



REDWOOD REGION ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Regular meeting of the Board of Directors
At the Prosperity Center, 520 E Street, Eureka

June 26, 2017 6:30 pm

Minutes

I. Call to Order & Flag Salute

Chair Michael McKaskle called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.

Present: Michael McKaskle, Neal Latt, Dennis Mayo, Sue Long, Frank Wilson, Patrick O'Rourke, Sofia Pereira, Virginia Bass, Tyler Holmes, David Tyson, Marian Brady and Alternates Steve Ladwig, Dendra Dengler

Absent: John Woolley, Greg Dale, Nancy Koke, James Baker, Summer Daugherty

Staff Present: Gregg Foster, Shirley Santino

Guest: Cindy Harrington and Karen Meynell County of Humboldt Economic Development, Lynette Mullen

II. Approval of Agenda and Minutes

M/S/P: Pereira/Mayo: Motion to approve Agenda for June 26, 2017.

Motion passed unanimously.

M/S/P: O'Rourke/Pereira: Motion to approve minutes from May 22, 2017 RREDC Board.

Motion passed unanimously.

III. Public Input – for non-agenda items

None.

IV. Program – County of Humboldt Economic Development Division: Update Process on Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy – Cindy Harrington, Economic Development Coordinator/Executive Director of the Workforce Development Board, and Karen Meynell, Executive Director of the Headwaters Fund, gave an overview of changes to EDA's CEDS requirements since Humboldt's 2013-18 plan was adopted, efforts to streamline the process, focus the document on clear and measurable goals, and asked the board for their input via the survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5LPTGZ8>.

V. Consent Calendar

M/S/P: Pereira/Bass: Motion to accept Agency-wide Financial Reports for May 31, 2017.

Motion passed unanimously.

VI. Reports – No Action Required

A. Loan Portfolio Report: May 2017

B. Executive Director's Report: Gregg Foster informed Board about potential ADA changes to the building required by the County, Providence RI airline recruitment trip, upgrades to conference room - new wifi capable projector and computer.

VII. Old Business

Discussion and Possible Action on Housing Affordability in Humboldt County – Update presented by Lynette Mullen – contracted by RREDC to conduct interviews with developers, planners, elected officials and employers to assess the premise: Lack of available workforce housing (up to 120%) is constraining economic development. The Board expressed interest in seeking methods that will work in our unique county to improve and increase workforce housing. Gregg Foster emphasized

that while RREDC does not have authority to make policy changes, its board members do have authority to do so in their own districts. Discussions on this critical issue will continue.

VIII. New Business

A. Resolution and Vote for SDRMA's Board of Directors

M/S/P: Mayo/O'Rourke: Motion to vote in favor of four candidates on the ballot provided by SDRMA: Timothy Unruh, Mike Scheafer, David Aranda, Jean Bracy and to adopt Resolution 17-02 for the Election of Directors to the Special District Risk Management Authority Board of Directors. Voting aye: Michael McKaskle, Neal Latt, Dennis Mayo, Sue Long, Frank Wilson, Patrick O'Rourke, Sofia Pereira, Virginia Bass, Tyler Holmes, David Tyson, Marian Brady, Steve Ladwig, Dendra Dengler. Voting nay: 0.

IX. Closed Session: PUBLIC EMPLOYEE REAPPOINTMENT: Government Code Section 54957: Title: Executive Director

M/S/P: Tyson/Long: Motion to call closed session at 8:05 pm. Motion passed unanimously.

Reconvened in Open Session at 8:25 pm. Reported out that **Neal Latt made a motion to reappoint Gregg Foster in the position of RREDC Executive Director with compensation of \$80,000/per year for two years.** Frank Wilson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

X. Member Agencies Reports

A. Redway – Michael McKaskle: 45 miles of the Eel River from Los Rios to Alderpoint along the rail line could become a great tourism venue with some infrastructure added for camping etc.

B. Rio Dell – Frank Wilson: Old Saw Mill now Humboldt Rio Dell Business Park which will contain a wellness center, bistro, high end extraction facility and testing lab.

C. Ferndale – Patrick O'Rourke: Noise complaints about Monster Truck events at Fairgrounds.

D. Eureka – Marian Brady: Eureka and Arcata paired up as finalists for Arts District designation; 4th of July festivities.

E. County – Virginia Bass: California State Association of Counties (CSAC) is coming to Humboldt for the first time, bringing 50 people to discuss cannabis policy 6/28-29.

F. McKinleyville – Dennis Mayo: California Association of Water, working on "Little Hoover Commission"; urges everyone from a CSD to weigh in on what Local Agency Formation Commissions (LAFCo) have the power to do

XI. Agenda/Program Requests for future Board Meetings None added.

XII. Meeting adjourned at 8:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Shirley Santino, Recorder

Michael McKaskle, Chair