BOARD OF DIRECTORS

828 7th Street, Eureka CA 95501

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thursday, August 13, 2026, 1:00 p.m. • 828 7th Street, Eureka, CA 95501

1. CALL TO ORDER

1.1 Roll Call

President Fuller called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Roll call was conducted. Directors Fuller, Stevens, Wheeler, and Woo were present. General Manager Michiko Mares, Director of Operations and Maintenance Dale Davidsen, Deputy Director of Operations and Maintenance Ryan Chairez, Director of Finance and Human Resources Chris Harris, and Board Secretary Contessa Dickson were present. Director Rupp was absent.

1.2 Pledge of Allegiance

President Fuller led the pledge of allegiance.

1.3 Accept Agenda

ACTION: Motion #26-046 to accept the Agenda
Maker: Director Woo
Second: Director Wheeler
Vote: 4-0 to approve

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was received.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

ACTION: Motion #26-047 to approve the Consent Calendar
Maker: Director Woo
Second: Director Wheeler
Vote: 4-0 to approve

1. Approve the Draft Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of July 9, 2026
2. Informational Memo - Comment Letter on Humboldt Bay Area Plan (HBAP) Public Draft
3. Informational Memo Concerning Watershed Flight and Legislative Briefing with Assemblymember Chris Rogers
4. Informational Memo Samoa Peninsula Water Supply and Infrastructure: Status, Constraints, and Path Forward

5. Informational Memo - Notification of Subrecipient Allocation – FFY 2024 State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program (SLCGP), Local & Tribal (SL) Program
6. Approve Carry-Over and Reallocation of FY26 Encumbered Project Funds
7. Approve New Job Classification: Electrician and Instrument Technician III (SCADA Specialist)

Vice-President Woo expressed appreciation for the current use and organization of the Consent Calendar.

4. PRESENTATIONS

Non-Action Item

None.

5. DISCUSSION AND ACTION

5.1 Informational Memo Concerning the Former McNamara and Peepe Mill Site

Non-Action Item

Director Woo recused herself due to a conflict of interest.

Ms. Mares provided an update on the former McNamara and Peepe Mill Site, including a July 31 meeting and upcoming water quality testing at Hull Creek. President Fuller discussed ongoing turnover in project management staff and the challenges associated with repeatedly bringing new project managers up to speed.

5.2 Informational Memo Super El Nino Outlook for Winter 2026-2027 and District Preparedness

Non-Action Item

Ms. Mares presented an update on the Super El Niño outlook and District preparedness. She expressed concern regarding the number of separate emergency notification systems used by different agencies and jurisdictions for events such as fires, earthquakes, and flooding, which can make it difficult to receive consistent and timely information. She recommended utilizing Trinity County's emergency notification system and reported that staff are coordinating with DWR regarding additional gauge stations and flood monitoring. Staff will continue to keep the Board updated. Director Wheeler noted that the upcoming EcoNews Report will highlight this topic.

5.3 Discuss and Consider Approval of District Counsel Memorandum Regarding HTRA Request for Donation of a Portion of APN 020-330-005 for the Trinity Resilience Center

ACTION: Motion #26-048 to approve District Counsel Memorandum Regarding HTRA Request for Donation of a Portion of APN 020-330-005 for the Trinity Resilience Center.

Maker: Director Wheeler
Second: Director Woo
Vote: 4-0 to approve

District Counsel Ryan Plotz attended for this item, along with a representative from the Trinity Resilience Center. Director Stevens expressed appreciation for the memorandum and the framework it provided for considering the request. Director Wheeler encouraged the District to consider flexibility regarding

reimbursement of costs, recognizing HTRA's reliance on grant funding. Ms. Mares discussed limitations under Ordinance 16.

After discussion, the Board approved the District Counsel memorandum regarding HTRA's request for donation of a portion of APN 020-330-005 for the Trinity Resilience Center. Direction was provided to continue moving the request forward consistent with the framework outlined in the memorandum, discuss the proposal with the Ruth Lake Community Services District Board at the upcoming Joint Board Meeting, consider available flexibility regarding reimbursement of District costs, and return to the Board with an update within the next few months.

5.4 Discuss and Consider Authorization to Submit a DWR Grant Application for the Reservoir Gaging at Ungated Spillways (RGUS) Project

ACTION: Motion #26-049 to adopt Resolution No. 2026-08 authorizing the submittal of a DWR grant application for the RGUS Project.

