

AGENDA
CITY OF FERNDALE – HUMBOLDT COUNTY CALIFORNIA – U.S.A.
DRAINAGE COMMITTEE MEETING

Location:	City Hall	Date:	December 3, 2020
	834 Main Street	Time:	3:00 pm
	Ferndale CA 95536	Posted:	November 30, 2020

This meeting is being held in accordance with the Brown Act as currently in effect under the State Emergency Services Act, the Governor’s Emergency Declaration related to COVID-19, and the Governor’s Executive Order N-29-20 issued on March 17, 2020 that allows attendance by members of the City Council, City staff, and the public by teleconference, videoconference, or both.

We are strongly recommending that public comment for this meeting be submitted prior to the meeting. Public comment should be submitted to cityclerk@ci.ferndale.ca.us by 4:pm on Wednesday, November 4, 2020, please be sure to put “Public Comment “in the subject line, and include the agenda item. All public comments received by 12pm will be read into the record (limit to 5 minutes) during the special meeting.

To provide public comment during the meeting, you will need to join the Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81226085800?pwd=YIZBcUdRUgpwMWU3Zm5iaXZueXJIQT09>

or go to Zoom.us and input the following:

Meeting ID: 812 2608 5800

Passcode: 781764Join using your telephone:

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 812 2608 5800

Passcode: 781764

1. CALL TO ORDER - CHAIRMAN
2. ROLL CALL - MAYOR SWEENEY, TOM STEPHENS, JAMES BASS, JEFF FARLEY, BILL BECKER AND WAYNE AMBROSINI
3. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA
4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Approval of the October 1, 2020 and November 5, 2020 Drainage Committee
5. PUBLIC COMMENT. *(This time is for persons who wish to address the Committee on any matter not on this agenda and over which the Committee has jurisdiction - Drainage. Items requiring action not listed on this agenda will be placed on the next regular agenda for consideration, unless a finding is made by at least 2/3rds of the Committee that the item came up after the agenda was posted and is of an urgent nature requiring immediate action.*
6. BUSINESS
 - A. Discuss Election of Committee Officers (this should be done in February after term appointments in January)
 - B. Discuss Drainage Fees
 - C. Discuss Drainage Easements
 - D. Discuss Fern Avenue Bank Failure and Sediment Blockage Under Bridge
 - E. Discuss DMP Priority Site Update
 - F. Discuss Francis Creek and Possible Slide Activity
7. CORRESPONDENCE
8. COMMENTS
8. ADJOURN

The next regular meeting of the Ferndale Drainage Committee will be on
January 7, 2021

MINUTES
CITY OF FERNDALE - HUMBOLDT COUNTY U.S.A.
DRAINAGE COMMITTEE MEETING

October 1, 2020

Chairman Sweeney opened the meeting at 3.00 pm. Those present were Tom Stephens, Bill Becker, Wayne Ambrosini, and Jim Bass along with City Staff: City Manager Jay Parrish, and City Clerk Kristene Hall. Mayor Sweeney modified the agenda to include Approval of the September 5, 2020 meeting minutes. No public comments were offered.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Approval of the September 3, 2020 Minutes. **MOTION:** to approve the minutes of the September 3, 2020 Drainage Committee Meeting. **(Stephens/Becker)**
Unanimous

BUSINESS

Discuss Priority Drainage Projects List Recommended by Sub-Committee: Mayor Sweeney stated the sub-committee, consisting of the Mayor, City Manager, City Engineer Committee Member Becker and Committee Member Stephens, had put together a list for drainage projects that are concerns for the city. These projects included Rose Ave Culvert; Rose Ave Gutter at Watson; Herbert St Storm Drain System and Dewey Ave; Intersection of Shaw Ave and Berding St; Ambrosini Ln Culvert; Market St Culvert; Van Ness Drainage Inlet at Bridge; Fern St Bridge; and Arlington Ave and 5th St Drainage Sweeney stated the Drainage Committee needed to come up with a priority list of these projects. Sweeney also added that these projects had not yet been cost estimated yet. Mayor Sweeney presented the list via Zoom. City Manager Parrish went over 8 items on the list in more detail. Committee Member Stephens went over the Fern Street Bridge proposed project. Mayor Sweeney stated that grant funding will be need for most of these projects. Mayor Sweeney asked the committee when they would like to prioritize the list. Sweeney added the list would need to be given to the City Engineer for cost estimates on the projects. Committee Member Stephens suggested labeling each project as high, moderate, or low priority. Sweeney agreed with Stephens. Sweeney added that over the next few months and more water, the committee can revisit this and start to prioritize the projects. The committee agreed to prioritize at a later time. A member of the public commented on the Rose Ave Culvert. There was no action taken.

