



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

March 3, 2022 • 6 – 8pm
Zoom Call

Present at meeting:

Board Members: Roger (President), Kirsten Lindquist (Treasurer), Pamela Lee (Vice President)
Thomas Wehland, Laura Jones, Alexandra Profant

Absent Board Members: Humnath Panta (Secretary)

Co-op Employees: Sean Nolan, Emily Walter, Barney Doyle, Don Elder

Member-owners: Kathleen Pelly

1. Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 by Roger and introductions were made.

2. Agenda Review and Approval

Agenda approved by consensus.

3. Approve February 3, 2022, Board Minutes

<p>Motion: Approve the February 3, 2022, board minutes. Approved by consensus.</p>

4. Member Comment Period

None

5. Board Correspondence

None

6. Employee Guest Speaker – reported by Don Elder (Janitorial)

The pandemic has really messed with recycling. We have lots of plastic going straight to the trash now because nobody takes it. I hear that plastic can be used to make asphalt. The world needs some love and plastic is a big issue that I would like to see improved. I would like to check and see if any of the previous plastic take centers will be returning. I pride myself on cleanliness. I'm seeing improvements at the store and believe it's cleaner than it has been in the past. I want the Co-op to be as clean as possible.

ACTION: Ask Kiya to write an update about plastics and what is recyclable.

7. Financial Bottom Line

- Roger - The finance committee members (Chris Copple, Diane Sharples, James Kloor) are doing a great job on the committee. The finance committee wanted to make sure that the board is aware to keep an eye on the inventory process.
- Barney – this quarters periods had to be recalculated due to a caught error in inventory in P6 that affected all the following periods. Policies have been put in place to make sure the same inventory mistake will not be made again. We now have a renovation loan of 1.5M showing in the financials.

FY23 Draft Budget

- Kirsten – The FY23 budget moved where discounts show up. With this budget we'll have a cleaner system of margins based on net sales, not being affected by discounts. The Finance Committee reviewed this budget and approved it with Roger abstaining.

Motion: Approve the Fiscal Year 2023 budget as recommended by the Finance Committee.
Motion by Kirsten, 2nd from Thomas, motion passes (5/0/1), Roger abstains.

8. Renovation Update – reported by Sean

The plan is to begin renovations in Arcata on August 1 that will last 45 workdays. This will include redoing the floors, new shelving, wine and bulk relocation, new refrigeration installations and interior painting. Eureka renovations are smaller in scope with plans to start late September/October for a 21-workday project.

9. Ben & Jerrys Boycott

- Roger - we haven't heard from any members that want to continue the boycott. I don't see a reason for continuing or ending the boycott based on no member participation.
- Alexandra – since there is so little member participation, and since customers are asking for this product on the shelf, I think we should end the boycott.
- Pamela – I like the Caring Dairy standards.
- Thomas – ending the boycott is supported by the Sustainability Coordinator and frozen Department Heads.

Motion: End the Ben & Jerry's boycott.
Motion by Alexandra, 2nd from Thomas, motion passes (5/0/1), Roger abstains.

10. Increasing meeting efficiency

Tabled until the April board meeting.

11. Board Retreat – reported by Pamela

I spoke with Bobbie about mediating a retreat. She could do a short meeting via Zoom but that isn't ideal. I think an in person, outdoor retreat in May would be best.

- ACTION: Sean will reach out to the management team about their interest in a May retreat.
- ACTION: Pamela will contact Bobbie about dates that she is available in May.

12. GM Report – reported by Sean

- Pamela – the decreases in the Eureka store under the operations section seemed substantial.
 - o Kirsten – even though year over year the numbers are down, budget wise we are even or above budget. I think this reflects the change in pandemic spending, but we planned for these changes and are maintaining our budget.
- Sean – we just completed our first Incredible Bulk Days 20% off bulk sale over three days at the end of February. Bulk sales doubled during those three days. We consider it a success and looking to make more improvements during the next bulk sale in August.
 - o Roger – bulk tofu in Arcata cost more than the packaged, because the packaged tofu is on sale, but bulk is not. Would like to see better bulk tofu signs.

11. Member Comment

- Alexandra – very excited to hear about the Humboldt Food Policy Council. In California what defines a family farm versus a commercial or industrial farm?
 - o Roger - The North Coast Growers Association or the Food Policy Council would be a good place to look for this information.

12. New Business (items for next agenda):

- Efficiency of board meetings
- Renovation Update (JULY MEETING)
- Board Retreat
- Strategic Plan Quarterly Report

Consensus reached to adjourn the March 3, 2022, meeting at 7:25pm and move into Executive Session.

Minutes by Emily Walter

**North Coast Co-op
Board of Directors Executive Session Minutes
March 3, 2022**

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Thomas Wehland, Laura Jones, Alexandra Profant

Absent Board Members: Humnath Panta (Secretary)

Co-op Employees: Sean Nolan

No reportable action taken.

Executive Session ended at 7:54pm.