



HUMBOLDT BAY MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
828 7th Street, Eureka



Minutes for Special Meeting of Board of Directors

October 31, 2018

A. ROLL CALL

Director Woo called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm. Director Rupp conducted the roll call. Directors Hecathorn, Latt, Rupp and Woo were present. Director Fuller was absent. General Manager John Friedenbach, Superintendent Dale Davidsen, Business Manager Chris Harris and Board Secretary Sherrie were present. Legal Counsel Leslie Walker participated via phone.

B. FLAG SALUTE

President Woo led the flag salute.

C. ACCEPT AGENDA

On motion by Director Rupp, seconded by Director Hecathorn, the Board voted 4-0 to accept the agenda.

D. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was received.

E. NEW BUSINESS

Planning Commission Public Hearing re: County of Humboldt New Zoning Districts (GPU ZR 10.04.18)

Mr. Friedenbach provided the staff report which included back ground, current issue and proposed next steps to consider in regards to the Planning Commission's proposed new zoning districts. He shared a draft letter to be submitted to the Planning Commission. The letter details how designating the Mercer Fraser and other property in the Mad River as Heavy Industrial (MH) is inconsistent with other County policies and poses a threat to the Mad River. If the Planning Commission votes to recommend changing the gravel mining operations to MH, as requested by the landowner, the next steps include submitting data to the Board of Supervisors showing why this designation threatens the Mad River, preparing a more robust letter and consider having staff from Thomas Law Group appear and testify on behalf of the District and having Directors speak with their counterparts on the Board of Supervisors. The Board discussed the letter and options. Director Latt stated it appeared that planning commission staff was going to recommend AE-MR-WR. Mr. Friedenbach stated he spoke with John Miler who verbally indicated staff recommendation will be the MH designation per landowner request. After the initial Board discussion, President Woo opened up discussion and took public comment. Supervisor Elect Madrone addressed the Board. He clarified that IR is not being changed, this a land use designation. He stated the proposed zoning change from AG to AE is consistent with the General Plan Update and there is no need to change it to MH. He stated there is no need to rush the rezoning and he is supportive of slowing down the process, notifying property owners and taking the time for the rezoning in a transparent way. Barbara Russell also provided comment and noted if the County rezones to MH, this will threaten wildlife in the riparian zone. She stated she is supportive of the District's approach. President Woo thanked them for their comments. Mr. Friedenbach reminded the Board that even if the Planning Commission recommends approving all the zoning changes, it is the Board of Supervisors that have the final say. The Board discussed specifics of the proposed letter to the Planning Commission. Several changes to the letter were suggested and Director Rupp inquired if the letter was strong enough. Ms. Walker stated the letter presents the District's position fairly strongly. She noted the District can submit additional documentation such as scientific studies to the Board of Supervisors if needed. Submitting the letter is an important step if the District ultimately has to litigate with the County. The Board expressed frustration at how quickly this issue arose. Mr. Friedenbach inquired if submitting the letter was not



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effective, were the proposed next step acceptable? The Board concurred with staff recommendations to submit a letter to the Planning Commission and to move forward with the proposed next steps if necessary. President Woo encouraged the Board to attend the Planning Commission meeting if possible. This is a voluntary meeting and not eligible for compensation.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:40 pm.

Attest:

Handwritten signature of Sheri Woo in blue ink.

Sheri Woo, President

Handwritten signature of J. Bruce Rupp in blue ink.

J. Bruce Rupp, Secretary/Treasurer