Discuss Fern Avenue Bridge Bank Emergency Plan for Upcoming Winter Storms: Mayor Sweeney stated that Committee Member Stephens was going to watch for significant storm systems. When a storm system is expected, City Manager Parrish will coordinate with Mercer-Fraser as well as Cal Fire and their inmate crews to help fill sandbags that can be used to help with the high water. No Action was Taken

Develop Plan for Acquisition of Francis Creek City Easement and Other Discontinuous Drainage Easements Through the City: Mayor Sweeney stated there are easements on maps that will need to be cleaned and visited to ensure there are no structures or clogged by debris. City Manager Parrish stated the city can ask for an easement to help clear Francis Creek and assist with bank stabilization but property owners do not have to grant any easement. Committee Member Stephens stated his concerns on the growing riparian vegetation. City Manager Parrish stated his appreciation to the Francis Creek Vegetation Removal Volunteers and their help over the last six years of helping to keep the vegetation cleared. Committee Member Stephens suggested asking the City Attorney for the best way to try to acquire easements on the stream channel of Francis Creek. Mayor Sweeney directed the City Manager to consult with the City Attorney on obtaining the easements. City Manager Parrish recommended prioritizing easements needed. No Action was taken.

Correspondence: None

Comments: Committee Member Becker stated his concerns on the acknowledgment of a citizen and his offering financial help with a project.

Mayor Sweeney adjourned the meeting at 4:55 pm

Respectfully submitted

Kristene Hall
City Clerk

MINUTES
CITY OF FERNDALE - HUMBOLDT COUNTY U.S.A.
DRAINAGE COMMITTEE MEETING

November 5, 2020

Chairman Sweeney opened the meeting at 3.02 pm. Those present were Tom Stephens, Bill Becker, Jeff Farley and Jim Bass along with City Staff: City Manager Jay Parrish, and Deputy City Clerk Donna Johnson. Mayor Sweeney modified the agenda to include Approval of the September 5, 2020 meeting minutes. No public comments were offered.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: James Bass stated he was present at the meeting. Tom Stephens questioned a sentence under the business item "Develop Plan for Acquisition of Francis Creek City Easement and Other Discontinuous Drainage Easements Through the City". **There was no motion made.**

PUBLIC COMMENT: No Comment

BUSINESS

Easement Acquisition Discussion: Mayor Sweeney turned the discussion over to Tom Stephens. Stephens explained the need easements on Francis Creek. Stephens added that the existing easements are very sporadic. Stephens also stated the current Drainage Ordinance does not mention easements in it. City Manager Jay Parrish explained the benefits of obtaining easements that may include; the ability to use the Conservation Camps, grants, and the ability to cover the vegetation removal committee under the workman's comp policy. City Engineer Brian Ontiveros offered assistance in obtaining any possible existing easements from Scott Kelly. Stephens suggested processes he felt the committee should take regarding obtaining easements. The Committee also discussed Department of Fish and Wildlife permitting and what is allowed under it. Mayor Sweeney added going over the LSA agreement to see what is allowed. City Manager Parrish the committee should go over these at the next meeting. There was no action taken.

Hydrologic Year Record HY2020 Francis Creek Gaging Station: Tom Stephens stated they were now monitoring the stage height at gaging station. Stephens stated it is updated every 15 minutes and will allow us the ability to better prepare for when sandbagging may be needed. Stephens went over some of the recorded flows. Stephens also explained the other tools used to determine potential flooding events. There was no action taken.

Drainage Fees: Mayor Sweeney stated the possibility of raising Drainage Fees. City Manager Jay Parrish went over how much fees are currently and how long it had been since fees were increased. Parrish also added that Bertha Russ-Lytel Foundation paid \$25,000 yearly to cover the assessment fees for property owners up until 2012. Bill Becker questioned what the fees

were used for currently. Tom Stephens questioned what other communities are currently charging. No Action was taken.

Christi Negotiations for ESD Easement: Bill Becker explained the agenda item. The committee agreed to discuss this at a later date to get further clarification.

Correspondence: None

Comments: Bill Becker followed up with City Manager Parrish on the property owner from the last meeting who offered financial help on a project.

Mayor Sweeney adjourned the meeting at 4:59 pm

Respectfully submitted

Kristene Hall
City Clerk

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