

Approved Meeting Minutes of the Contra Costa County Fish and Wildlife Committee on November 20, 2019

3:00 p.m. Convene meeting.

- 1) **Introductions and Statement of Conflict.** A member who has a conflict should, prior to consideration of the decision: (1) publicly identify in detail the financial interest that causes the conflict; (2) recuse himself/herself from discussing and voting on the matter; and (3) leave the room until after the decision has been made.

Judy Bendix, Clark Dawson, Susan Heckly, Kathleen Jennings, Nicole Kozicki, Daniel Pellegrini and Heather Rosmarin attended the meeting. Roni Gehlke and Brett Morris provided advance notice that they would not be able to attend the meeting. Jeff Skinner was absent. Wade Finlinson (CCC Health Services Department), Helen Fitanides (The Watershed Project), Dr. Gordon Frankie (UC Berkeley), Sean Kearns (Office of Assemblymember Frazier), Bob Peoples and John Rudolph attended the meeting. Maureen Parkes (CCC Department of Conservation and Development) attended as staff.

- 2) **Review/Approve minutes from the July 17, 2019 meeting.** The meeting minutes were approved as written.

Motion: Heckly, Second: Kozicki

Vote: 6-0
AYES: Bendix, Dawson, Heckly, Jennings, Kozicki and Pellegrini
NOES: None
ABSENT: Gehlke, Morris, Rosmarin and Skinner
ABSTAIN: None

- 3) **Public comment.** Includes public comment on topics on the agenda and items not listed on the agenda. The FWC shall also accept public comment on agenda items at the time they are discussed.

John Rudolph requested guidance on how to involve high school students in projects to plant trees with a focus on reducing noise to animals. He is also interested in highway animal crossings. He provided his email address john.sustainable@live.com for those who may have information that they can share with him.

- 4) **Updates and announcements from staff and FWC members.** Includes discussion of implementation of actions authorized previously, correspondence received, and upcoming meetings of interest to the FWC.

Maureen Parkes updated on the FWC on the following items:

- Roni Gehlke and Brett Morris provided advance notice that they would not be able to attend the meeting today.
- The 6th Quadrennial Contra Costa Creek and Watershed Symposium will be held on December 5th at St. Mary's College. Admission is \$25 for adults and \$15 for students.
- Criteria for reviewing grant requests outside of the normal grant-review cycle

Correspondence items forwarded to the Committee:

- Email from Jeff Skinner regarding California Roadkill Observation System
- Email from Heather Rosmarin regarding 2019 Contra Costa Creek & Watershed Symposium
- Email from Heather Rosmarin regarding the Grayson Creek Cleanup on Pleasant Hill Community Service Day

- Supervisor Andersen: News from Around the District (3)
- Supervisor Burgis: e-Updates – Marsh Creek Clean-up (2)
- Supervisor Mitchoff: e-Update regarding an East Bay Regional Park District survey
- Supervisor Gioia: e-Updates regarding Coastal Clean-up (2)
- Email from the Clerk of the Board sending out a [link to the new training video – Brown Act & Better Government Ordinance](#) as well as a link to the [Clerk of the Board's Training-Resources webpage](#).
- Fish and Wildlife Services – Draft Recovery Plan Revisions for 53 Species including Antioch Dunes species (Lange's metalmark, butterfly, Contra Costa wallflower, Antioch Dunes evening-primrose)
- Email from Elissa Robinson regarding oral history project for the Watershed Symposium extending an invitation to any Committee members that might be interested in participating in the video.
- Email from Gordon Frankie - Trump administration has suspended the USDA's nationwide colony study, ending access to data that helps scientists understand how and where bees are dying.
- California Fish and Game Commission (24)
- IPM committee (4)
- Department of Water Resources - DCA Delta Stakeholder Engagement Committee (5)
- Wildlife Conservation Board
- Pleasant Hill Instructional Garden invitation to their Open House on November 9th.
- International Bird Rescue invitation to their Night-Heron Masquerade on October 26th
- Newsletters and Announcements
 - Save Mount Diablo announcement regarding the 6th Annual Mary Bowerman Science and Research Colloquium on December 12, 2019
 - Urban Bee Lab October 2019, Volume 23 Newsletter
 - California Wildlife Foundation /California Oaks
 - John Muir Land Trust
 - Green Technology News
 - Bay Area Monitor and Notes (6)
 - Lindsay Wildlife Experience – Conservation Icons Series (4)
 - Save Mt. Diablo – Diablo Watch, Issue 67 – Fall/Winter Edition
 - Urban Tilth (5)

Heather Rosmarin informed the FWC about:

- The upcoming Contra Costa County Creek and Watershed Symposium, which will be held at St. Mary's College on December 5, 2019. Friends of Pleasant Hill Creeks will have a table at the event.
- Restoration Trust is sponsoring a restoration of a section of Grayson Creek in Pleasant Hill on Saturday, January 11th. Volunteers will plant wildlife-friendly native plants on a section of Grayson Creek at Golf Club Road bridge near Diablo Valley College.

