

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
HUMBOLDT BAY HARBOR, RECREATION AND CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

13 March 2008

PRESENT:

Commissioner Pellegrini
Commissioner Curless
Commissioner Wilson
Commissioner Hunter
Commissioner Higgins

President Hunter announced there was no Closed Session.

President Hunter called the regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners to order at 7:00 p.m.

City of Eureka Councilmember Mike Jones led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kaye Strickland asked if the Board would be discussing the Prop 1B application as an emergency item during this meeting since the CTC staff yesterday did not recommend the application to their Board for funding.

Marcus Brown commented about the Harbor District and NCRA's Prop 1B bond application. He said he would like to see both the train and trail around the bay succeed.

Melvin McKinney said the railroad belongs to the state and since there is no funding allocated for railroad repair, people should forget about bringing the railroad back.

Kaye Strickland said there is a lot of support here to bring the railroad back to operation. She said she would like to see the Prop 1B application be a discussion item at the Board's next meeting and would like to see the Timber Heritage Museum also be a future agenda item.

CONSENT CALENDAR

President Hunter pulled Item A for further discussion.

COMMISSIONER CURLESS MOVED FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE REMAINDER OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR. COMMISSIONER PELLEGRINI SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT.

President Hunter asked for a correction in the minutes from February 13, 2008. The minutes stated Commissioner Hunter made a motion, when actually Commissioner Higgins made the motion.

COMMISSIONER CURLESS MOVED FOR THE APPROVAL OF ITEM A OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR WITH THE NOTED CHANGE. COMMISSIONER PELLEGRINI SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT.

CEO REPORT

- CEO recently attended the CAPA Winter meeting in Palm Springs and then traveled on to Washington DC for CMANC Washington Week.
 1. CAPA: discussion centered around the Prop 1B process for the TCIF and port security portions and the statewide port awareness program.
 2. CMANC: CEO, along with Will Edington, Harbor District Washington DC legislative advocate, met with many legislators, agency representatives and staffers regarding federal funding for maintenance of California waterways, including Humboldt Bay bar and entrance. CEO reported Senators Boxer and Feinstein and Congressman Thompson are all very supportive.
- 3/14: Dredge Yaquina will be in Humboldt Bay tomorrow, a month ahead of schedule to start on emergency dredging on the shoal in Humboldt Bay's entrance channel. CEO stated that the dredge is

here at least a month ahead of schedule because the Corps of Engineers recognizes the danger and the need to remove the shoaling as quickly as possible. CEO also thanked those that helped get information to the Corps so they could send the Yaquina as quickly as was possible.

- Humboldt Bay ship traffic: 3 in March.
- 3/27: The first FY08/09 budget workshop will be held.
- The RFP for a new auditor has been distributed.
- Grants: Happy dollars - \$586,000 has been funded to enhance port security, a part of Prop 1B; Sad dollars – The CTC staff did not recommend the NCRA/Harbor District grant application for funding. CEO said there is still an opportunity and he will continue to work with CTC staff to revise the application, which may or may not include the NCRA portion.

DISTRICT COUNSEL REPORT

District Counsel stated at the last meeting it was requested he research the legality of declaring real property surplus and then transfer the property to a non-profit organization. He said he would have an opinion at the next Board meeting.

STAFF REPORT: None

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Pellegrini asked President Hunter to appoint her and another commissioner to work with CEO to create a community park at the Sea Scouts building in Fields Landing. This was a request from a constituent of Commissioner Pellegrini's and she said Supervisor Smith is also interested. President Hunter appointed Commissioner Wilson to work with Commissioner Pellegrini.

Commissioner Wilson reported he would not be running for County Supervisor in June.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Higgins reported he, President Hunter and CEO will meet on March 18th to discuss committee development. President Hunter stated discussion on committees would be an agenda item for the next Board meeting.

OTHER: None

NON-AGENDA

Commissioner Wilson said he would like to discuss the Prop 1B grant fund application in light of CEO's report.

