

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

13 May 2004

PRESENT:

Commissioner Pellegrini
Commissioner Curless
Commissioner Fritzsche
Commissioner Hunter
Commissioner Ollivier

The Closed Session was called to order at 6:05 p.m. District Counsel reported the items of discussion: Café Marina lease, Simpson Samoa lease, Louisiana-Pacific North Coast Exports lease, Louisiana-Pacific pulp mill lease, Fur Breeders lease and the Humboldt Bay Forest Products lease.

Closed Session adjourned at 6:55p.m.

The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order by President Pellegrini at 7:00 p.m. Roll call was taken. President Pellegrini led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

District Counsel reported the following items were discussed during Closed Session: Café Marina lease, Simpson Samoa lease, Louisiana-Pacific North Coast Exports lease, Louisiana-Pacific pulp mill lease, Fur Breeders lease and the Humboldt Bay Forest Products lease. No action was taken on these items.

PUBLIC COMMENT

David Elsebusch brought a small, hand-held tape recorder equipped with a mini-cassette to show the Board and educate them on how small mini-cassettes, such as the ones the Harbor District uses, actually are. He said that he had asked to listen to the tape recording of the last Board meeting, but was told that once the tape was transcribed, it was erased and reused. He urged the Board to change the policy of erasing the tapes, because to him it would be reasonable to keep them for years, just the way McKinleyville Community Services District does.

Penny Elsebusch reported that recording tapes could be purchased on-line for a nominal fee (\$.15/ea.) at www.tapes.com.

Maggie Herbelin distributed to the Board several letters including an invoice for services for tape recording the Humboldt Bay Symposium that was held in March 2004. Ms. Herbelin had requested previously that the Board make a monetary donation to the costs of the symposium and had received a letter of response declining her request. Ms. Herbelin submitted at this meeting a subsequent letter to the Board again requesting a donation. She clarified that the donation should be made to RCAA since they are the fiscal responsible entity of the Humboldt Bay Stewards.

Daniel Pearce spoke to the Board about the importance of researching deriving energy from the waves in the ocean. He also spoke about the relationship between the Harbor District and NCRA. Mr. Pearce stressed the railroad should be considered an alternate means of transportation within Humboldt County and stated the future of Humboldt County lies in the promotion of tourism.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

CEO REPORT

- 4/26: CEO met with the representatives from the Small Business Development Center's consultant team to discuss the development of the West end of Woodley Island. Discussion centered on data needs and the group made an on-site tour.
- 4/28: The Harbor Revitalization Plan Advisory Committee Visioning Forum was held. CEO reported the results from the forum have not yet been received. Once the information has been delivered to the Harbor District another meeting will be called in order to disseminate the information.
- 5/3: CEO met with Sue Corbaley from the Coastal Conservancy along with the Moffitt and Nichols engineers by conference call regarding the Shelter Cove breakwater project. The engineers will deliver the first draft of their alternatives to CEO before the end of May.
- 5/6: CEO met with Troy Nicolini of the US Weather Service to discuss the installation of a video camera to be mounted on the entrance range of Humboldt Bay and what type of equipment would be required.
- CEO reported the Fields Landing Boat Yard Travelift building roof is in the final construction phase and a leak test on the roof will be done. Discussions with the insurance company are ongoing regarding the building's back wall.
- CEO reported on the Washington DC lobbyist efforts regarding WRDA, TEA grant and Appropriations.

DISTRICT COUNSEL'S REPORT

District Counsel reported on the status of SB1272 that was authored by Senator Ortiz. On May 10th the Appropriations Committee of the Senate placed the bill on suspense for the time being. Several of the statewide membership organizations the Harbor District belongs to (CAPA, CSDA, and ACWA among others) are opposed to the bill as it is written. The bill consists of many different mandates. Several of the issues are duplicative of other laws or statutes, some place further burden on the State Controller's office and some the of the issues will cause additional expense at the local level due to the annual audit requirements.

STAFF REPORT: None

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Curless reported that Greg Dale of Coast Seafoods spoke to the Fortuna Chamber of Commerce about the oyster growing business in Humboldt Bay.

Commissioner Fritzsche reported that Humboldt State University is preparing its Master Plan and Strategic Plan simultaneously. He said the Strategic Plan is mired in paperwork, but the Master Plan is on a faster track to completion. The Master Plan takes into consideration the expected increase in students by replacing the Van Duzer Theatre with a larger, more modern structure, completing the BSS building, and remodeling the Forbes complex, among other enhancements to the campus.

Commissioner Fritzsche also reported that as soon as the Governor signs the executive order allowing HSU to offer two additional service years for retiring faculty members, several may choose to retire early, including himself.

Commissioner Hunter congratulated Commissioner Ollivier on his appointment to the NCRA Board.

