

**Minutes
Meeting of the Board of Directors
June 25, 2012**

I. Call to Order

Chair Mike Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Richard Dorn, Julie Fulkerson, Tyler Holmes, Nancy Koke, Mark Lovelace, Mike Losey, Mike Newman, John Rogers, Bruce Rupp, Sherman Schapiro, Frank Scolari, Mark Wheatley for Alex Stillman, Mike Wilson. Dendra Dengler joined the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

Absent: Bud Leonard, Ken Mierzwa, Bill Wennerholm

Guests: Erika Guevara Blackwell, HAIC, Matthew Marshall, Redwood Coast Energy Authority, David Narum, Greenway Partners

Staff Present: Don Ehnebuske, Virginia Fisher, Bonnie Smoller

II. Approval of Agenda and Minutes

M/SP: Scolari/Rupp to approve the June 25 agenda and minutes of the May 21, 2012 board meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

III. Financial Reports: M/S/P: Dorn/Wheatley to accept the financial reports of May 31, 2012.

Motion passed unanimously.

IV. Reports – no action required

A. **Loan Portfolio Report. May 31, 2012:** information only.

B. **Executive Director Report:** the report was given in writing.

C. **Executive Committee minutes of April 23, 2012:** information only.

V. Public Input – for non-agenda items

Requested for future board agendas: 1) move item “Public Input” to item III, and 2) approve agenda and minutes of previous board meeting as separate motions.

VI. Program: Matthew Marshall, executive director, Redwood Coast Energy Authority presented on RCEA programs that promote economic development in the region.

VII. Old Business - None

VIII. New Business

A. Request to change workers compensation coverage from State Fund to Special Districts

Risk Management Association (SDRMA): RREDC currently uses SDRMA for liability and health benefit coverage. By adding workers compensation coverage to SDRMA, RREDC will significantly reduce annual insurance costs.

It was moved to approve this item as follows: 1. The Board of Directors of RREDC approve the form and authorize the execution of a sixth amended and restated joint powers agreement and authorize participation in The Special District Risk Management Authority Workers Compensation Program.

2. The Redwood Region Economic Development Commission, a special district duly organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of California has determined that is in the best interest, and to the advantage of the Agency (RREDC) to participate for at least three full years in the workers' compensation program offered by the Special District Risk Management Authority.

M/S: Newman/Rupp. Ayes: 13, Noes: none, Abstain: one. Motion passes.

B. Consideration of approval of contract with Humboldt State Sponsored Programs Foundation

(California Center for Rural Policy) for Broadband Forum: RREDC has been instrumental in hosting four previous Broadband Forums. The California Center for Rural Policy (CCRP), acting

through Humboldt State University Sponsored Programs Foundation (HSU-SPF), will fund RREDC \$10,000 to host a forum at the River Lodge, Fortuna, on October 11, 2012. Event coordination will be done by Tina Nerat, with some assistance from RREDC staff.

Support for RREDC's participation in the forum was unanimous, however some wording in the contract was questioned and suggestions for change given.

M/S/P: Lovelace/Newman to allow staff to negotiate the contact with HSU-SPF, incorporating suggested changes to the degree possible. Motion passed unanimously.

- C. Consideration of request by Greenway Partners to act as fiscal agent for Headwaters Fund grant application for feasibility study/proof of concept for aquaculture facility:** The Humboldt Aquaculture Innovation Center (HAIC) has proposed an aquaculture start-up and business park on the Samoa Peninsula. Erika Guevara Blackwell is leading the project with technical assistance and product management support by Greenway Partners, Arcata.

A pilot aquaculture project is desired to help with assessing the feasibility of HAIC and to provide estimates of the business and job creation potential of the large scale project.

The estimated cost of the research and pilot project is \$250,000. HAIC is applying to Headwaters Fund for a \$70,000 grant towards this amount and asking RREDC to serve as an agency partner for this proposal.

The Headwaters Fund grant application is due Monday, July 2, 2012. Because of the timeliness of the matter, specific language would not be determined before the application deadline.

It was moved to approve this item as follows: RREDC will apply to the Headwaters Fund for a grant of \$70,000 for the pilot project of the Humboldt Aquaculture Innovation Center, and will act as the fiscal agent and contract with the HAIC and/or Greenway Partners to fulfill the grant application requirements. Staff will develop necessary grant application language in conjunction with HAIC and Greenway Partners and Professional Service Contracts and bring them back to the executive committee for approval. **M/S: Rupp/Fulkerson. Ayes: 13, Noes: none, Abstain: one.** Motion passes.

- IX. Member Reports:** Humboldt Bay Harbor, Manila CSD, County of Humboldt.
- X. Agenda item requests for July 23, 2012 meeting: Program:** Kathryn Lehner, President of College of the Redwoods. **New Business:** Consideration of board secretary position.
- XI. Adjourn:** the meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Bonnie Smoller, recorder

Mike Wilson, Chair