



**NOVEMBER 18, 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

Members Present: Virginia Bass, Estelle Fennell, Gordon Johnson, Sue Long, Robert McPherson, and Bruce Rupp
Members Absent: Troy Nicolini
Alternates Present: Skip Jorgensen, Ryan Sundburg, and Mark Wheatley
Alternates Absent: Frank Scolari
Staff: George Williamson, Executive Officer
Colette Metz, Administrator
Paul Brisso, Legal Counsel

4. PUBLIC APPEARANCES

None

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

A) Approval July 15, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes

B) Approval of September 16, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes

C) Approval of October 14, 2015 Special Meeting Minutes

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

6. BUSINESS ITEMS

A) Notice of Expiring Commissioner Terms

Executive Officer Williamson noted that there are several expiring terms in 2016, including city, district and public members. Commissioner Fennell noted that the County appoints members in December of the calendar year.
By order of the Chair, the Commission received and filed the report.

7. PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

None

8. INFORMATIONAL AND CONTINUING ITEMS

A) Groundwater Sustainability Legislation

Administrator Metz provided an overview of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act and local efforts to develop a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the Eel River Valley groundwater basin – the only basin in Humboldt County designated as medium priority by the California Department of Water Resources. Robert Vogt, Humboldt County Public Works, was present to answer questions

regarding the new legislation and the County's efforts to coordinate an Eel River Valley Groundwater Working Group. Mr. Vogt explained that the potential for seawater intrusion was a major factor in the medium priority designation by the State, considering the basin's groundwater level is not significantly changing. Commissioner Fennell noted the designation allows the County to apply for grants and to coordinate with local agencies and community stakeholders situated within the groundwater basin. Commissioners McPherson and Fennell expressed the need to address groundwater/ water resources at the watershed level rather than strictly at a basin level. The Commission discussed the options for forming a GSA. Commissioner McPherson expressed the need to be inclusive rather than competing to become a GSA. Mr. Vogt discussed the timeline for working with stakeholders to establish a GSA, with the first funding cycle starting in January. Commissioner Rupp noted that the GSA could be countywide with the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) prepared on a basin-by-basin basis.

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

B) Status of Current and Future Proposals

Executive Officer Williamson summarized the staff report. With concurrence from the Commission, the Chair received and filed the report.

9. EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Executive Officer Williamson noted recent inquiries about water services in the Indianola Area. He noted the need to coordinate with agencies – including County, City of Eureka, and Humboldt Community Services District – to address water services in this area.

10. WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE

None

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:42 a.m. Next regular meeting: January 20, 2016.