Nicole Kozicki informed the FWC that she has been in contact with CDFW staff regarding the status of the 2018 Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund grant that they received for a deer and turkey decoy. She said that it would take six months to a year for this project to be complete.

Danny Pellegrini informed the Committee that John Winther died and wanted the FWC to consider honoring him with a resolution for his work at Webb Tract and Holland Tract.

Kathleen Jennings informed the FWC that there is a large amount of algae at McNabney Marsh.

- 5) **Presentation on Monitoring Water Quality in Contra Costa County Watersheds (Helen Fitanides, The Watershed Project)** Helen Fitanides, Water Quality Program Coordinator for The Watershed Project, provided an informative presentation on their water quality monitoring program and thanked the FWC for their generous support.
- 6) **Presentation on Native Bees in Urban Brentwood and Agricultural Brentwood (Dr. Gordon Frankie, UC Berkeley)** Dr. Gordon Frankie provided an informative presentation on the native bees in urban and agricultural Brentwood. Dr. Frankie thanked the Committee for their support throughout the years.
- 7) **Review and accept the progress report from UC Berkeley on their “Native Bees in Urban Brentwood and Agricultural Brentwood project”.** The FWC reviewed and accepted the progress report.

Motion: Kozicki, Second: Heckly

Vote: 7- 0
 AYES: Bendix, Dawson, Heckly, Jennings, Kozicki, Pellegrini and Rosmarin
 NOES: None
 ABSENT: Gehlke, Morris and Skinner
 ABSTAIN: None

- 8) **Review and accept the final report from Marine Science Institute for their 2019 “Delta Education Equipment” project.** The FWC reviewed and accepted the final report.

Motion: Kozicki, Second: Pellegrini

Vote: 7- 0
 AYES: Bendix, Dawson, Heckly, Jennings, Kozicki, Pellegrini and Rosmarin
 NOES: None
 ABSENT: Gehlke, Morris and Skinner
 ABSTAIN: None

- 9) **Review and accept the final report from International Bird Rescue for their 2019 “Resolving Negative Human-Wildlife Interactions (AKA urban Wildlife Conflicts)” project.** The FWC reviewed and accepted the final report.

Motion: Heckly, Second: Kozicki

Vote: 7- 0
 AYES: Bendix, Dawson, Heckly, Jennings, Kozicki, Pellegrini and Rosmarin
 NOES: None
 ABSENT: Gehlke, Morris and Skinner
 ABSTAIN: None

- 10) **Review and accept the final report from Mills College for their 2017 “Ecology of Fear: What Stresses Out Wild Mammals?” project.** The FWC reviewed and accepted the final report.

Motion: Dawson, Second: Kozicki

Vote: 7- 0
 AYES: Bendix, Dawson, Heckly, Jennings, Kozicki, Pellegrini and Rosmarin
 NOES: None
 ABSENT: Gehlke, Morris and Skinner
 ABSTAIN: None

11) Consider making a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to renew or replace the member of the FWC designated to serve on the Contra Costa County Integrated Pest Management Advisory Committee. Wade Finlinson, the new Integrated Pest Management Coordinator, introduced himself and provided information about the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Committee. The FWC recommended that Susan Heckly continue to be the designated member to serve on the IPM Committee.

Motion: Rosmarin, Second: Bendix

Vote: 7- 0
AYES: Bendix, Dawson, Heckly, Jennings, Kozicki, Pellegrini and Rosmarin
NOES: None
ABSENT: Gehlke, Morris and Skinner
ABSTAIN: None

12) Discuss outcome of the September 19, 2019 Fall Forum and consider plans and potential speakers for next year. The Committee discussed the successful outcome of the Fall Forum: the interesting presentation on Nutria by Chad Rynearson of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the great food prepared by Danny Pellegrini and his crew. Approximately 100 people attended the event. The Committee set September 24, 2020 as the tentative date for the 2020 Fall Forum and discussed potential speakers.

13) Review and consider approving the draft 2019 work plan and annual report to the Board of Supervisors. The Committee reviewed and approved the 2019 work plan and annual report.

Motion: Rosmarin, Second: Kozicki

Vote: 7- 0
AYES: Bendix, Dawson, Heckly, Jennings, Kozicki, Pellegrini and Rosmarin
NOES: None
ABSENT: Gehlke, Morris and Skinner
ABSTAIN: None

14) Discuss developing an informational brochure on invasive species. The Committee discussed developing the brochure and continued the item to a future meeting.

15) Determine the agenda for the next meeting. The next regular scheduled meeting January 15, 2020. Possible agenda items for upcoming meetings include:

- Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund grant applications
- Determine 2020 meeting schedule
- Field trip to Moorhen Marsh
- Election of Officers
- California Waterfix Update
- IPM Update
- 2020 Fall Forum
- Draft Annual Report/Work Plan
- 2021 Grant RFP

Adjourn