



Agenda Report

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, March 23, 2021

TO: City Council

FROM: PUBLIC WORKS & UTILITIES DIRECTOR PALMISANO
JACKIE MCCLOUD, ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: Pajaro River Flood Management Agency Board Membership

STATEMENT OF ISSUES:

At the January 19, 2021 meeting, the City Council approved Resolution No. 39-21, agreeing to a Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement between the City of Watsonville, the County of Santa Cruz, the County of Monterey, Santa Cruz County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, and the Monterey County Water Resources Agency to establish the Pájaro River Flood Management Agency (PRFMA).

The City Council needs to appoint persons to serve as the Watsonville board member and alternate of the PRFMA.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

It is recommended that the City Council select the Santa Cruz County Flood Control and Water Conservation District – Zone No. 7, City of Watsonville appointee to serve as the appointed board member on the PRFMA. The current appointee is Dr. Nancy A. Bilicich. The alternate to serve as the board member is proposed to be Councilmember Aurelio Gonzalez.

DISCUSSION:

Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement

The City Council approved and executed the Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement (JPA Agreement) to form the Pajaro Regional Flood Management Agency to reduce flood risk to lives and property. The JPA Agreement allows the Member Agencies to exercise common powers independently or in cooperation with the United States, the State of California or any other entity.

PRFMA Board Appointments

The approved and executed PRFMA JPA Agreement establishes the Board composition accordingly:

1. One Board member selected by the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors from among its members, who shall be the representative for Supervisorial District Two or Four;

2. One Board member selected by the Santa Cruz County Flood Control and Water Conservation District – Zone No. 7 Board of Directors from among its members, who shall be the representative for either Supervisorial District Two or Four;
3. One Board member selected by the Watsonville City Council;
4. One Board member selected by the Monterey County Water Resources Agency Board of Supervisors from among its members; and
5. One Board member who shall be the Monterey County Supervisor for Supervisorial District Two.

The City Council selected and approved Dr. Nancy Bilicich to serve as the appointee to the Santa Cruz County Flood Control and Water Conservation District – Zone No. 7. Dr. Bilicich has a long history of serving on the City of Watsonville City Council, Zone 7 as Vice Chair, and the Pájaro River Flood Prevention Authority as Chair and Vice-Chair. She is also a resident of the City and lives within the flood plain. She has the experience and background to represent the City of Watsonville as a Board member for the PRFMA. District 2 Councilmember Aurelio Gonzalez is recommended as the alternate Board member to Dr. Bilicich.

STRATEGIC PLAN:

This action aligns with Strategic Goal:
03-Infrastructure & Environment

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There is no financial impact related to this action.

ALTERNATIVE ACTION:

The City Council may elect to recommend and approve a different appointee to the PRFMA. The City Council could reject staff's recommendation and appoint another representative from the City Council.

ATTACHMENTS AND/OR REFERENCES (If any):

- 1) Resolution No. 39-21 - Pájaro Regional Flood Management Agency JPA