

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

**19 November 2007**

**PRESENT:**

Commissioner Pellegrini  
Commissioner Curless  
Commissioner Wilson  
Commissioner Hunter  
Commissioner Ollivier

The Closed Session was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Closed Session adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

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

President Curless led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

District Counsel reported the Closed Session items as follows: Real Property Negotiations – Status of Kuiper Mariculture leases A, B & C and Mad River Slough and property approved under the partial assignment from Simpson Timber Company. No action was taken.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Steve Morris congratulated Commissioner Curless for his election victory and offered to assist the Board of Commissioners and staff in any way. He thanked Commissioner Ollivier for his 16 years of service to the Harbor District and asked him to continue the good work he and others have started. He also asked the Board to consider allocating funds for earthquake and tsunami repairs, using the destruction at the Crescent City Harbor District as an example of the damage a tsunami could do to the marina.

Gerry Tomczak also thanked Commissioner Ollivier for his service to bring jobs and prosperity to the community. He said going “green” doesn’t mean a community has to go “grey”.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

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

**CEO REPORT**

- Ø 10/25-26: The Harbor District hosted the Fall CAPA meetings. The meetings were attended by representatives of the 11 California deepwater, public ports.
- Ø 10/25: CEO made a presentation to the Ocean Protection Council.
- Ø 10/29: The Harbor District hosted a meeting of professional mariners to solicit input on PG&E’s wave energy program.
- Ø 11/4-7: CEO participated in the CMANC meeting in Washington DC to speak to legislators on the harbor maintenance tax and other issues. CEO was there when the President’s veto of the WRDA bill was overridden.
- Ø CEO attended Eco-based management meetings.
- Ø CEO reported staff is busily preparing for the upcoming crab season.

**DISTRICT COUNSEL REPORT:** None

**STAFF REPORT:** None

**COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

Commissioner Pellegrini reported the government recently halted the opening of crab season in the Bay Area due to the oil spill in San Francisco Bay. She said many of the local crab fleet are helping with the cleanup.

Commissioner Wilson reported he attended a Humboldt Bay trails interagency group meeting.

Commissioner Ollivier stated he plans to continue his service on the NCRA Board through 2009. He said the rise in oil prices reflects favorably for the future of railroad operations.

Commissioner Hunter introduced Pat Higgins, newly elected Commissioner of the Fifth Division. Mr. Higgins thanked Commissioner Ollivier for his years of service on the Harbor District Board.

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS:** None

**OTHER:** None

**NON-AGENDA:** None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION OF 2007-2011 FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN.**

President Curless introduced the Strategic Plan Advisory Committee: Bob Gearheart, Dennis Mayo, Mark Wheatley, Ted Kuiper, Ken Bates, and Rich Trygar. President Curless said he was pleased with the 2007-2011 Strategic Plan and thanked the committee for the time and commitment.

President Curless then introduced Ted Loring, Jr. who facilitated the several outreach and committee meetings. Mr. Loring made a slide show presentation chronicling the many meetings and explaining the purpose of and need for a strategic plan. Mr. Loring spoke about the Harbor District's vision statement, strategic objectives and critical issues. He said the committee was comprised of diverse personalities and talents and it was a pleasure to work with all of them.

The Harbor District vision statement was updated to state: "Local leadership – regional stewardship – global significance".

Mr. Loring stated accountability for the specifics of the plan will be evident through regular staff reports and an annual review by the Board of Commissioners.

Mark Wheatley said he has worked with the Harbor District for about 25 years and has seen its evolution. He said the Strategic Plan represented a quantum leap forward for the District and is "joined at the hip" with the Humboldt Bay Management Plan, another of the District's monumental achievements.

Dennis Mayo said being on the committee was quite the learning experience. He said when you work under the public trust you have to represent all with no biases; put duty and service above self. He said the Plan addresses bay education, trails, eco-based system management, MLPA, community recreation etc. and asked for a collaborative concept approval by the Board of Commissioners.

Ted Kuiper said there is a large number of objectives included in the plan, but a small staff to carry them out. He said it is crucial to get the community involved in order to get many of the objectives accomplished.

Bob Gearheart thanked the Board for allowing him to participate in the process. He said he was surprised by the level of public participation and was glad to be a part of the development of the plan.

Ken Bates said this was his third time to participate on the Strategic Plan Advisory Committee. He said previously there was little public input and the results from this time are radically different. He said he enjoyed the process.

Rich Trygar said the committee was a great group to work with and the process was certainly an education. He said there are three divisions of the plan: harbor, recreation and conservation and if everyone is equally happy and unhappy, the plan is successful.

COMMISSIONER HUNTER MOVED FOR THE ADOPTION OF 2007-2011 FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN. COMMISSIONER PELLEGRINI SECONDED.

