



HUMBOLDT BAY MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
828 7th Street, Eureka



**Minutes for Special Meeting of HBMWD Board of Directors at
Ruth Lake, including a joint Board meeting with the Ruth Lake
Community Services District Board of Directors**

June 17, 2010

Attendance

Board Members and staff of the Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District and Ruth Lake Community Services District; and guests from various Trinity County organizations and the USFS Mad River Ranger District. See attached sign-in sheet.

MEETING AT RUTH LAKE

HBMWD Directors and staff arrived at the Gosselin Power House at Ruth Lake just before 9:30 am. Brian Newell provided a tour of the hydroelectric plant. Carol Rische provided a brief overview of the rest of the day. HBMWD Directors and staff visited the Marina and witnessed a boat being registered per the Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Plan. Several Directors and staff met and discussed how the program was going with the Ruth Lake CSD inspector.

At noon, the meeting moved to Ruth Headquarters for a luncheon sponsored by HBMWD for RLCSD and guests. At 1:00 p.m., HBMWD President Kaitlin Sopoci-Belknap called the joint HBMWD/RLCSD Board meeting to order. The following items were discussed.

1. Reports from Guests

- a. Trinity County representatives were invited, but no one was able to attend this year. Carol Rische asked Ruth Lake CSD members if they would pass along to Supervisor Wendy Reiss HBMWD's appreciation for her leadership and efforts to get cell service to southern Trinity County.
- b. Dan Dill, US Forest Service, reported on their fire break and road and decommissioning projects.
- c. Jack Levitt and Jack Branham, Southern Trinity Volunteer Fire Dept, reported on the grant-funded project which is allowing the department to create defensible space around a number of Ruth area properties. They also provided a status on their new fire hall. They reported they would like to pursue a project to install water tanks at various locations (at about 5 mile intervals) to enhance fire suppression capability. They added such a project would lower insurance rates for leaseholders and residents.
- d. Cathy Larson and Mike Gladding, Southern Trinity Health Clinic and Southern Trinity Area Rescue, provided a status report on activities and accomplishments to improve emergency services. Cathy reported that plans are underway to house an ambulance at the new fire hall and to station EMTs at Ruth. She added a fundraising drive will be starting soon to replace one of the old ambulances.

2. Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Plan

Kaitlin Sopoci-Belknap thanked the Ruth Lake CSD for their support of the aquatic invasive species plan, and especially their efforts to implement the plan last year. She acknowledged their efforts once again as we head into this second recreational season.

Tom Felt provided an overview of Ruth Lake CSD's annual report which summarized the boat registration and inspection activities and results. He



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reported the program is progressing better than expected, and that most people now understand the process and appear to be supportive. He indicated he received a complaint regarding an out-of-area boat (red sticker) being launched at Old Ruth which was reserved for resident boats only (yellow stickers). He indicated he wrote a letter to the owner of the out-of-area boat. Several people asked questions – whether Ruth Lake CSD changes the combination of the lock and whether the CSD knows how the combination was obtained by the out-of-area boater. Kaitlin Sopoci-Belknap inquired whether there have been any problems with people moving rocks as occurred last year, and Tom responded not that he is aware of. Carol Rische briefly summarized the enforcement services which are being provided by CA DFG this season.

Jack Branham (STVF) added last year he heard a lot of complaints at the beginning of the season, but that he no longer hears such complaints and in fact hears mostly compliments. All Directors expressed their appreciation for what Ruth Lake CSD was doing to help protect Ruth Lake.

3. Dam Safety Program

Ms. Rische summarized the importance of dam safety and implications for development on the lease lots. As reported in prior years, the District participated in a workshop (part of the FERC's dam safety program), one component of which was a discussion and analysis of what FERC calls, "Probable Failure Modes" for each dam. One of the more likely "failure modes" for Matthews Dam is overtopping of the dam if the spillway were to become blocked. Ms. Rische noted the importance of HBMWD's dam safety program, and in particular, efforts related to the spillway. She briefly summarized the recently established set-back policy (prohibiting development below elevation 2675') and the new dock security (tie-down) policy. She asked if Ruth Lake CSD has any questions or issues to discuss regarding these policies, and there was none.

