

**Humboldt Bay Municipal Water
828 7th street
Eureka, CA**



**Minutes for Special Meeting of the Board of Directors
April 29, 2024**

1. ROLL CALL

President Latt called the meeting to order at 4:32 pm. Director Lindberg conducted the roll call. Directors Fuller, Latt, Woo, and Lindberg were present. Director Rupp was absent. General Manager John Friedenbach, Superintendent Dale Davidson, and Board Secretary Contessa Dickson were present.

2. FLAG SALUTE

President Latt led the flag salute.

3. ACCEPT AGENDA

ACTION: Motion to accept agenda

Maker: Director Woo Second: Director Lindberg Vote: 4-0 approve

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was received.

5. CONTINUING BUSINESS

5.1 Instream Flow

a. 1707 petition for change

Action item: Motion to approve 1707 petition for change with direction to the General Manager to include all Director editorial comments

Maker: Director Woo Second: Director Fuller Vote: 4-0 approve

Water rights attorney Meredith Nikkel with Downey Brand attended via Zoom to answer any questions. For several years District staff has worked with consultants and held numerous Instream Flow Committee and public meetings regarding this petition. With the results from those events and including the feedback from Water Board staff "draft review" comments, staff presented the final draft 1707 Petition for Change to the water rights permits 11714 and 11715 on the Mad River. The change is to designate a portion of the water to instream flow under water code section 1707 to environmental benefit in the Mad River between R.W. Matthews dam and the diversion facilities at Essex. The Petition proposes a permanent change to the water rights for 31 cfs per month flow release from R.W. Matthews dam. The Board asked several questions and provided their suggested edits to the narrative.

Public comment was received by Margaret Tauzer with NOAA: Margaret thanked the Board for going over changes made to the 1707 petition for change and wanted to go on the record to state that NOAA does not support the 1707 petition for change as currently drafted and has proposed some flow dedications that they would support.

b. 1707 CEQA Notice of Exemption

Action item: Motion to approve 1707 CEQA Notice of Exemption

Maker: Director Lindberg Second: Director Fuller Vote: 4-0 approve

After consultation with the District Special Counsel, it was determined that this project qualifies for the following categorical exemptions: Section 15301 – Existing Facilities Exemption; 15304 – Minor Alterations to Land Exemption; 15307 and 05308 – Actions by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of Natural Resources and/or the Environment. The Board found that the project qualifies for those Categorical Exemptions and directed staff to file the necessary CEQA paperwork for this project.

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ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm.

Attest:



Neal Latt, President



David Lindberg, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer