

Draft Meeting Minutes of the Contra Costa County Fish and Wildlife Committee on June 15, 2022

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.

Roni Gehlke, Susan Heckly, Kathleen Jennings, Brett Morris, Daniel Pellegrini, Cass Rogers and Felipe Solis attended the meeting. Nicole Balbas provided advance notice that she would not be attending the meeting. Sean Burke (Save Mount Diablo), Lisa Damerel (Contra Costa Resource Conservation District), Wade Finlinson (Contra Costa Health Services Department), Madhan Guna, Walter Pease (Contra Costa Resource Conservation District), Bob Peoples, Maureen Parkes (CCC Department of Conservation and Development) attended as staff.

- 2) **Review/Approve minutes from the February 16, 2022 meeting.** The meeting minutes were approved as written.

Vote: 7-0

AYES: Gehlke, Heckly, Jennings, Morris, Pellegrini, Rogers and Solis

NOES: None

ABSENT: Balbas

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. There were no public comments.

- 4) **Elect FWC officers (Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary)** The Committee elected Daniel Pellegrini as Chair, Kathleen Jennings as Vice-Chair and Susan Heckly as Secretary of the Committee.

Vote: 7-0

AYES: Gehlke, Heckly, Jennings, Morris, Pellegrini, Rogers and Solis

NOES: None

ABSENT: Balbas

ABSTAIN: None

- 5) **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.

Congratulations to Danny Pellegrini on the upcoming 40th anniversary of his appointment to the Fish and Wildlife Committee.

Maureen Parkes updated the Committee on the following items:

- Nicole Balbas provided advance notice that she will be on vacation and will not be attending this meeting.
- Susan Heckly was reappointed to the District II Seat for another 4-year term.
- Clark Dawson resigned from the Committee and the District III vacancy was listed on the April 26th Board of Supervisors' meeting agenda.

- The following people sent emails thanking the Committee for their 2022 grants.
 - Lisa Damerel, Contra Costa Resource Conservation District
 - Dick Heron, Friends of San Ramon Creek
 - Robin Mitchell, Mt. View Sanitary District
 - Heidi Perryman, Worth a Dam
 - Christina Schwandt, Lindsay Wildlife Experience

Correspondence items forwarded to the Committee:

- An email from Wade Finlinson, Integrated Pest Management Coordinator, was forwarded regarding commemoration of the Integrated Pest Management pioneer Robert van den Bosch.
- An email from Ryan Hernandez regarding the Delta Counties' Water Summit.
- Two emails from Maureen Parkes regarding a presentation by the Board of Supervisors on Tuesday, March 1, 2022, recognizing the Friends of the San Ramon Creek, the Walnut Creek Watershed Council, Republic Services, Contra Costa County Fish and Wildlife Committee and the many volunteers who have worked to clear the creeks of Arundo.
- An email from Heather Rosmarin regarding volunteer opportunities for Grayson Creek cleanups on May 21st and May 31st.
- Newsletters and Announcements:
 - Bay Area Monitor Notes – 1
 - California Fish and Game Commission – 35
 - California Oaks February 2022 Update - 1
 - Contra Costa Resource Conservation District – Earth Day 2022 - 3
 - Contra Costa County Sustainability Exchange - 2
 - Department of Water Resources – 2
 - International Bird Rescue – the Aviary March 2022 Publication
 - Integrated Pest Management Advisory Committee Agenda -2
 - Integrated Pest Management Decision-Making Subcommittee – 1
 - John Muir Land Trust – 1
 - Lindsay Wildlife Experience - 2
 - Save Mount Diablo - 16
 - Urban Tilth -1

6) Consider the following CONSENT items:

- a) Review and accept the final report from Friends of Pinole Creek Watershed for their 2020 “Pinole Creek Watershed Native Plant Garden at the Pinole Library” project.**
- b) Review and accept the final report from Salesian College Preparatory for their 2020 “Wildcat Creek Monitoring: Cross-Agency Outdoor Science and Water Quality Curriculum” project.**
- c) Review and accept the final report from Mills College for their 2021 “Combining naturalistic and automated monitoring to uncover spatial and temporal landscapes of fear: human-wildlife issues at Briones” project.**
- d) Review and consider approving request from Kids for the Bay to modify the usage of approved grant funds for their 2019 “Watershed Action Program” project.**
- e) Review and accept the final report from Kids for the Bay for their 2019 “Watershed Action Program” project.**
- f) Review and consider approving request from Kids for the Bay for an extension of time to complete their 2020 “Watershed Action Program” project.**
- g) Review and consider approving requests from the Walnut Creek Watershed Council regarding their 2020 Revegetating Our Creeks to Combat Arundo donax in Contra Costa County project for: 1) an extension of time to complete the project and 2) modification to the usage of approved grant funds.**

h) Review and accept the final report from CREEC for their 2020 “Enhancing CREEC’s capacity for environmental education and filed trips” project.

Items 5a, 5b, 5c, 5e and 5h were reviewed and accepted. Items 5d, 5f and 5g were reviewed and approved.

Vote: 7-0

AYES: Gehlke, Heckly, Jennings, Morris, Pellegrini, Rogers and Solis
 NOES: None
 ABSENT: Balbas
 ABSTAIN: None

7) Discuss the Fall Forum and consider the following actions:

- **Review and discuss the draft 2022 Fish and Wildlife Committee Fall Forum agenda.**
- **Recommend that the Board of Supervisors authorize the FWC to spend Fish and Wildlife Propagation funds to host the 2022 Fall Forum.**

The Committee reviewed and approved the 2022 Fish and Wildlife Committee Fall Forum agenda; and recommended that the Board of Supervisors authorize the Fish and Wildlife Committee to spend no more than \$3,000 to cover park rental fees, food, dessert, beverages, and other associated costs with having an outdoor event.

Vote: 7-0

AYES: Gehlke, Heckly, Jennings, Morris, Pellegrini, Rogers and Solis
 NOES: None
 ABSENT: Balbas
 ABSTAIN: None

8) Review, update and consider approving the draft Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund Grant Request for Proposals (RFP) for the 2023 grant cycle. The Committee reviewed the draft RFP and requested additional language be incorporated for applicants to seek to minimize watering of plantings during the drought and provide additional guidance for requesting modifications to grant awards.

Vote: 7-0

AYES: Gehlke, Heckly, Jennings, Morris, Pellegrini, Rogers and Solis
 NOES: None
 ABSENT: Balbas
 ABSTAIN: None

9) Continue discussion to develop an informational brochure on invasive species. The Committee continued the discussion to a future meeting.

10) Determine the agenda for the next meeting. The next regular scheduled meeting is August 17, 2022. Possible agenda items for upcoming meetings include:

- 2022 Fall Forum
- Draft Annual Report/Work Plan
- Contra Costa Watershed Forum and Contra Costa County Creek and Watershed Symposium Update
- Delta Conveyance Project Update

Adjourn