



Westport Municipal Advisory Council

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DRAFT

Summary Minutes— March 1, 2011

The WMAC Board of Directors convened for a meeting on March 1, 2011 at 7:00 PM at the Westport Community Church in Westport with the following Directors Present: Vidaver, Knapp, Grigg, Alternate Director Scott, and Director Van Bueren presiding.

1) ROLL CALL

Roll call was conducted with directors Grigg, Vidaver, Scott, Knapp, Grigg, and Van Bueren present. Director Eyerly was absent. Director Vidaver was appointed to take minutes in his absence.

2) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES of February 1, 2011 meeting** Director Knapp moved, Director Scott seconded approval of minutes as revised and circulated prior to the meeting. No discussion. Motioned approved w/ Dir. Vidaver abstaining.

3) **Public Expression—(Discussion Only)** No public expression other than on agendized topics.

4) **New Business – No New Business on Agenda** However, Dir. Knapp brought up concerns re address confusion re “Seacape (St? Rd? Ave?)” as an item needing urgent consideration and by a unanimous vote of the Directors present, this item was added to the agenda.. Confusion makes it difficult for emergency response to know where to go. Dir Knapp will write letter to appropriate agency & circulate prior to next meeting to clarify or rectify this confusion.

5) **Old Business—Discussion and Possible Action**

a) **Herbicide use on timberlands (THP 1-10-139-MEN, Howard Creek)** After lively discussion amongst WMAC directors & 10 members of the public regarding concerns over the use of *Imazapyr* for use in tanoak control, Dir. Knapp moved & Dir. Grigg seconded that WMAC submit comments on this THP before the March 15, 2011 close of public comment. Dir. Van Bueren will write draft letter to circulate amongst other directors for input. Comments would include expression of those concerns & request more information on the safety of the herbicide. Motion carried unanimously. It was further agreed that WMAC would discuss this issue with Mendocino Redwood Company representative John Anderson who has stated they are looking into alternatives to herbicide use. This issue was taped & broadcast by KMUD radio.

b) **Highway 1 Safety Issues—Scott/VanBueren:** Dir. Scott reported he & Dir. Van Bueren attended the recent MCOG meeting & presented WMAC’s concerns about highway safety issues in WMAC’s jurisdiction. MCOG staff claimed they never received our original letter. Dir. Scott will attend March MCOG meeting. Dir. Knapp also reported on a conversation with Caltrans personnel regarding the continuing slippage of the highway above Blue’s Beach. Caltrans person said they’d drilled down & that the road is slipping all the way down to the beach. Repair will cost around \$30 million. As yet there is no proposed project for repair. Meanwhile Caltrans may install an electronic sign the message of which can be changed quickly in case the road slips catastrophically. Caltrans also suggested some highway safety issues might be partially

addressed in the Coastal Trail Feasibility Study.

c) Ocean Update: Reports by Dir. Vidaver on MLPA: California Department of Fish & Game Commission accepted for consideration the “unified array” submitted by the North Coast Regional Stakeholder Group. The Commission also directed their staff to present a MPA alternative proposal more in line w/ the MLPAL science guidelines & that protected Tribal rights. The South Coast MPA array is being litigated. On the National Ocean Policy, the West Coast regional stakeholders have been selected. NOP is accepting comments on their proposed topics of consideration until April 29, 2011. WMAC will consider filing comments at its next meeting. FERC & Green Wave decision by 9th Circuit Federal Court: Because GreenWave failed to follow the FERC mandated schedule, FERC revoked GreenWave’s permit, thereby mooting the case brought by local organizations, FISH & OPC.

d) Westport Trail Feasibility Study Update: Dir. Van Bueren circulated a schedule and draft table of contents for this project to directors prior to the meeting for information purposes only. No action taken.

6) Other business/announcements – Discussion Only Dir. Vidaver announced Ocean Protection Coalition will be presenting a program Sunday March 20th at Fort Bragg Town as part of the Whale Festival. This program will focus on potential impacts of Navy training exercises on the marine environment, especially Whales. NRDC & Gray Whale Coalition will speak.

7) Set Preliminary Agenda for next meeting Next meeting will be April 4, 2011 Items for agenda:

- Herbicide use on Timber Harvest w/ John Anderson as guest
- Highway safety update
- Seascape address confusion
- NOP comments

8) Adjournment

Chairman Van Bueren adjourned the meeting at approximately 9:15 P.M.

Thad Van Bueren, Chair

ATTEST:

Chuck Eyerly, Secretary