



**SEPTEMBER 20, 2017
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. FLAG SALUTE

3. ROLL CALL

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

4. PUBLIC APPEARANCES

None

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

A) Approval of July 10, 2017 Special Meeting Minutes

Motion Bass/Johnson to approve the consent calendar. The motion was passed by a vote of 7-0-0.

6. BUSINESS ITEMS

A) City of Trinidad Request for Exemption – Extension of Water Service to 540 North Westhaven Drive

Executive Officer Williamson summarized the staff report and the City of Trinidad request for exemption. Commissioner McPherson expressed concern for the sensitivity of the request, noting that many landowners in the unincorporated areas surrounding Trinidad have expressed interest in water service. Commissioner Nicolini questioned the City's service capacity should all non-served parcels within the City's mapped water service area request service.

Richard Walter, property owner at 540 North Westhaven Drive, clarified that the connection would serve an existing residence that currently relies on an onsite spring that is unreliable. He explained the circumstances related to the previous water service connection provided before 2001.

The Commission discussed the request for exemption relative to the previous water service to the subject property.

Motion Nicolini/Bass to approve the City of Trinidad's request for exemption, thereby confirming the proposed water service extension to 540 North Westhaven Drive

qualifies for an exemption from LAFCo review and approval consistent with Government Code Section 56133 (e)(4). Motion passed by a roll call vote of 7-0-0.

B) CALAFCO Board of Directors Nominations

Executive Officer Williamson summarized the staff report and noted that CALAFCO Board nominations are being sought for County and District members in the Northern Region. The Commission discussed the benefits of serving on the CALAFCO Board including bringing exposure to issues that are unique to the North Coast and networking with other LAFCos. Chair Fennell indicated her willingness to be a candidate but pointed out that the incumbent would likely run. Commissioner Bass suggested a District member run for the open seat. Commissioner Lake indicated her willingness to become a nominee.

Motion Nicolini/Johnson to nominate Chair Fennell for the County position and Commissioner Lake for the District position on the CALAFCO Board of Directors (Northern Region). Motion passed by a vote of 7-0-0.

7. PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

A) Humboldt Bay Regional Fire Services Municipal Service Review

Chair Fennell opened the public hearing at 9:32 a.m.

Administrator Metz summarized the staff report and described the sphere of influence changes proposed for each fire-related district to match out of district response areas. The Commission discussed the mutual aid relationships among the departments within the Humboldt Bay area, including the significant funding challenges of the smaller volunteer fire departments. Commissioner Johnson noted a discrepancy of volunteer hours on page 31 for Humboldt Bay Fire. Administrator Metz explained that the call data and volunteer hours are reported in the Fire Chiefs Annual Report and that likely changes in reporting volunteer hours have been made in recent years to reflect volunteer vs. career involvement.

Motion Bass/Long to approve the Humboldt Bay Regional Fire Services Municipal Service Review and adopt Resolution No. 17-11, updating the spheres of influence for each fire-related district studied in the MSR. Motion passed by a roll call vote of 7-0-0.

8. INFORMATIONAL AND CONTINUING ITEMS

A) CALAFCO Quarterly (July 2017)

Executive Officer Williamson introduced the CALAFCO Quarterly report. By order of the Chair, the Commission received and filed the report.

B) Little Hoover Commission Report "Special Districts: Improving Oversight & Transparency" (August 2017)

Executive Officer Williamson discussed the Little Hoover Commission Report and the resurgence of interest at the legislative level concerning LAFCos and special district oversight. He reviewed key findings and recommendations included within the report. By order of the Chair, the Commission received and filed the report.

C) Status of Current and Future Proposals

Administrator Metz summarized the staff report. Commissioner Lake discussed the upcoming Avenues Fire Rendezvous on October 8th, which will bring together fire departments that have been positively impacted by Measure Z. By order of the Chair, the Commission received and filed the report.

9. EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

A) CALAFCO Annual Conference Items

B) CALAFCO *The Sphere* Article (in preparation by staff)

C) CALAFCO Daily Legislative Report (September 2017)

10. WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE

A) Letter from Nelson-Hillside Association and LAFCo Staff Response

Chair Fennell explained the situation prompting the Nelson-Hillside Association to request the City of Fortuna annex the Nelson Lane area. By order of the Chair, the Commission received and filed the report.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m. The next regular meeting of the Commission will be held on Wednesday, November 15, 2017, at 9:00 a.m. in the Board of Supervisors Chamber, Humboldt County Courthouse, Eureka.