

MENDOCINO

Local Agency Formation Commission

Ukiah Valley Conference Center | 200 South School Street | Ukiah, California 95482
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COMMISSIONERS

Carre Brown, Chair
County Board of Supervisors

Tony Orth, Vice Chair
Brooktrails Township CSD

Gerald Ward, Treasurer
Public Member

Gerardo Gonzalez
Willits City Council

John Huff
Mendocino Coast Recreation
and Park District

Scott Ignacio
Point Arena City Council

John McCowen
County Board of Supervisors

Jenifer Bazzani, Alternate
Ukiah Valley Fire District

Will Lee, Alternate
Fort Bragg City Council

Carol Rosenberg, Alternate
Public Member

Ted Williams, Alternate
County Board of Supervisors

STAFF

Executive Officer
Uma Hinman

Analyst
Larkyn Feiler

Commission Clerk
Kristen Meadows

Counsel
Scott Browne

Regular Meetings

First Monday
of each month
at 9:00 AM
in the Mendocino
County Board
of Supervisors Chambers
501 Low Gap Road

Approved by Commission on December 2, 2019

MINUTES

Local Agency Formation Commission of Mendocino County

Regular Meeting of Monday, October 7, 2019

County Board of Supervisors Chambers, 501 Low Gap Road, Ukiah, California

- 1. CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL** (Video Time 1:55)
Chair Brown called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
Regular Commissioners Present: Carre Brown, Gerardo Gonzalez, John Huff, Scott Ignacio and Tony Orth.
Regular Commissioners Absent: John McCowen and Gerald Ward
Alternate Commissioners Present: Carol Rosenberg and Will Lee
Alternate Commissioners Absent: Jen Bazzani and Ted Williams
Staff Present: Uma Hinman, Executive Officer; Larkyn Feiler, Analyst; Kristen Meadows, Clerk
- 2. PUBLIC EXPRESSION** (Video Time 2:54)
No one from the public indicated interest in public expression.
- 3. OTHER BUSINESS** (Video Time 3:16)
Introduction of new LAFCo Clerk, Kristen Meadows by EO Hinman
- 4. CONSENT CALENDAR** (Video Time 3:59)
4a & 4b) Approval of the September 9, 2019 Regular Meeting Summary and Claims & Financial Report (Video Time 04:08)
EO Hinman noted that the claims and reports have been sent to Treasurer Ward and no comments had been received.
Upon motion by Commissioner Ignacio and second by Commissioner Gonzales, Consent Calendar items 4a and 4b, with no edits, was approved by roll call vote:
Ayes: (7) Orth, Gonzalez, Huff, Ignacio, Lee, Rosenberg and Brown
- 5. PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS** (Video Time 05:41)
5a) Weger Detachment from the Mendocino Coast Health Care District (LAFCo File No. D-2019-01)
Consideration of an application initiated by landowner petition to detach approximately 35,000 acres from the Mendocino Coast Health Care District (MCHCD)/District.
Chair Brown explained the procedure for the Public Hearing process. Commissioners Huff and Lee publicly announced and recused themselves from participating in the deliberations due to a personal conflict of interest, as they are both employed by the Mendocino Coast District Hospital (MCDH).

EO Hinman explained that correspondence was received from the Law Offices of Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud, & Romo in the late afternoon of Friday October 4, 2019 on behalf of the District, raising CEQA concerns and requesting continuance of the Public Hearing to November 4, 2019. EO Hinman further explained that upon consultation with LAFCo Legal Counsel, LAFCo staff has changed the previous recommendation of approving the application to continuing the Public Hearing item to the next public meeting on November 4, 2019 in order to provide time for LAFCo Counsel to review the concerns raised in the letter.

Analyst Feiler presented the staff report summarizing the detachment application, presenting analysis of EMS Dispatch data for the detachment and adjacent area over an eight-year period, potential financial impacts of the detachment, and the Notice of Exemption from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations §15061(b)(3).

Chair Brown invited the Chief Petitioner and District Representative to make presentations at 9:17 a.m.

Landowner and Chief Petitioner for the application, Lisa Weger, presented supporting information for the detachment and exemption from CEQA. She also thanked staff and complimented their work on the report.

Commissioner Ignacio asked questions relating to the route of travel and frequency of EMS response. Ms. Weger listed the roads used - Orr Springs, Ukiah-Comptche, and Highway 1 - and added that a drive to Ukiah takes about 30 minutes, while a drive to Fort Bragg takes over an hour. She referenced the dispatch data in the staff report noting that coastal response was 6% of the overall emergency calls.

MCDH CEO, Wayne Allen, presented comment stating that he received the Staff Report on October 2, 2019 which did not allow sufficient time to analyze the data. He respectfully requested a one month postponement. Chair Brown asked Allen if he was part of the previous discussions over the past 10 months, he confirmed participation. Commissioner Ignacio asked Allen about his tenure with MCDH. Allen stated he began his most recent service in April 2019. Ignacio noted that Allen was not part of the January 10, 2019 meeting mentioned by Ms. Weger.

