



HUMBOLDT BAY MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
828 7th Street, Eureka



**Minutes for Special Joint Meeting of HBMWD Board of
Directors with the Ruth Lake Community Services District
Board of Directors
June 08, 2018**

The HBMWD and RLCSD Board of Directors held a Joint Board Meeting to discuss issues and events of mutual interest regarding Ruth Lake and the buffer strip. President Woo called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm. HBMWD Directors Fuller, Hecathorn, Latt, Rupp and Woo were present. General Manager John Friedenbach, Superintendent Dale Davidsen, Business Manager Chris Harris, Hydro-plant Operators Brian and Lisa Newell and Dave Perkins, Regulatory and Program Analyst Samantha Ryan and Board Secretary Sherrie Sobol were also present. Ruth Lake CSD Directors Gordon, Johnson, and Nicholson were present. General Manager Mike Francesconi and Business Manager Cynthia Lofthouse were also present. Guests from Trinity County Volunteer Fire Department, STAR, and Ruth Lake Leaseholders Association were also in attendance. See attached sign in sheet.

1. Public Comment

No public comment was received.

2. Introductions

Everyone introduced themselves and the agency they worked with.

3. Updates from Guests:

Trinity County - 5th District Supervisor and Staff

No representatives were present.

US Forest Service

Representatives were not available due to a training.

Trinity County Volunteer Fire Department and /or STAR

STVFD staff stated there were no updates to report. Shirley Dillion of STAR stated locals might want to call STAR direct at 574-6421 in case of emergency since response time will be quicker than calling 911. When calls are made to 911, it often ends up being rerouted more than once before ending with STAR.

Trinity County Sheriff/OES

No representatives were present.

Ruth Lake Leaseholders Association (RLLA)

Dave Saunderson stated the RLLA have not met the past few years.

4. Ruth Lake CSD Topics

Aquatic Invasive Species

2017 Annual Report

Mr. Francesconi reported out the 2017 boat inspections for Quagga mussels and other invasive species. This was the ninth year of watercraft inspections and 1503 watercraft were inspected. He stated they are off to a good start this year as 591 watercraft have been inspected so far. The Marina, Campground and Old Ruth launch sites are operational.

Dept. of Boating and Waterways Quagga Prevention Grants



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Mr. Friedenbach provided a brief recap of the grants the Quagga Prevention grants the District has received. The first grant was for the 2015/16 season in the amount of \$9,150 to help cover Quagga inspection supply costs and new gate arms at the Marina. The 2016/17 grant in the amount of \$63,500 was for supplies and to convert Old Ruth to a restricted key card access public launch site. The newest grant was approved for 2017/18 year for \$7,480 to help offset the cost of supplies for the Quagga inspection.

Director Rupp inquired about the configuration for the newly converted Old Ruth launch site. He noted that the design is not what was previously discussed with the prior manager and submitted in the grant application. He expressed concerns including that power for the site is coming from a leaseholder's private utility pole. The design is different from that submitted on the grant application and there could be potential issues. He also expressed concern over the fact that changes were not communicated with our District. Good communication is key to a good working relationship. Mr. Francesconi agreed that communication is important and he explained the reasons for the changes. The Board thanked him for the explanation.

Lease Lot Improvement Requests

Mr. Friedenbach reviewed the process for tree removal on leaseholder lots. He reinforced that the leaseholders need permission to remove the trees and they must be removed under one of our existing timber harvest exemptions by Lynn Dillion, as he is the licensed timber operator for HBMWD.

Mr. Francesconi stated that he noticed some dock improvements today that did not go through Proper channels. He also noticed some docks that need be improved or removed. He will be notifying those leaseholders.

Financial Report

Mr. Francesconi shared the Ruth Lake CSD total gross revenues for 2017. He stated they received \$590,449. Director Latt inquired about the expenses and Mr. Francesconi said he did not bring that information. He stated they did not have an operating budget for the current fiscal year, however, they do have money in the bank.

5. HBMWD Topics

Water Resource Planning

Mr. Friedenbach provided an update on the Water Resource Planning process. He shared that the District received a \$700,000 grant for Instream Flow analysis to ultimately modify HBMWD's water rights permit. Some people expressed concern that this means the lake level would be dropping and impact recreation. Mr. Friedenbach explained that the impact would be minimal if any, and that we are currently releasing flow. If the beneficial use of instream flow is permitted, this will help secure our rights when our permit expires in 2029. Mr. Davidsen added that at this same time last year, the lake was actually just a little bit lower than it is now.



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Timber Management

Mr. Friedenbach stated the District's current and past practice has been to the use one of three exemptions: Dead Dying and Diseased; Drought Mortality; and Public Agency, Public & Private Utility Right-of-Way. Last month, our Board agreed to take a more proactive approach to timber management and staff applied for grant funding to prepare a Timber Management Plan.

Algae bloom

Mr. Davidsen stated there was some blueish algae in Ruth Lake last year and he had it tested. It tested negative for cyanobacteria which is a good thing. The negative side is that the state is now requiring any algae bloom in the lake to be reported. They will either get a sample themselves or ask us to provide one. Mr. Davidsen requested that any algae bloom sightings be reported to HBMWD.

Cannabis Cultivation in the Mad River Watershed

Mr. Friedenbach was asked to provide on update on the status of the MCMP request for permit near the Mad River near our Ranney Collectors. He shared that MCMP pulled their request for the project at the site.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:16 pm.

Attest:

Sheri Woo, President

J. Bruce Rupp, Secretary/Treasurer

