. Next regular meeting: September 21, 2016.