Regarding the new dock tie-down requirements, HBMWD expects there to be full compliance prior to this winter season. Director Prucha suggested a specific date be established and suggested October 15th. Tom Felt responded that date makes sense. He added that he is inspecting docks as part of the ongoing lease inspection process. Ms. Rische requested that Ruth Lake CSD confirm in writing that all docks have been secured in accordance with the requirements.

4. Other Items

SWRCB Requirements to Report Water Diversions –Ruth Lake CSD requested this item be on the agenda following a recent Times Standard article regarding the new requirements. Ms Rische summarized her initial understanding of the new requirements, but added that additional research needs to be done. She reported the SWRCB is now requiring a statement be filed every three years



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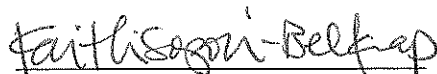
which reports the amount of water diverted from all rivers and streams (including for riparian use for which an appropriative permit from the State has not been required). There are stiff fines and penalties for non-compliance, and she added the water board has been authorized to increase its enforcement staff (reportedly by 25) to investigate unauthorized diversion and water use throughout the state.

Ms. Rische reported that any lease holder or property owner who diverts water from a river or stream would be required to report the amount of water being diverted. She added though it is not clear whether the leaseholders who divert water from Ruth Lake (as authorized by existing HBMWD and Ruth Lake CSD policy) would be required to report since: 1) that diversion is from a lake (not a river or stream), 2) HBMWD has appropriative water rights to store and divert water, and 3) the water code allows for the sale of "surplus" water outside the District's service area. She indicated she has several questions into the District's water law attorney to clarify the requirements, and when she receives a response will share that with the Ruth Lake CSD.

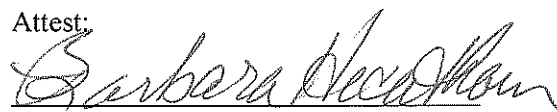
Trinity County Development – Tom Felt provided a status report on Boy Scout Cove. He indicated the Ruth Lake CSD wanted to provide a camp host there, but to do so required improvements. They learned that Trinity County would not approve the improvements until the Specific Unit Development plan for the Ruth area is updated. Tom indicated he did not fully understand the new requirements and that Supervisor Wendy Reiss is assisting the Ruth Lake CSD with compliance. Carol Rische inquired whether this would affect development requests on individual lease lots, and Tom replied it does. Terry White suggested the normal process to review and approve leaseholder requests continue, and that the Ruth Lake CSD would hold such requests until development is allowed. Carol Rische indicated the District would like to learn more about the new requirements and implications for the buffer strip.

Study re: Mercury Warning in Fish – Tom Felt and Terry White reported they received a call from a newspaper reporter about a state study which was reporting mercury levels in fish in northern California lakes, and that bass in Ruth Lake apparently had a high mercury level. Carol Rische added the Ruth Lake CSD forwarded the newspaper article to her two days prior and that she did not know anything about this other than what the paper reported. She suggested HBMWD or Ruth Lake CSD get a copy of the report to learn more.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:30 pm.


Kaitlin Sopoci-Belknap, President

Attest:


Barbara Hecathorn, Secretary/Treasurer

HBMWD and Ruth Lake CSD Joint Meeting
Attendance Roster
June 17, 2010

Name	Agency	Phone/FAX	e-mail
Jack Levitt	STVFD	(707) 574-6536	
Mike Gladberg	ST HEMPHIL SVCS	707-574-6616 707-574-6523 fax	mgadberg@sthsdinc.org
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Jack Branhan	STVFD	574-6618	jtw00p@go1sky.com
Brian NEWELL	HBMWD	574-6418	
Luanne Gordon	ALCSD	574-6489	
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LORIN FLEMING	RLCSD	574-6359	sassinac@yahoo.com
Tom F&T	ALCSD	574-6332	RUTH.LAKE.CSD@SPRINGER-NET
Barbara Heathorn	HBMWD		
Doreen Heathorn	USFS MAN RIVER	(707) 574-6848	

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Name	Agency	Phone/FAX	e-mail
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