



Redwood Region Economic Development Commission  
Prosperity Center 520 E Street, Eureka, California 95501  
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**REDWOOD REGION ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

**Regular meeting of the Board of Directors**

At the Prosperity Center 520 E Street, Eureka, CA

**January 23, 2017**

**6:30 pm**

**Minutes**

**I. Call to Order & Flag Salute**

Chair Nancy Koke called the meeting to order at 6:34 pm.

**Present:** Nancy Koke, John Woolley, Michael McKaskle, Bruce Rupp, Marian Brady, Sue Long, Dennis Mayo, Frank Wilson, Sofia Pereira, Tyler Holmes, Patrick O'Rourke, Summer Daugherty, Alternates Mike Wilson and Richard Marks

**Absent:** David Tyson, Virginia Bass, Greg Dale, James Baker

**Staff Present:** Shirley Santino, Suzanne Dockal

**Guests:** Leila Roberts, John Roberts, Janet DePace, Terra Carver, Cody Stross, Savannah Hawkins

**II. Approval of Agenda and Minutes**

**M/S/P: McKaskle/Frank Wilson: Motion to approve minutes from November 28, 2016 RREDC Board Meeting.** Motion passed with Tyler Holmes abstaining as he was not yet on the Board at the time of that meeting.

**M/S/P: McKaskle/Rupp: Motion to approve Agenda for January 23, 2017 with one change: Move Item IX. Board Member Introductions to top of the meeting.** Motion passed unanimously.

Board Members, Staff and Guests introduced themselves.

**III. Public Input – for non-agenda items**

None

**IV. Program – "Red dot, Green dot! The state of cannabis in Humboldt County"**

**Guests: Terra Carver, Humboldt County Growers Alliance; Board member, California Growers Association; Advocate/organizer Humboldt's cannabis industry; and Cody Stross, Cannabis farmer; Founder and CEO, Northern Emeralds, whose medical cannabis is sold in 50 dispensaries.** (\*Green dot is for those in industry wanting to move forward legally, though still in transition; red for those who do not. It is not known what percentage of the estimated 4,000 to 12,000 farmers are in each category). Guests answered Board's questions about Prop 64, water protection, nutrient overloads, improving regulations for all CA agriculture not just cannabis, quality control and professional standards for farmer and consumer, industrial Hemp, protecting Humboldt brand, challenges of banking and paying worker benefits, economic development component.

**V. Consent Calendar**

**M/S/P: Frank Wilson/Pereira: Motion to accept Agency-wide Financial Reports: November 30, 2016.** Motion passed unanimously. RREDC accountant Suzanne Dockal then answered Board's questions about how Audit is conducted and expensed, EDA's accounting rules, understanding RREDC's monthly financial reports.

**RREDC  
Member  
Agencies**

Cities Arcata · Blue Lake · Eureka · Ferndale · Fortuna · Rio Dell · Trinidad  
Community Services Districts Humboldt · Manila · McKinleyville · Orick · Orleans · Redway · Willow Creek  
Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation and Conservation District · Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District  
County of Humboldt · Hoopa Valley Tribe · Redwoods Community College District

**VI. Reports – No Action Required**

- A. Loan Portfolio Report: will be presented at February meeting.
- B. Executive Director's Report – Gregg Foster is on vacation.
- C. Minutes of December 21, 2016 Executive Committee Meeting: information only.

**VII. Old Business**

None

**VIII. New Business**

**A. Election of Board Officers and Executive Committee Members**

Five positions need to be filled: Chair of the Board of Directors; Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors; three Members-at-large on the Executive Committee.

**Chair of the Board of Directors, 2017**

**M/S Mike Wilson/Mayo: Motion to nominate Michael McKaskle.**

**M/S Woolley/Rupp: Motion to close nominations.**

Michael McKaskle elected unanimously as Chair.

**Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors, 2017**

**M/S Mike Wilson/Holmes: Motion to nominate Sofia Pereira.**

Mayo nominates Frank Wilson. Frank defers, too busy.

**M/S Rupp/May: Motion to close nominations.**

Sofia Pereira elected unanimously as Vice-Chair.

**Members-at-Large, Executive Committee**

**M/S Mike Wilson/Holmes to nominate the following slate:**

**Patrick O'Rourke, 3-year term 2017-2020**

**John Woolley, 1-more-year to 2018**

**Sue Long, 2-more-years to 2019**

O'Rourke, Woolley and Long elected unanimously.

The Executive Committee will also include Michael McKaskle as Chair; Sofia Pereira as Vice-Chair; Nancy Koke as Past-Chair; Marian Brady returning Member-at-Large.

**IX. Agenda/Program Requests for future Board Meetings**

Alternative Energy – Blue Lake Power – Redwood Coast Energy Authority

John Woolley advised that presentations should be economic development focused and guests prepared to speak to what the RREDC Board of Directors might be able to do for them.

**X. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.**

Respectfully submitted:

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Shirley Santino, Recorder

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Nancy Koke, Chair