Davey Beak, MCDH Ambulance Transportation Manager and Comptche Fire Chief, provided comment opposing the detachment, noting that the ambulance staffing on the coast is much more robust than the Ukiah corridor and that road conditions were better to the west of the detachment area. Mr. Beak also noted that he had sent a letter to LAFCo in early 2019 regarding emergency response to the area in response to the Weger Pre-Application Review request. Commissioner Orth asked for clarification regarding dispatch of the closest ambulance, noting the "golden hour" of life threatening emergencies. Mr. Beak confirmed that the closest ambulance would be dispatched, noting it depends on where ambulances are and which are available. Mr. Beak also noted that in most life-threatening emergencies, air ambulance would be the most common dispatched response in the area proposed for detachment. Commissioner Gonzalez clarified that emergencies with heavy trauma would be dispatched from CAL FIRE at the Howard Forest Station.

Chair Brown opened the Public Comment Period for the Public Hearing at 9:43 a.m.

Fourteen members of the public spoke in support of the application, all residents or landowners of the area proposed for detachment: Charlotte Jacobs, James Weger-Hodge, Tom Madden, Bill Johnson, Cathy Ellis, Craig Blencowe, Barry Vogel, Donald Hodge, Stuart Marcus, Terry d'Selkie, Roland Sanford, Joseph Silverman, Randolph Wood, and Ray Bentley.

Chair Brown invited the Chief Petitioner and District Representative to make closing remarks.

Chair Brown thanked the public for their attendance and comments, and upon consensus of a majority of seated Commissioners, Chair Brown continued the Public Hearing to the next regularly scheduled Commission meeting on November 4, 2019 at 9 a.m. or shortly thereafter. The Public Hearing and the Public Comment remains open.

TEN MINUTE BREAK (Video Time 1:25:31)

Chair Brown called a break from 10:25 to 10:40.

6. WORKSHOP ITEMS None

7. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION

7a) Alternate Public Member Recruitment (Video Time 01:41:22)

EO Hinman presented the staff report, noting the deadline of October 28, 2019 and that the vacancy announcement had been posted on September 19, 2019 and was published in the newspapers, posted on the website, and posted on the office door.

7b) CALAFCO Dues Structure Proposed Changes (Video Time 01:41:24)

EO Hinman presented the staff report and discussions with other LAFcos regarding the CALAFCO proposal, noting it was a continued discussion from the September 2, 2019 meeting and that the agenda packet included information requested by the Commission. Discussion ensued. Commissioner Orth supported a higher population cap. Commissioner Ignacio suggested a minimum population of 125,000 to trigger the base dues of \$1,000. The Commission requested an advance copy of the Ventura LAFco proposal before the CALAFCO Annual Business meeting.

7c) CALAFCO 2019 Board Elections (Video Time 01:58:34)

EO Hinman presented the staff report, noting information regarding the nominees were included in the agenda packet. The Commission unanimously supported voting for David Couch and Bill Connelly.

8. INFORMATION/ REPORT ITEMS

8a) Work Plan, Current, and Future Proposals (Video Time: 02:07:15)

EO Hinman presented the staff report, noting no changes to new applications or future proposals.

8b) Correspondence (Video Time: 02:12:50)

EO Hinman noted the SDRMA President's Special Acknowledgement Award for Property/Liability Program.

8c) Executive Officer's Report (Video Time: 02:13:40)

EO Hinman reported on the following:

- Meeting with City staff (Phil Williams and Craig Schlatter) regarding the City's Sphere of Influence update, LAFco's Area of Interest Policy, and agricultural and open space policies. Chair Brown provided some background on the last General Plan Update and the history of the Right to Farm Ordinance, noting the Ukiah Valley Area Plan was an effort between the City and County to coordinate development in the Ukiah Valley. Phil Williams, Attorney representing the City of Ukiah, cautioned the Commission against expressing bias.
- Meeting with Point Arena City Manager regarding the process for formation of a harbor district.
- Meeting with Mr. Nicoll regarding inclusion of his parcels in the application for annexation of Masonite properties.

- The yearend financials had been drafted and provided to the Treasurer for review. In the process of finalizing the financial reports for sending to Zach Pehling for the FY 2018-19 audit.
- Training of the Clerk is in process.

8d) Committee Reports

None. An Executive Committee meeting will be held immediately following the regular meeting.

8e) Commissioners Reports, Comments or Questions (Video Time: 2:27:36)

None

8f) CALAFCO Business and Legislation Report (Video Time: 2:28)

EO Hinman noted the legislative report was in the staff report. Chair Brown noted that there would be a comprehensive Legislative Update at the Conference.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, at 11:30 a.m. the meeting was adjourned. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 4, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. in the County Board of Supervisors Chambers at 501 Low Gap Road, Ukiah, California.

Live web streaming and recordings of Commission meetings are now available via the County of Mendocino's YouTube Channel. Links to recordings and approved minutes are also available on the LAFCo website.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v-ISU_a6eG8&list=PLraKTU7AyZLQSWrivynWsfVnleKBpqK-f&index=8&t=0s