COMMISSIONER WILSON MOVED FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF A NON-AGENDA ITEM BECAUSE THIS ITEM CAME TO THE ATTENTION OF THE BOARD AFTER THE AGENDA WAS POSTED AND IT IS TIME SENSITIVE. COMMISSIONER HIGGINS SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS

A. CONSIDERATION OF EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WITH ALAN BOBILLOT.

CEO reported the Board of Commissioners approved a staff reorganization plan in May 2007. He said this is the first time a maintenance position has been hired as a management position. There were 19 applications for the position of Director of Facility Maintenance, 8 applicants were interviewed by an interview panel, and 2 applicants returned for a subsequent interview with CEO. CEO has chosen Alan Bobillot to fill the position of Director of Facility Maintenance.

COMMISSIONER CURLESS MOVED FOR THE APPROVAL OF EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WITH ALAN BOBILLOT AT AN ANNUAL SALARY OF \$55,000. COMMISSIONER PELLEGRINI SECONDED.

Mike Jones said Mr. Bobillot has owned and operated his own businesses locally and is a good choice to fill the position.

MOTION CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT.

B. CONSIDERATION OF ACCEPTING FOR FILING PERMIT 08-01 TO REDWOOD COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY FOR THE WOOD CREEK ESTUARY ENHANCEMENT PROJECT.

District Counsel recused himself since his firm represents Redwood Community Action Agency, even though he did not help write the permit application.

COMMISSIONER PELLEGRINI MOVED TO ACCEPT FOR FILING PERMIT 08-01 TO REDWOOD COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY FOR THE WOOD CREEK ESTUARY ENHANCEMENT PROJECT. COMMISSIONER WILSON SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT.

C. CONSIDERATION OF ANY ACTION PERTAINING TO PROP 1B APPLICATION.

Commissioner Wilson said he believes the Harbor District has a fiduciary responsibility for the County and Humboldt Bay and asked if the Board thought it was beneficial to partner with NCRA in the application.

CEO stated the CTC staff gave their report to the CTC Board at the March 12th meeting. The next meeting will be held in April and at that time, the CTC Board will make their decision to accept staff's recommendation, vote against staff's recommendation or put the decision off to a future date.

Commissioner Wilson suggested a letter be sent by the Board to CTC stating a willingness to separate the Harbor District's portion of the application from NCRA's, if CTC would so advise. He said he felt there was strong support for the District's application, but less for the NCRA piece.

CEO suggested he follow up with CTC staff regarding the intent of their comments prior to making any changes to the application.

President Hunter stated he would like CEO to have the authorization to adapt the application in the Harbor District's best interest.

COMMISSIONER HIGGINS MOVED TO GIVE CEO THE AUTHORIZATION TO ADAPT THE PROP 1B FUND APPLICATION TO GIVE IT THE GREATEST OPPORTUNITY FOR SUCCESS. COMMISSIONER PELLEGRINI SECONDED.

Jennifer Savage asked if the shoaling in the bar and entrance was considered a life-threatening concern. The Board of Commissioners replied it is. Commissioner Pellegrini likened crossing the bar to playing Russian Roulette. She said the dangerous bar and entrance is the reason the Corps of Engineers is arriving early to dredge.

David Elsebusch asked how the grant funding was going to be used to relieve congestion. Commissioner Wilson replied if we cannot identify at this point what trucks will be hauling, how do we know congestion will be reduced. However, he said, if the shoaling worsens, large ships and fuel barges will be unable to come into Humboldt Bay, thereby causing more trucks to be on the roads. He said this is why the Harbor District's part of the application makes sense and is uncontroversial.

MOTION CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND EMERGENCY PERMITS: None

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

APPROVED BY:

RECORDED BY:

____Signature on File_____
Roy Curless
Secretary

____Signature on File_____
Patricia L. Tyson
Director of Administrative Services