



# City of Fort Bragg

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## Meeting Minutes - Final Public Works and Facilities Committee

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Thursday, November 19, 2015

3:00 PM

City Hall Conference Room, 416 N. Franklin Street

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### MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 3:03 by Committee Member Turner.

### ROLL CALL

Staff members present: Crystal Prairie, Tom Varga, Linda Ruffing.

Present: 2 - Dave Turner and Lindy Peters

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 1 Approve Minutes from October 15, 2015

Minutes were approved as presented.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

### CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

- 2 Receive Report and Discuss Desalinization and Alternate Water Supply Technologies

Public Works Director Varga gave a brief summary of the staff report regarding alternate water harvesting techniques. City Manager Ruffing and Varga had calls with a Reverse Osmosis (RO) researcher per recommendation by the State of California. At this point the biggest version of that product produces 20,000 gallons per day.

Varga spoke to a "fog harvester" who has been testing the technology in the San Bruno mountains. Ruffing asked how much water the units produce, 118 gallons, over 12 hours, per unit.

Nearly all the technologies would require a "pilot plant." There was some discussion regarding the best location for a pilot plant, close to the ocean to facilitate easier disposal, or farther away and closer to the source. There would either be water transported from the location to the plant, or waste transported from the location to the ocean. There was discussion of trucking costs and how they may be very high.

Committee member Peters mentioned that years ago members from Lockheed came to the City Council and discussed a technology of running pipe underwater in the ocean to dispose of "brine."

Cambria has a RO plant and is in a situation very similar to Fort Bragg. The capital cost was \$9M. Total cost with financing was \$13M. There is a state park nearby and the state park is concerned about brine disposal. The project was constructed as an "emergency" project. There was

discussion of having someone come to Fort Bragg to evaluate what could be done locally that is similar. Committee member Peters will contact the designers of the plant and discuss the possibility of a visit and attendance at a future Public Works Committee Meeting.

The cost for an "alternate technology" project such as those mentioned, to augment or replace water sources, is approximately \$10M.

There was discussion of ways to prevent future water emergencies in the "short term," such as developing wells, which would be faster and less expensive. The well at the CV Starr center has 2 storage tanks currently and a third is going to be added so that if supplemental water needs to be trucked to the plant, it's available. The cost to put infrastructure and treatment in place permanently could be several hundred thousand dollars. A test run of the trucking of water from the well to the plant has been done. There was discussion of "fish blocking" and oxygenation of the water when using a water bladder.

There was discussion of needing Lake and Streambed alterations for our current sources and the loss of water. This makes alternate sources of water an immediate necessity. There are very high tides starting Sunday of next week, and it's a holiday. There will be more usage.

There will be a Special Council Meeting in January to just talk about water issues.

## **MATTERS FROM COMMITTEE / STAFF**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**Meeting was adjourned by Committee Member Turner at 4:07pm.**