Commissioner Pellegrini said she liked the idea of an annual review and would like to invite the committee to participate again at that time.

Marcus Brown, Timber Heritage Association, said he is pleased to see the various comments made by the public included in the plan. He said the plan addresses the different wants of the community and it will take collaboration and partnership for success. He said the Harbor District needs to "toot its own horn" and this can happen with public participation and education.

David Spreen said he felt the document was more of a scoping document with no timelines, no methodologies. He said the Harbor District excludes the public and ignores the interests of the public. He suggested there be periodic reviews and more public involvement. Mr. Spreen gave a copy of his comments to Director of Administrative Services.

Kaye Strickland stated she was a member of the League of Women Voters who had originally defeated the organization of the port authority. Four years later Arcata, Eureka and the County of Humboldt put together a plan for the Harbor District, targeting harbor, recreation and conservation and economic development (including utilizing the port for the benefit of the population and stable living wage jobs). She said there must be more than trails here to keep people employed. Ms. Strickland also said she would like to see the Harbor District meetings televised on public access television.

Steve Morris encouraged the Board to approve the 2007-2011 Strategic Plan. He said he would like to see more public involvement, it is crucial, and also echoed the idea for televised meetings.

Melvin McKinney said he has sat in on two previous strategic plan development processes and knows it takes a lot of time and effort. He said the committee did the best they could with what they had to work with; but the plan is too broad and not specific enough. He said this last election shows people are tired of nothing being done. Shipping and development are not the only important issues. He also said he thought some issues were not being discussed publicly. Mr. McKinney said the current mariculture operators have a monopoly on Humboldt Bay and there should be a public bid process for the leases.

Carlos Quillez said there have been criticisms of the plan in the past, but he commended the committee for their work this time. He said he would like to see more local focus and direct benefits to the community. The bay is not a global resource; it needs to be maintained consistent with the recreation and conservation values of the community.

Pat Higgins said the plan is very inclusive and doesn't eliminate much. He said he is looking forward to helping the Harbor District accomplish the objectives in the Strategic Plan.

Pete Oringer thanked Commissioner Ollivier for his years of service and congratulated Pat Higgins. Mr. Oringer said the Humboldt Bay Management Plan is a project oriented document while the Strategic Plan is a boiler plate document that will be changed as time goes on. He said the success will be a thinking Board who will bring ideas to the table. He said the Board has taken great strides to be inclusive of the public and he encourages the Board to stretch their limited funds and harvest the energy recently seen during the election. Use volunteers for their service and expertise and stretch available resources.

Ken Bates said in the past he has both supported and opposed the Harbor District. He said the Strategic Plan is a double-edged sword; it is broad based and will be reviewed for each individual project presented to the Board.

Commissioner Hunter said the Strategic Plan is a high level look at the direction of the Harbor District for the next five years. Action plans will be more specific.

Commissioner Ollivier thanked Mr. Loring for his hard work. He said the Strategic Plan is very ambitious. Televised meetings will help educate the public on the Harbor District and what its function is. Humboldt Bay is a healthy port and a working port brings in the jobs.

Commissioner Wilson thanked the committee for their work. He said this is his first opportunity to comment on the plan and was disappointed in the process because he had previously requested a draft be brought to the Board in a combined meeting with the committee for discussion. He asked that the Board of Commissioners be included in the future when creating a plan of any kind. He said the Strategic Plan is a good start and the objectives seem to be good. The main criticism of the Plan is there is no way to measure the goals and objectives. No schedule has been discussed; when will the action plan be created. Commissioner Wilson said there has been so much positive energy expressed tonite, he did not want to rain on the parade; but he encouraged a committee formation for the majority of projects considered by the Board.

MOTION CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT.

Commissioner Hunter emphasized the amount of effort given by the volunteer committee members and the facilitator. He recommended staff lay out an action plan for the Strategic Plan objectives.

**B. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF A ONE-YEAR EXTENSION OF PERMIT NO. 03-03 TO THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME FOR THE *ZOSTERA JAPONICA* ERADICATION PROJECT.**

COMMISSIONER OLLIVIER MOVED FOR THE APPROVAL OF A ONE-YEAR EXTENSION OF PERMIT NO. 03-03 TO THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME FOR THE *ZOSTERA JAPONICA* ERADICATION PROJECT. COMMISSIONER WILSON SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT.

**ADMINISTRATIVE AND EMERGENCY PERMITS: None**

The Commissioners wished Commissioner Pellegrini all the best in her upcoming surgical procedure.

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

APPROVED BY:

RECORDED BY:

\_\_\_\_Signature on File\_\_\_\_\_  
Ronnie Pellegrini  
Secretary

\_\_\_\_Signature on File\_\_\_\_\_  
Patricia L. Tyson  
Director of Administrative Services