

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING  
March 28, 2017

**"For all items *NOT* on the agenda"**

**(Each Speaker Limited to 3 Minutes)**

**Voluntary Sign-In Sheet**

1. Charles L. Crance
2. ~~Diana~~ ~~Charr~~ ~~Hansen~~
3. Steve Rozenberg
4. Ted Rous
5. Todd Ales
6. Frank Hicatt
7. Shonquinta Jones
8. Vivian Deniston
- 9.
- 10.
- 11.
- 12.
- 13.
- 14.
- 15.
- 16.

Date: 3/28/17

To: Everyone

Subject: Ranching, timber industry, and rural living

I see a lot of **unproven crap** going around.

As an example, when I started as a forester fifty plus years ago, cable logging required clear cutting. Steep slopes were being cat logged, and regarding the world of timber harvesting, the world of critics were born. After a few trips to the north and being schooled by a couple loggers, I learned selective cable logging could be done, and for good reasons especially in California, selective cable logging became standard practice

I believe the preservationists, protectionists, and lousy actions by the timber industry have the media, legalese, those with money, and Fourth Branch of Government (regulators) treating the timbered areas (especially in California) badly. **There is a right way to do things**, and there is a reason 80% of the wood used in California comes from out of the state when all California wood needs are grown on private land. **I am skeptical Trump a citified person** is going to help ranching, timbered, and other rural areas.

**Little attention is given to what field experienced old folks have learned.** As I have said before, it is a package deal with timber owners, field experienced foresters, loggers, sawmillers, and sales in the package. As a hunter, fisherman, and field experienced forester, I see many species and humans hurting. There is so much **crap** going around, the public can not keep-up and understand what is happening, and folks too busy working and keeping care of their families are letting a **populous minority control their lives**. Knowing how to grow a big tree, harvest a big tree, and grow another big tree (when fire is a bad thing and when it is a good thing while helping other things) is ignored. There is a right way to do things, and with divided thoughts, I see us going in the wrong direction.

I think routinely low paying and temporary drug related, tourism, and government taxpayer money **never replacing** slowly dying timber owners, field experienced foresters, loggers, sawmillers, and sales people which provides "long" term economic, tax, and get-a-long support like groceries for ranchers, timber owners, and other rural private landowners as a pipe dream.

In many ways, we live in a divided country, I see having good health as everything, I think real world truths will eventually come home to roost, and it is **very hard to believe anything** any more.

As an old person and what many others have learned; buy, me a coffee, and with an open mind, seriously listen and pay attention.

Charles L. Ciancio

California Registered Professional Forester (RPF) #317

(An old tired field forester no one gives much attention who has lived in a working man's world)

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Thursday, March 23, 2017

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Friday, March 24, 2017 » MORE AT FACEBOOK.COM/TIMESSTANDARD

## HUMBOLDT BAY

# A ZONING QUANDARY

**County:** Officials are aware of other noncompliant businesses  
**State:** Commission to discuss new allowances for coastal lands



## Editorial

# Radical thought: Follow the rules?

If county government and the state Coastal Commission are moving at glacial speed and your harbor district can save local jobs by breaking the law, should you care?

As we reported in "District illegally leases mill space" (Times-Standard, March 18, Page A1) the Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation and Conservation District is doing just that: Intentionally violating county land use law for the benefit of four businesses — businesses some say were displaced by the expanding marijuana industry.

Harbor District Executive Director Jack Crider told this newspaper that in breaking the law, the district saved jobs.

"What triggered the whole thing was the desperation of local businesses that were getting forced out because of the cannabis industry," Crider said. "The warehouses in town and everywhere else were being sold at an incredible price. The tenants were being kicked out, forced to vacate."

As we reported this week ("A zoning quandary," Times-Standard, March 23, Page

A1), this isn't an isolated incident. County officials have been fully aware of zoning violations; they just aren't investigating them unless a complaint is filed.

One cynical conclusion to draw from this is that in Humboldt County, laws are for suckers, in much the same way that hammers are for nails.

Beyond cynicism, there's a faint hope that both the Board of Supervisors and the Coastal Commission — now that Ryan Sundberg sits on both — can work together to craft a solution that allows legal use of coastal properties by non-coastal dependent industries. When only 60 acres of 1,110 are being legally used for their intended purpose at the same time businesses are being squeezed out by pot-inflated rents, it's the right thing to do. Shortcuts aren't the answer. We have enough lawlessness here already.



The main gate to Redwood Terminal II in Samoa advertises space for lease. Recreation and Conservation District Executive Director Jack Crider confirmed last week the district is renting out its Redwood Terminal II warehouse to four businesses that do not comply with county zoning regulations.

**By Will Houston**

whouston@times-standard.com  
@Will\_S\_Houston on Twitter

The Humboldt Bay harbor district's decision to rent out its Samoa warehouse property in defiance of county zoning regulations is not an isolated incident, but it is the only one being investigated, Humboldt County Planning and Building Director John Ford said Wednesday. "There have not been a lot of complaints," Ford said. "That's the only complaint that I'm aware of that we're actively working on."

