



Headwaters Fund Board (HWFB) Meeting Minutes

507 F Street, Eureka CA, 95501

10/14/2025 - Minutes

A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Called to order 2:00PM

B. ROLL CALL

Board members in attendance: Elizabeth Cameron (Chair), Walter Gray III (Vice Chair), Walt Geist (Treasurer), Michael Fields

C. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA

Motion to receive all grant proposals and to make award determination following presentations by Walt Geist and seconded by Michael Fields. Motion Carried Unanimously.

D. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

E. CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion to approve consent calendar made by Walt Geist and seconded by Michael Fields. Motion Carried Unanimously.

E.1. Approval Of Minutes: 6-10-25 Regular Meeting

E.2. Approval Of Minutes: 7-21-25 Special Meeting

F. ITEMS SET FOR TIME CERTAIN

F.1. 3:00 PM Revolving Loan Fund: Semiannual Lender Reports

New and existing loan performance was discussed. Staff directed to schedule meeting with HWF officers and lenders to discuss troubled loans in greater detail.

Motion to approve reports made by Michael Fields and seconded by Walt Geist. Motion Carried Unanimously.

G. ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

G.1. Mini Grant Request From: StartUp Humboldt Innovation Hub

Received presentation from NorCal Small Business Development Center director on the potential opportunities for fostering entrepreneurship through the Innovation Hub and affiliated Pitch Competitions.

Motion to approve request by Walt Geist seconded by Michael Fields. Motion Carried Unanimously.

G.2. Mini Grant Request From: Redwood Coast Chamber Foundation

Received presentation from Redwood Coast Foundation director on the funding needs affiliated with the newly formed Cámara de Comercio Humboldt.

Motion to approve request by Michael Fields seconded by Walt Geist. Motion Carried Unanimously.

G.3. Mini Grant Request From: Humboldt Made

Received presentation from Humboldt Made director on the community Choose Humboldt marketing campaign and the affiliated ask of Headwaters for support.

Motion to approve request by Walter Gray III, seconded by Walt Geist. Motion Carried Unanimously.

G.4. Mini Grant Request From: Forest WRX Alliance

Presentation from CalForest WRX director on the need for greater collaboration and planning activity to support new and innovation wood products.

Motion to deny request by Michael Fields seconded by Elizabeth Cameron. Motion Carried 3:1 with Walt Geist opposed.

G.5. Update On Headwaters Fund Board Recruitment

Staff updated the board on successful board recruitments with new members, Taylor Bowes and Scott Davies seated by the next meeting.

G.6. Update On Headwaters Fund Reconciliation

Staff provided a brief update on work in progress on fund reconciliation and its impacts on program activities.

G.7. Staff Update On 2025 Competitive Grant Cycle Awards

Staff provided updates on progress made in executing agreements, noting that a lot of folks were having insurance issues. Staff are preparing materials and events in the future to better prepare grantees to navigate the county processes.

G.8. Scheduling Of November Meeting

Discussed the potential need to hold a special meeting in November to support a loan request from Redwood Region Economic Development Commission to support the Southern Humboldt Community Healthcare District. 11/4/25 identified by straw poll as a workable date.

H. ITEMS PULLED FROM CONSENT

I. ADJOURNMENT

DRAFT