Commissioner Hunter reported that he was pleased with the attendance at the HRP Visioning Forum. He said the discussions were fruitful; many good ideas came from the participants. Commissioner Hunter remarked that he had hoped the results would be available sooner.

Commissioner Fritzsche said that he had seen Neil Peacock at HSU and Neil said they were very close to completing the compilation of information.

Commissioner Ollivier thanked Commissioner Hunter for his vote of confidence. He said he has been interested in the success of the railroad for many years and is looking forward to participating on the NCRA Board.

President Pellegrini reported that a close, personal friend of hers, Kelly Jenkins, has been diagnosed with leukemia and is currently at UCSF for treatment and a bone marrow donor has been located. She said that there would be a fundraiser to help Kelly's family with increasing medical expenses to be held at the Wharfinger building on May 20th from 7-9 p.m.

President Pellegrini reported she attended the Redwood Technology Consortium Tech Expo at Redwood Acres. At the Expo there was a display by SEADOG who is proposing to use submerged hydraulic pumps and sea waves for an alternative energy source. She said their preferred site would be off of Centerville Beach. Commissioner Fritzsche said that the SEADOG Company is originally from Minnesota. He said they may be surprised at the effect of the strong wave action on their equipment.

President Pellegrini said the meeting of the Humboldt Bay Management Plan Task Force on April 25th resulted in useful comments and suggestions. She said the desire is now to consolidate and condense the Plan's action items and goals and objectives. The next meeting will be announced at a later time.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS

President Pellegrini reported the Marina Concessions advisory committee met on May 6th regarding the HumBoats lease and recent requests made by owner Jay Dottle.

President Pellegrini reported the Fields Landing Boat Yard advisory committee met also on May 6th.

OTHER: None

NON-AGENDA: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS

A. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 2004-08 AUTHORIZING APPLICATION TO U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY FOR A WETLAND DEVELOPMENT GRANT.

CEO reported that resource information is continually being collected around Humboldt Bay as part of the Harbor District's resource management charge. He said Mark Wheatley of the Department of Fish and Game proposed a partnership to apply to the Environmental Protection Agency for a grant for wetlands development that would help to fill the gaps in the data that currently exist. The proposed resolution outlines the tasks to be completed as part of the grant. CEO reported that if necessary, outside contractors will be hired to assist in the project.

COMMISSIONER CURLESS MOVED FOR THE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 2004-08 AUTHORIZING APPLICATION TO U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY FOR A WETLAND DEVELOPMENT GRANT. COMMISSIONER OLLIVIER SECONDED.

Commissioner Fritzsche thanked Mark Wheelley and CEO for their efforts. He said that OSPR had previously done some research on invasive species in Humboldt Bay, but there is concern that there may be more invasive species that were not found through the earlier research.

Mark Wheelley reported that DFG is about to undertake an assessment effort on anadromous fish. He remarked that these efforts should all build on to the Humboldt Bay Management Plan, the County of Humboldt's General Plan and the Coho Recovery Plan. He said a pre-application had been submitted to the EPA, but a more expansive sub-list was being compiled. Mr. Wheelley thanked the Harbor District for being a willing partner in this important effort and that he thought it was beneficial that the Harbor District has previously been awarded grants from the EPA. He said President Richmond from HSU was interested in participating in this project and was willing to coordinate a project team.

Commissioner Fritzsche stated that the Harbor Revitalization Plan promotes the idea of a marine science building on Humboldt Bay and that President Richmond is a strong advocate of the idea.

David Elsebusch asked who would get the funds from the EPA. CEO responded that some of the grant money would come to the Harbor District as reimbursement for administrative and indirect costs and Mark Wheelley stated some of the funds would be allocated to state, local and tribal agencies participating in the project.

Dan Pearce stated the 1964 flood filled the holes in the rivers where the fish used to be and asked if the maps from that time would be included as part of the project. Mark Wheelley responded that the project included the Eel River delta, Yager Creek, Van Duzen River and South Fork areas.

Kaye Strickland asked if the marine science center that was being considered would be similar to the Monterey Bay Aquarium.

Pete Oringer stated that the Harbor Revitalization Plan recommended the area of Humboldt Bay north of the Elk River Spit and south of Schmidbauer (Parcel 4 behind Bayshore Mall) would be appropriate for an aquarium based on the water quality in that area.

ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN:

COMMISSIONER PELLEGRINI – AYE
COMMISSIONER CURLESS – AYE
COMMISSIONER FRITZSCHE – AYE
COMMISSIONER HUNTER – AYE
COMMISSIONER OLLIVIER – AYE

MOTION CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND EMERGENCY PERMITS: None

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

APPROVED BY:

RECORDED BY:

Signature on File
Ronald A. Fritzsche, Secretary

Signature on File
Patricia L. Tyson, Admin. Assistant