



Staff Highlights – 2026-05-19

City Council

City Manager

Susie Townsend has announced her retirement and the City is currently recruiting for a Fiscal Assistant Position.

The City's application for a Land Water Conservation Fund grant for the Davis Street Park acquisition was denied.

Staff is still waiting on Recology for final numbers needed in order to proceed with the next steps for the Solid Waste Franchise agreement.

Staff submitted documentation for a possible Zero Emission Vehicle Grant.

Met with the Regional Senior Manager and Government Liaison with PG&E to discuss City and regional issues.

City Clerk

City Attorney

Human Resources, Risk & Training

Finance Department

Coordinated with Finance staff and the Community Development Director to process the HCD Local Early Action Planning (LEAP) grant.

Submitted Invoice No. 1 to the State Water Resources Control Board for the Painter Street Sewer Line Replacement Project (Agreement No. D2404000, Project No. C-06-8403-210).

Contacted RCAC to explore financing options for the Painter Street upsizing project and remaining CalOES earthquake recovery infrastructure projects.

Met with the City's engineering consultants to review current budgets and project scopes for active CalOES earthquake recovery projects.

Discussed reimbursement strategies with CalOES representatives for upcoming project phases.

Submitted invoices to Caltrans to maintain active status on earthquake-related road recovery projects.



Processed approval of Invoice No. 16 for the Water Distribution System Improvement Capital Improvement Project.

Coordinated with the CIP water project contractor to obtain and verify current insurance documentation.

Reviewed final payment terms and evaluated eligible ARPA expenditure options for the Monument Road Repair project.

Worked with County of Humboldt representatives on HCD Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) home repair programs.

Engaged cannabis business operators regarding outstanding tax obligations owed to the City.

Responded to inquiries from the City's auditor in support of the ongoing FY 2024-25 Annual Financial Audit.

Submitted final documents to the Transportation Development Act (TDA) auditor.

Compiled current staffing data and provided updated position counts to the City's insurance group, SCORE, for coverage purposes.

Distributed FY 2026-27 budget packets to all department heads, including line-item budget request worksheets, capital project request forms, and budget narrative instructions.

Developed a proposed staffing plan and updated organizational chart in support of the FY 2026-27 budget process.

Prepared salary and benefit cost projections based on the proposed FY 2026-27 staffing plan.

Conducted revenue forecasting in preparation for the FY 2026-27 budget.

Public Works Water

Public Works Wastewater

Public Works Streets, Buildings and Grounds

Public Works City Engineer

Public Works Capital Projects

Police Department

Patrol Statistics:



During May 6th – May. 14th 2026, the Rio Dell Police Department handled 152 incidents. 3 arrests were made. A total of 2 citations were issued for traffic offenses or other miscellaneous criminal violations. 7 total cases requiring investigation were taken.

Staffing:

- Officer Alexander Lewallen is progressing through the Field Training Program and continues to demonstrate strong performance and steady progress.

Community Events / Notable Cases:

- Kindergarten students from the Eagle Prairie Elementary School visited the Police Department for a tour and educational purposes. Students were introduced to department operations, police equipment, and public safety topics, providing an opportunity for positive community engagement and interaction with law enforcement personnel.

Abatement Projects:

March 31, 2026 and May 15, 2026

Total calls for service: 145

Residential Abatement:

- Completed Abatements and cost recoveries in the process
 - 520 First Avenue- three 40-yard dumpsters filled
 - 337 Second Avenue- two 40-yard dumpsters filled
 - 483 Fourth Avenue- one 30-yard dumpster filled
 - 185 Douglas Street- one 40-yard dumpster filled
 - 530 Third Avenue- one 40-yard dumpster filled
- Inspection Warrant scheduled for 23 Center Street- Abatement to follow shortly after

Vehicular Abatement:

- 11 total cases
- 2 vehicles towed

Animals transported to Miranda's **Prior to May 3rd**

- 3 dogs
- 1 bunny

Community Development Department

Intergovernmental