



## October Board Meeting Recap – submitted by Robert Donovan

Attendance at the Eureka store neared four dozen employees, members and staff to address the board for nearly an hour about recent personnel changes which brought much emotion and expression(s) of grief during the member comment period. A short break following member comment brought the board to Colin Fiske's President's report which was shortened in consideration of time. His report included an invitation to all members to attend the upcoming Annual Membership Meeting on Sunday, October 21, 1-4pm at the Arcata Veterans Hall (intersection of J St. and 14<sup>th</sup> St. in Arcata).

A simple contract for a consultant to work with the board on the annual General Manager evaluation was a lengthy discussion as it directly related to the lingering emotions from the member comment period. Bobbie Good's contract services were approved, overcoming the opposition of spending money whilst staff cutbacks are prevalent. There was a lot of give and take about pulling back the boards' monthly stipend as some director's feelings are the remuneration is a necessity to acquire and maintain participation of board members. Instead of eliminating the entire stipend the board agreed to decrease the stipend by 25%.

It was brought to the attention of the board that staff felt contacting [board@northcoast.coop](mailto:board@northcoast.coop) is insufficient for sharing private feelings and observations. They felt through the current process emails could be intercepted and misused. This was discussed at the October Policies & Procedures committee meeting which made a recommendation to the board to create official "@northcoast.coop" email addresses for each director. The board approved this recommendation. This member's email address ([Robertdonovan.board@northcoast.coop](mailto:Robertdonovan.board@northcoast.coop)) is available for any, and all, communication as well as the phone number 707-NCC-OOP3.

The General Managers report, which is a matter of record, ended with a congratulatory applause for Mr. John Viera for gaining "FREE" equipment for the Eureka store. The meeting then closed into executive session.

The next board meeting will take place Thursday, November 1 at the Ten Pin building (793 K Street) in Arcata. We encourage members to attend as we want to hear your thoughts regarding our Co-op. If you want more details about what happened at the board meeting, the full minutes of the meeting will be included in next month's meeting packet. You can get a copy of the board packet at the customer service desk about a week before the board meeting, or by email if you request it by emailing [emilywalter@northcoast.coop](mailto:emilywalter@northcoast.coop).

Please vote in the election (ballots are available in stores) and attend the Annual Membership Meeting on October 21, 1-4pm at the Arcata Veterans Hall.