Ford's comments come after Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation and Conservation District Executive Director Jack Crider

confirmed last week the district is renting out its Redwood Terminal II warehouse to four businesses that do not comply with county zoning regulations.

Crider said the district knowingly rented its property in violation of county rules to businesses displaced by the expanding cannabis industry in order to prevent loss of local jobs.

A Eureka property owner states one of these displaced businesses which he rented to — An Electrician Inc. — was misleading in previous statements to the Times-Standard about the circumstances behind its move.

"I was sorry to lose them as a tenant," property

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## Zoning

**FROM PAGE 1**

owner Kenny Gregg said. "They were a good tenant while they were there. But they knew very clearly what the circumstances were when they moved in."

### Coastal compliance

The harbor district's warehouse represents a small portion of the nearly 1,100 acres of coastal-dependent industrial zoned land surrounding Humboldt Bay.

These lands are restricted to specific types of businesses, such as fishing or surface mining, that rely on the coastal location to function. Operations or businesses that do not fall into that category have to get a conditional use permit from the county, which requires a hearing before the county Planning Commission.

The county has been seeking permission from the California Coastal Commission to open up these coastal-dependent industrial lands to new types of businesses.

To Crider's frustration, this process has taken several years so he decided in 2016 to rent out the district's warehouse property at the Samoa pulp mill site to four businesses — An Electrician Inc., Express Messenger Systems Inc., Glasshouse Garden Supply LLC, and Tim Roller of Fortuna — that currently do not comply with the county zoning rules.

The California Coastal Commission voted unanimously March 9 to fur-

ther delay their decision on the county's request until the fall. The commission's North Coast Deputy Director Alison Dettmer told the commission any new allowances must be "carefully crafted" to avoid the possibility of limiting coastal-dependent industries from being able to move in.

But Ford argues in a March 2 letter to the commission that only 60 of the 1,100 acres of these coastal-dependent lands surrounding Humboldt Bay are being used by businesses the land is reserved for.

"We are concerned about the fact there is 1,100 acres of coastal-dependent (land) out there that is available for use and is horribly underutilized," Ford told the Times-Standard on Wednesday. "There are pretty legitimate questions about whether or not we'll even have that volume of coastal-dependent industries in Humboldt County and how do we reutilize sites that have been used as the heart of the industry for Humboldt County's economy. We want to see existing developed sites put to use and we want to work to see that happen."

Dettmer told the commission the county's request is unique.

"There is very little useful precedent to draw from so it's going to take a little bit of time for us to work through this," Dettmer said.

Ford requested the commission take up the county's request by June, but Dettmer said they will try to bring the request back by August.

At that time, Humboldt County 5th District Supervisor Ryan Sundberg will be several months into his new role as the commission's North Coast representative. Gov. Jerry Brown appointed Sundberg to the Coastal Commission earlier this month.

"Ryan's voice will be a definite benefit to understanding the North Coast's set of particular issues and being able to shed some light on some of the struggles we face up here," Ford said.

Ford confirmed the county is aware of other businesses and entities surrounding Humboldt Bay that are violating county zoning laws, but said he does not have a list or number.

However, he stated these violations are only investigated when a complaint has been made. Ford said the only complaint he is aware of was submitted in February by Blue Lake resident Kent Sawatzky against the harbor district.

"Before we take action, we want to make sure we understand the facts on that," Ford said of the investigation.

Allowing interim uses on these coastal-dependent lands will work to bring the nonconforming uses into compliance, Ford said. Should the county's request be approved, Ford said the earliest the county could start approving permits for temporary uses would likely be in early 2018.

### A prior agreement

As the owners of one of these noncompliant businesses, Doug Daly and Matthew Calderwood of

An Electrician Inc. said they hope the commission will act soon. Their company moved into the harbor district's warehouse in June 2016 after their lease at their previous location on West Cedar Street in Eureka ended.

Gregg, who owns the West Cedar Street warehouse property, told the Times-Standard on Wednesday that his lease with An Electrician Inc.'s was temporary and that this was clearly expressed to Daly and Calderwood from the start.

Before the electricians moved into the site in 2015, Gregg said he had made an agreement with another tenant in the building — Graham Shaw of the Eureka medical marijuana company Graham's Brand — to provide the warehouse space for him to open a dispensary facility. But as those plans fell through, Gregg said he decided to give a temporary lease to An Electrician Inc. until Shaw called for the space.

Shaw has since decided to create a Humboldt County cannabis museum so Gregg said he asked An Electrician Inc. to move out by June.

"I liked them as a tenant, but I made a previous commitment with somebody" Gregg said.

Daly confirmed Gregg's account, but said his company still had trouble finding a new space after being asked to leave.

"Either way you look at it, it's still pot that is kicking us out," Daly said.

*Will Houston can be reached at 707-441-0504.*



JOSÉ QUEZADA — FOR THE TIMES-STANDARD

An iconic assemblage of scrap metal and iron, complete with cow skull and hubcaps, greets visitors at the entrance to Evergreen Pulp and Redwood Terminal II in Samoa. Redwood Terminal II is located in the background between the iron guardsman and the Private Property notice sign.