



Redwood Region
Economic Development
Commission

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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

November 23, 2015
6:30 pm

Minutes

I. Call to Order & Flag Salute

Chair Sue Long called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Present: Sue Long, Nancy Koke, Mike Davis, Dennis Mayo, Bruce Rupp, John Woolley, Linda Atkins, John Sawatzky, David Tyson, Mark Wheatley, Julie Fulkerson, Frank Wilson, Virginia Bass, Ken Mierzwa.

Absent: Michael McKaskle, Mike Wilson.

Staff Present: Gregg Foster, Shirley Santino.

II. Approval of Agenda and Minutes

M/S/P: Woolley/Bass: Motion to approve minutes from October 26, 2015 Board Meeting and the agenda for November 23, 2015 with one change: moving item *VIII New Business A. Consideration of Letter of Support for "Mountains and Rivers" Legislation* to the top of the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

III. Public Input – for non-agenda items

None

IV. Consent Calendar

M/S/P: Fulkerson/Rupp: Motion to Accept Agency-wide Financial Reports dated October 31, 2015. Motion passed unanimously.

V. New Business

A. Consideration of Letter of Support for "Mountains and Rivers" Legislation

Guest Alison Sterling Nichols of Northwest California's Mountains and Rivers organization outlined efforts to bring all shareholders to the table to draft legislation to restore and protect public lands, rivers, impacted watersheds, while ensuring sustainable wilderness access for recreation, fire management, timber industry and wildlife. Board members raised issues of greatest concern to their constituents and contributed their expertise on these matters.

M/S/P: Woolley/Rupp: Motion to draft a letter of support from the RREDC Board to Congressman Jared Huffman to encourage wilderness area protection legislation, with the understanding that it does not imply the Board's full agreement with eventual legislation. The letter will be shared with the Board via email for additional input before sending to Huffman via Nichols. Motion passed unanimously.

M E M B E R A G E N C I E S

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

VI. Reports

A. Loan Portfolio Reports for October 31, 2015. No action needed.

B. Executive Director's Report Gregg Foster presented his report dated November 19, 2015 covering current activity in the Loan Program, progress with Fly Humboldt, and CEDS. No action needed.

VII. Special Program

Matthew Marshall, Executive Director, Redwood Coast Energy Authority discussed Community Choice Aggregation and how it could be integral to the implementation of their "RePower Humboldt" strategic plan; using local renewable energy sources to keep the money here and increase independence; CCAs already operating successfully in other parts of the country; community and Board of Supervisors support; bids needed from power suppliers; financial analysis; consumer choice.

VIII. Old Business

None

IX. Member Reports

A. Blue Lake – John Sawatzky said they are searching for a new city manager; had a great fall festival; Logger Bar noise issue sorted itself out.

B. Arcata – Mark Wheatley said a CDBG grant came through; Economic Innovation Zone is in draft phase; Community Development Director Larry Oetker is retiring.

C. Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation & Conservation District – Mike Wilson absent.

D. County of Humboldt – Virginia Bass said the Planning Commission has been in long meetings discussing all things marijuana so Supervisors can get an ordinance before deadline; licensing has to be in place by January 1, 2016. General Plan is in review stage, scheduled for adoption October 2016.

X. Agenda/Program Requests for a future meeting

Mike Davis suggested Betty Kwan Chinn on Humboldt's Homeless.

XI. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 8 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Shirley Santino, Recorder

Sue Long, Chair