



HUMBOLDT BAY MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
828 7th Street, Eureka



Minutes for Special Meeting of Board of Directors

January 20, 2010

ROLL CALL

Director Sopoci-Belknap called the meeting to order at 9:35 am. Directors Hecathorn, Laird, Prucha, Rupp and Sopoci-Belknap were present. General Manager Carol Rische and several members of the Water Resource Planning Advisory Committee were present. David Aladjem of Downey Brand and Paula Whealen of Bonsignore Engineers were also present. Board Secretary Sherrie Sobol was present for a portion of the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No members of the public were present.

CONTINUING BUSINESS

Water Resource Planning: Joint Meeting of the HBMWD Board of Directors and the Water Resource Planning Advisory Committee with water rights specialists David Aladjem, Downey Brand LLP, and Paula Whealen, Wagner & Bonsignore Engineers

Reflections and follow-up discussion from January 19th WRP Workshop

Mr. Mayo stated that given the recent earthquake and the bad weather, he was amazed at the number of people that showed up. He attributed much of this to the great PR work prior to the event. He was also impressed by the diversity of the people and the commonality of ideas. It was an excellent and successful workshop. Several others echoed the sentiment.

Director Prucha stated she too thought it was a good workshop, however, she was a bit confused in that she thought the Workshop was more educational versus generating options. Ms. Rische stated that by design, the Workshop is the kick off for the Generate Options phase and additional public meetings will be held to generate options. Mr. Thorington added that it is necessary for participants to have knowledge to generate options and this was an opportunity to bring in the experts to speak. Director Prucha stated that for the record, she felt that there was not enough time to generate options and the public needs more opportunities to provide input.

Q&A – questions from Board or Advisory Committee re: water law or rights

The Board and Advisory Committee members asked several questions of Mr. Aladjem and Ms. Whealen regarding water law and water rights.



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State Water Resources Board

Mr. Aladjem and Ms. Whealen discussed the changing landscape at the State Water Resource Control Board and what that may mean for HBMWD and any changes in its water rights permits. Specific questions and concerns were discussed regarding strategic options for water use under HBMWD's water rights permits. There are a myriad of options and Mr. Aladjem stressed the importance of having a strategic plan.

WRP Next Steps

The Board discussed "next steps" in the WRP process. Director Prucha again stated that she would like additional opportunities for public input. In order to provide additional meetings with opportunities for input the WRP process schedule would need to be extended. Previously, the Board had agreed to stay on schedule as much as possible to move the process along. This item will be on the agenda for discussion at the next Board meeting in February. Director Laird stated that he will not be able to attend the February Board meeting, however, he would like to see the schedule maintained and not extended.

The meeting adjourned at 11:57 a.m.

Attest:

Kaitlin Sopoci-Belknap
Kaitlin Sopoci-Belknap, President

Barbara Hecathorn
Barbara Hecathorn, Secretary/Treasurer