

# Herlong Public Utility District



Regular Board Meeting September 23, 2025

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**CALL TO ORDER:** Director Everett called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

**FLAG SALUTE:** Director Everett led the flag salute.

**ROLL CALL:** Those present: Director Kessler, Director Harris and Director Everett. Absent: Director Flores and Director Johnson.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Taken out of agenda order to allow Chief Al Rocca (via Zoom) to introduce himself and US Search and Rescue Board member Sal Hanna. Chief Rocca presented the HPUD Board with information regarding 70+ acres that has been donated to the US Search and Rescue near the end of Pole Line Rd. US Search and Rescue are planning to develop the acreage into a conservation area and walking park. They are looking forward to managing the property, putting it to its best use while protecting it from misuse and doing training that will benefit Herlong Volunteer Fire Department.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Motion made by Director Kessler to approve the agenda as presented. Director Harris seconded the motion. 3 Ayes: Director Kessler, Director Harris and Director Everett. 0 Noes. 2 Absent: Director Flores and Director Johnson.

**PUBLIC COMMENT con't:** Alfred Quoss owner of 108 Manzanita, asked Board to waive part or all of his bill. Board will review the matter and send Mr. Quoss a letter with their decision. Belinda Lawson brought up concerns regarding the cost of the services for West Patton Village.

**MINUTES:** Motion made by Director Kessler to approve August 19, 2025, minutes as presented. Director Harris seconded the motion. 3 Ayes: Director Kessler, Director Harris and Director Everett. 0 Noes. 2 Absent: Director Flores and Director Johnson.

**FINANCIALS:** Motion made by Director Everett to approve and file the August 2025 Financial Statements as presented. Director Harris seconded the motion. 3 Ayes: Director Kessler, Director Harris and Director Everett. 0 Noes. 2 Absent: Director Flores and Director Johnson.

**SHAW ENGINEERING:** Owen Wurgler updated the Board on the Elevated Tank Recoating Project. Unified Field Services will begin scaffolding placement September 29, with a target completion date at the end of November or beginning of December 2025.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT UPDATES:** HVFD had 15 calls in August: 2 false fire alarms, 1 fire and 12 medical calls. Work on the Fire Command Truck has been completed. Report on an accident at the Fire Barn with cost information to make repairs. Medical Tuesdays will now be held in Susanville, with the next meeting on October 21<sup>st</sup>. HVFD volunteer Enosh Everett gave a report on the 9/11 Ceremony and summarized the past months call and events.

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**RECOGNIZE EMPLOYEE'S ANNIVERSARY:** Sandy Seifert-Raffelson was recognized for having been employed by HPUD for 20 years. Sandy was presented with an award, card with signatures of Board members, staff, and many community members, along with a candy bouquet.

**DRAFT LETTERS FOR RATE CHANGES:** GM Raffelson presented Board with information on dates regarding the rate study and the process HPUD is legally required to follow. GM Raffelson also presented Board with sample bills and dates that will be followed for the rate change process. There will be a special Community meeting in October.

**WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE:** Email from Chief Al Rocca from US Search and Rescue. Email regarding Herlong High School football game dates. Email from Institute for Local Government regarding the possible effect the CA Redistricting would have on Special Districts.

**GM REPORT:** *Fire Department:* Due to the on-going training and repairs to the fire barn GM suggests the HVFD's open house be held in the Spring. *Water:* Financial investment sheets have been updated to include future costs to replace meters in 2032. *Wastewater:* C&S Waste just informed the District that they can no longer haul sludge to Lockwood Landfill because they do not have enough drivers. The company they recommended out of Sparks is 3 times the cost of C&S Waste (\$500 to \$1500 a load). We may need to use them for a load or 2 until we can find alternative haulers. *Plant Bathroom:* is having problems with draining. Staff have snaked the drain several times. Unfortunately, the drain is not plastic, and it runs under the cement foundation. Guess Plumbing has been out twice to video the line, so we can make a sound decision. *Greenway:* Signage and bench are here. We are working on repairing the current 2 benches on the greenway. Staff hope to repair water lines in the next 60 days, so community and staff can plant trees in September/October. Researching the best reasonable memorial plaques to purchase for individual remembrance. Contacting arborists to care for trees, trimming, and removal of dead trees. *Leadership/Governance Conference:* Director Kessler and Ms. Rockey will both be attending this conference October 5-8, 2025, in Redding. Board member resignation: Letter of resignation from Director Flores had been previously emailed to remaining Board members. His resignation is effective September 30, 2025. Board gave GM Raffelson direction to begin advertising the position on October 1, 2025, so the Board can review applications and appoint a new Board member at the November meeting. *Next Board meeting:* 10/28/2025.

**DIRECTOR UPDATES:** Director Everett reported PSREC's planned outages in October for WPV. Assembly of God Church is moving to the old Base Chapel, with a name change to Freedom Church. Their food bank will be held there.

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**ADJOURNMENT:** Director Everett adjourned the meeting at 6:48pm.

**ATTEST TO:**

Handwritten signature of Cheri Kessler in blue ink, written over a horizontal line.

Cheri Kessler, Board Secretary

Handwritten signature of Barbara D. Lee in blue ink, written over a horizontal line.

Barbara D. Lee, District Clerk

