



**HUMBOLDT BAY MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT**  
828 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Eureka



**Minutes for Special Joint Meeting of HBMWD Board of  
Directors with the Ruth Lake Community Services District  
Board of Directors June 26, 2020**

**Via Zoom due to COVID-19**

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Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District (HBMWD) conducted a joint Board Meeting with Ruth Lake CSD to discuss issues or events of mutual interest.

**1. Introductions/Roll Call**

Ruth Lake CSD experienced technical difficulties and joined the Zoom meeting at 9:09 am. President Woo called the meeting at that time. Members of the two Boards and staff as well as guests introduced themselves. See attached sign in list.

**2. Public Comment**

No public comment was received.

**3. Updates from Guests:**

- a. Trinity County - 5<sup>th</sup> District Supervisor and Staff  
Supervisor John Fenley stated all is well and did not have any updates. CAO Richard Kuhns had some billing questions to discuss with Ruth Lake CSD and stated he would discuss them under Item 5.
- b. US Forest Service-  
No representative was present.
- c. Trinity County Volunteer Fire Department and /or STAR  
Mr. Gene Lombardo, Board member of Trinity County Volunteer Fire Department reported the department was able to acquire a Type Three Woodland fire vehicle. This is a good add to the department and they are able to continue to respond to 911 calls.
- d. Trinity County Sheriff/OES  
No representative was present.
- e. Ruth Lake Leaseholders Association  
No representative was present.
- f. Any other guests  
No guests were present.

**4. HBMWD Topics**

- 4.1 Aquatic Invasive Species:
  1. 2019 Annual Report  
Mr. Friedenbach reviewed the report from Ruth Lake CSD regarding the number of watercraft inspections last year. Ms. Canale stated this year has been very busy starting Memorial Day weekend. There was a high volume of stickers purchased after the inspections.



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2. Dept. of Boating and Waterways Quagga Prevention Grants

The District has applied for another grant this year but have not heard back regarding the status. Included in the request is \$3,700 for supplies related to the inspection process for Ruth Lake CSD. Director Rupp noted that Ruth Lake CSD charges a fee for the inspection and sticker/banding. He inquired if they were just covering costs or generating income when grant funding is received to cover supply costs. Ms. Canale stated the fees go towards staffing. They are needing more inspectors to keep the process flowing smoothly. Director Rupp thanked Ms. Canale and stated the Prevention Plan is an important program to maintain the integrity of the not only the infrastructure for drinking water but for recreation as well and appreciates the work by Ruth Lake CSD. President Woo echoed the sentiment.

3. Any issues or areas of concern

Ms. Canale stated destruction to the gates and locks at Ruth Lake have increased. She is working on getting them repaired however, due to the pandemic, the repair company does not want to come out. Larger rocks are also deteriorating and being destroyed to allow lake access. Supervisor Fenley inquired if she and her Board have started working towards putting a plan together to deal with the issue and/or worked with Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District. Ms. Canale replied this really all started just last week. HBMWD Ruth Representative Larry Raschein reinforced what Ms. Canale said and noted he has moved large rocks back in place however, they are moved the next day. Director Rupp stated this is the first time he is hearing of deterioration of Ruth Lake CSD capital improvements. He hopes RLCSD has some funds budgeted for capital improvements. Mr. Friedenbach stated he will work with Ruth Lake CSD to come up with some ideas and they will bring them back to their respective Boards.

4.2 Law Enforcement on Ruth Lake

Director Rupp stated it sounds like enforcement is an issue based on what was just heard. Ms. Canale stated there is a definite need for enforcement. Mr. Friedenbach stated HBMWD has budgeted \$5,000 to supplement Ruth Lake CSD's enforcement budget. Previously, retired deputies patrolled the lake on weekend. He inquired with Supervisor Fenley and CAO Kuhns if they could reach out to the Trinity County Sheriff and see what options are available. They both agreed to check on options.

4.3 Tree Removal Policy

Mr. Friedenbach shared the modified tree removal procedures for leaseholders. The Board approved this in April and it was modified to be more conducive for leaseholders to remove trees on their site with less costs. The normal approval process needs to be followed. Ruth Lake CSD Director Sellman inquired what are the leaseholders supposed to do when the trees



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are down? Especially those with boat access only. Mr. Friedenbach stated it is the responsibility of the lease holder to remove any trees they cut down. Director Latt stated if the tree removal policy is too onerous, it will strongly disincentivize compliance to the policy. Director Rupp stated perhaps they could cut into smaller pieces and split the wood. Mr. Raschein noted only the procedures have changed with the new policy to make it easier for the lease holder to remove trees. What did the lease holders do before? Director Rupp requested ideas from Ruth Lake CSD. None were received.

4.4 Cannabis Cultivation in the Mad River Watershed

Mr. Kuhns stated he is working with the Trinity County Sheriff to do some fly-overs to scope out the area. He will try to attend the July meetings to update the boards.

4.5 California Special Districts Training Opportunities

President Woo stated she serves on two Boards, including RCEA. Both the Executive Director and Board Secretary of RCEA have learned a great deal through CSDA training. She highly recommends attending GM Summit and Board Secretary training if possible. Mr. Friedenbach concurred. He stated he has attended both the GM Training and the Board Secretary Training. The District sends Ms. Sobol to the Board Secretary Training on a regular basis and the benefits are well worth the investment.

**5. Ruth Lake CSD Topics**

5.1 Lease Lots: area of concern

Mr. Kuhns stated he received a call from a Ruth Lake lease holder inquiring about solid waste disposal fees assessed on each parcel. The lease holder has been paying \$100 however, the new bill states the amount is \$70. Ms. Canale stated she spoke with staff at the Trinity County solid waste department and learned that due to a billing software update, multiple bills with varying amounts were sent out. Trinity County staff is aware of the issue and will be sending out corrected bills.

Ms. Canale asked HBMWD if any progress has been made regarding debris removal along the shoreline. Mr. Friedenbach stated staff is still trying to determine a reasonable solution. Director Rupp stated he believed there is a policy in place, the question is about the removal procedure. Mr. Friedenbach confirmed there is a policy. This is an important issue as there is a potential for the debris to go to the spillway which is a dam safety concern.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 10:16 am

Attest:

  
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Sheri Woo, Board President

  
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J. Bruce Rupp, Board Secretary/Treasurer

Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District  
Joint Board Meeting with Ruth Lake CSD  
Attendance Roster  
June 26, 2020

*held via zoom*

Name	Agency
<u>John Friedenbach</u>	<u>HBMWD</u>
<u>Larry Raschein</u>	<u>HBMWD</u>
<u><del>Dale Davidsen</del></u>	<u><del>HBMWD</del></u>
<u>Chris Harris</u>	<u>HBMWD</u>
<u>Sheri Woo</u>	<u>HBMWD</u>
<u>Neal Latt</u>	<u>HBMWD</u>
<u>Bruce Rupp</u>	<u>HBMWD</u>
<u>Michelle Fuller</u>	<u>HBMWD</u>
<u>David Lindberg</u>	<u>HBMWD</u>
<u>Sherrie Sobol</u>	<u>HBMWD</u>
<u>Dee Dee Simpson-Glenn</u>	<u>HBMWD</u>
<u>John Fentley</u>	<u>TC Supervisor Dist 5</u>
<u>Gene Lombardo</u>	<u>BOD STVFD</u>
<u>Richard Kuhns</u>	<u>TC CAO</u>

**Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District  
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**Name**

**Agency**

Caitlin Canale

RLCSD

Debbie Sellman

RLCSD

Brian Nicholson

RLCSD

Sue Gordon

RLCSD

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