Maker: Director Woo
Second: Director Stevens
Director Stevens: Aye

Director Fuller: Aye

Director Woo: Aye

Director Wheeler: Aye

Vote: 4-0 to approve by roll call vote

Ms. Mares presented the item and explained that the DWR grant program provides funding for real-time reservoir elevation monitoring at qualifying dams with ungated spillways. The proposed project would install a real-time reservoir elevation gauge at R.W. Matthews Dam and integrate the data with the California Data Exchange Center (CDEC), improving monitoring during high-flow events and supporting dam safety and emergency preparedness. Director Woo asked whether staff were continuing to evaluate additional gauge locations around Ruth Lake. Ms. Mares reported that staff have met with DWR Flood Control regarding additional grant opportunities and noted that the long-term maintenance of monitoring equipment can be a greater consideration than the initial installation cost. After discussion, the Board adopted Resolution No. 2026-08 authorizing the submittal of a DWR grant application for the RGUS Project.

5.5 Discuss and Consider Approval of July Financial Statement & Vendor Detail Report

ACTION: Motion #26-050 to approve July Financial Statement & Vendor Detail Report in the amount of $1,655,285.90.

Maker: Director Stevens
Second: Director Wheeler
Vote: 4-0 to approve

Ms. Harris presented the July Financial Statement & Vendor Detail Report, noting approximately $660,000 in the general account, $13 million in investments, $5.3 million in advance charges, and $5.7 million in general reserves. After discussion, the Board approved the July Financial Statement & Vendor Detail Report in the amount of $1,655,285.90.

6. REPORTS

1. Staff Reports

Non-Action Item

a. Operations & Maintenance Report

Mr. Davidsen presented the July Operations & Maintenance Report. He provided updates on Ruth Lake conditions, hydroelectric generation, and domestic water operations, noting that water quality standards continued to be met. He also reported on the FERC Part 12D Comprehensive Assessment activities, Collector #4 concrete inspection, progress on the Ruth Lake decontamination station, TRF generator operational readiness testing, and other ongoing maintenance and infrastructure projects.

b. Management Report

Ms. Mares presented the General Manager's Report, providing updates on regulatory compliance, permitting, infrastructure reliability, emergency preparedness, and strategic initiatives. She reported that the District provided reliable water service with no unplanned outages and remained in compliance with all state and federal drinking water regulations. She also provided updates on FERC-related activities, emergency preparedness efforts, the Dunes Maintenance Right-of-Way EIR, digital transformation efforts, and development of the District's Health and Safety Policies. Ms. Mares reported that the three-week FERC Part 12D Comprehensive Assessment and Risk Workshop concluded on July 17 and that FERC staff commended the District for its diligent maintenance of R.W. Matthews Dam, the spillway, and ancillary equipment.

2. Active Ad-Hoc Committee Reports

a. GM Evaluation Committee

President Fuller reported that the General Manager Appraisal Committee met with the consultant regarding Phase 2 of the General Manager evaluation process. The committee will continue working with the consultant on next steps.

3. Director Reports

a. Vice-President Woo

Vice-President Woo thanked Ms. Mares for her responsiveness after a retired engineer contacted her regarding an article he had seen. Vice-President Woo forwarded the inquiry to Ms. Mares, who followed up on the matter.

b. Director Wheeler

No comment.

c. Director Stevens

Director Stevens thanked District staff for providing information that underscored the importance of the District's infrastructure. She also reported that she filed for reelection and that no other candidates filed for the seat.

d. President Fuller

President Fuller announced that she will not be seeking reelection to the District Board and has filed as a candidate for the Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation and Conservation District Board. She noted that her final HBMWD Board meeting will be in November.

4. Organizations on Which HBMWD Serves

a. Association of CA Water Agencies (ACWA)

Director Rupp was absent; therefore, no update was provided.

b. Association of CA Water Agencies/Joint Powers Insurance Authority (ACWA-JPIA)

Director Rupp was absent; therefore, no update was provided.

7. DISCUSSION OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Non-Action Item

a. Information Management System
No update.

b. Artificial Intelligence Policy
No update.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:13 p.m.

Attest:

Michelle Fuller, Board President

Contessa Dickson, Board Secretary