



**NOVEMBER 15, 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, Debra Lake, Sue Long, Robert McPherson, and Troy Nicolini  
Members Absent: Gordon Johnson  
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

Chair Fennell welcomed those in attendance and congratulated Commissioner Lake for being recently elected to the CALAFCO Board of Directors.

**4. PUBLIC APPEARANCES**

None

**5. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**A) Approval of September 20, 2017 Special Meeting Minutes**

**Motion Bass/McPherson** to approve the consent calendar. The motion was passed by a vote of 6-0-0.

**6. BUSINESS ITEMS**

**A) Expiring Commissioner Terms**

Administrator Metz summarized the staff report and noted the selection process for County, City, District and Public members. Chair Fennell noted a correction in the staff report related to her term. The Commission discussed the Humboldt Area Chapter of the California Special Districts Association (CSDA) taking a larger role in the special district election process.

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

**B) Authorization to Become a Partner Member of the Humboldt Area Chapter of the California Special Districts Association**

Administrator Metz summarized the staff report and explained recent efforts to establish a Humboldt Area Chapter and solicit member applications for both regular and partner members. The Commission discussed the need for additional outreach to special districts that may be unaware of Chapter planning efforts. Chair Fennell

expressed support for the Chapter as a way for special districts to be more organized around issues of local and regional importance. Commissioner Nicolini noted that the Chapter could help balance representation on LAFCo considering the majority of special districts are fire protection districts.

**Motion McPherson/Nicolini** to adopt Resolution No. 17-12, thereby authorizing LAFCo to become a Partner Member of the Humboldt Area Chapter of CSDA. Motion passed by a roll call vote of 6-0-0.

## 7. PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

None

## 8. INFORMATIONAL AND CONTINUING ITEMS

### A) Preview of the Brainard Annexation to the City of Eureka

Executive Officer Williamson introduced the proposed Brainard Annexation and discussed the timeline for staff review of the application for completeness, distribution of agency referral, and setting the matter for future action by the Commission.

Kristen Goetz, Senior Planner for the City of Eureka, provided an informational presentation of the proposal, including project site information, historical development patterns, road access, land use, zoning, and project review information.

Commissioner Bass asked about City services available to the project site and whether the tax exchange agreement would be applied to the annexation. Administrator Metz clarified that the City-County Master Property Tax Exchange Agreement is applied to all City annexations approved by the Commission. There was some discussion about whether there is a need to revisit the tax exchange agreement.

Commissioner McPherson asked about the portion of a parcel being annexed. Ms. Goetz responded to explain that to make a logical boundary, only a portion of the linear railroad parcel would need to be annexed.

Chair Fennell asked whether the North Coast Railroad Authority had been consulted. Ms. Goetz responded that multiple referrals and notices have been sent to the NCRA with no response.

Craig Compton, Green Diamond's land and business manager, noted that the City had approached the timber company to annex prior to 1955 but they declined. He thanked the City for their present efforts to annex the property.

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

### B) Status of the Rohner Community Recreation and Park District Reorganization

Administrator Metz summarized the staff report and provided background on the Rohner Community Recreation and Park District (RCRPD) governance structure options described in the 2016 MSR, including dissolution and subsidiary district formation. A third option identified through conversations with City of Fortuna staff is expanding the district to become a regional park district for the Lower Eel River watershed to include Fortuna, Ferndale and Rio Dell. A fourth option was also discussed: revitalizing the RCRPD and finding creative options for supporting Board meetings and district activities.

Mark Wheatley, Fortuna City Manager, discussed various models and funding structures for a regional park district. He stressed the importance of the cities and the county working together in order to compete for grants at the state level, and how the regional park district could be the umbrella structure for acquiring funding. Furthermore, Mr. Wheatley discussed the need to maintain the current RCRPD for the time being to capture additional grant funds that may be made available by SB 5 (De Leon) Parks/Water Bond of 2018, if approved by voters at the June 5, 2018 statewide primary election.

The Commission discussed the benefits of trying to revive the RCRPD, including working with the Fortuna Fire Protection District and the City's Park and Recreation Committee to provide a venue for the District Board.

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 and noted that the Samoa Peninsula FPD Reorganization was approved by voters at the November 7<sup>th</sup> election.

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

## **9. EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

### **A) CALAFCO Conference Report Out**

### **B) CALAFCO *The Sphere* (October 2017)**

### **C) CALAFCO Daily Legislative Report (November 2017)**

Executive Officer Williamson summarized each report item. Commissioners Bass and Lake reported out on the conference sessions and mobile tour. Commissioner Lake also reported on the regional caucus and CALAFCO Board appointment.

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

## **10. WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE**

### **A) CALAFCO Thank You Letter**

A letter from the CALAFCO Executive Director thanking the Commission for attending the Annual Conference was distributed to members of the Commission at the meeting (not included in the agenda packet).

## **11. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m. The next regular meeting of the Commission will be held on Wednesday, January 17, 2018, at 9:00 a.m. in the Board of Supervisors Chamber, Humboldt County Courthouse, Eureka.