



**GREAT REDWOOD TRAIL AGENCY
Board of Directors Meeting**

Thursday, August 17, 2023, 10:30am
Eureka City Council Chambers
531 K Street, 2nd Floor, Eureka
Humboldt County

FINAL MINUTES

A. OPEN SESSION - CALL TO ORDER

Chair Hart called the meeting to order at 10:30am.

B. ROLL CALL

Directors Present: Campbell, Bagby, Madrone, Hunerlach, Hagele (arrived at 10:36am), Sackett, Mulheren, and Chair Hart.

Directors Absent: Haschak

Others Present: Interim Executive Director – Karyn Gear, Legal Counsel – Elizabeth Coleman, and Recording Secretary – Hiedy Torres

C. AGENDA APPROVAL

Upon Motion by Campbell, seconded by Bagby the agenda was approved with the removal of Closed Session Item H.1.

Motion Carried:

AYES: 7- Campbell, Bagby, Madrone, Hunerlach, Sackett, Mulheren, and Chair Hart.

NOES: 0

ABSENT: 2- Haschak and Hagele

ABSTAIN: 0

D. PUBLIC COMMENT

Craig Benson, Humboldt Bay Harbor District Commissioner/Cal Poly Alumni- Mr. Benson thanked the board for coming to Humboldt County and voiced a huge amount of support for the once in a generation Great Redwood Trail. He said the community is very excited about the trail, and he reiterated that public and private partnerships along the rail line are of great value, especially in the Eel River Canyon because that area is a huge concern. The long-term maintenance and care would benefit from partnership with local utilities.

Bruce Silvey, Humboldt Trails Council- Mr. Silvey welcomed the Board to Humboldt County and said that hybrid meetings would allow the public to attend GRTA meetings.

Director Madrone- Dir. Madrone thanked the Humboldt Trails Council for all their hard work and dedication to trails.

Joe Oliver, Member of Timber Heritage Association- Mr. Oliver said he volunteers to keep the right of way clear in Humboldt County with a focus on the coastal area and he would like to mirror the Humboldt Trails Council comments and requested that Zoom meetings be made available for public participation. He also said that public utilities along the right of way are a good option to explore.

E. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Approval of Minutes - Regular Board of Directors Meeting- June 15, 2023
2. Approval of Financial Statements – June and July 2023
3. Approval of Warrants Issued – June and July 2023
4. Approval of Cal Card Statement – June and July 2023

Chair Hart called for public comment on the Consent Calendar. No public comments were made.

Upon Motion by Director Bagby, seconded by Director Campbell, Agenda Items E.1 through E.4 were approved as presented.

Motion Carried:

AYES: 8- Campbell, Bagby, Madrone, Hunerlach, Hagele, Sackett, Mulheren, and Chair Hart.

NOES: 0

ABSENT: 1- Haschak

ABSTAIN: 0

F. STAFF REPORT

1. Executive Director Report - Karyn Gear

Ms. Gear said she is excited to see the Humboldt Bay Trail South project underway and looks forward to seeing the project move forward. An update regarding Zoom meetings has not been provided, but hopefully when the new General Manager is hired, that can be addressed because public participation is welcomed by the agency.

Hannah Bartee was welcomed and introduced as the new Humboldt County Project Manager. Ms. Gear gave a brief description of Ms. Bartee's knowledge about trails and her familiarity with the counties within the right of way.

Master Plan Community Engagements Meetings are continuing to be conducted. The meetings have been well attended, and a lot of interest has been shown. The next public meetings will be around December when the draft plan is complete.

Chair Hart called for public comment. No public comments were made.

G. MATTERS FROM THE BOARD

No matter from the Board.

Chair Hart called for Public Comment on Closed Session items. No public comments were made.

The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 10:43am.

H. CLOSED SESSION

Item H.1 removed from agenda at Agenda Approval.

1. Discussion with Legal Counsel Regarding Pending Litigation:
Abandonment and Railbanking Filings before Surface Transportation Board, AB 1305X
[Government Code section 54956.9(a)]
2. Conduct Interviews and Discussion of the Board Regarding Appointment of Public Officer, General Manager
Position
[Government Code section 54957(b)(1)]

I. ANNOUNCEMENT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

The Board reconvened to Open Session at 3:07pm.

Chair Hart- Regarding agenda item H.2, staff was given direction.

J. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING

Regular Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, October 19, 2023, 10:30am
Healdsburg City Council Chambers
401 Grove Street, Healdsburg
Sonoma County

K. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Hart adjourned the meeting at 3:08am.