



Fish & Wildlife Commission Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 21, 2016 – 7:00 pm

Commissioners Present	Commissioners Absent	Others
Crystal Norris - Chairperson	Brock Dolman	Michelle Johnson – SC Dept of Agriculture
David Cook	Jim Lynch	James Reed – CDFW
Al Ferris	Don McEnhill	Tiffany Wolvek – CDFW
Al Gerhardt	Julian Meisler	Tom Henderson – CDFW HE
Jeff Holden		Sharon Henderson – CDFW HE
Beth Lamb		Melissa Kelley – SC Regional Parks Foundation
Andy Pozzi		Mark Newhouser – Sonoma Ecology Center
Dagny Thomas		Melanie Parker – SC Regional Parks

- I. Call to Order
Chairperson Crystal Norris called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

- II. Adoption of March 2016 Minutes
Report: Crystal Norris asks if there are any additions or corrections to the March 2016 minutes.
Action: A motion was made by Jeff Holden to accept minutes; motion seconded by Al Ferris.
Passed with: 7 ayes, 0 nays, 4 absent, 1 abstain.

- III. Correspondence
Fish and Game Commission notices.

- IV. Financial Reports for March 2016
Report: As of March 31, 2016, Abalone Fund balance is \$750.00; General Fund balance is \$38,127.16.
Action: A motion was made by Jeff Holden to accept financial reports for March 2016 as presented; motion seconded by Dagny.
Passed with: 7 ayes, 0 nays, 4 absent, 1 abstain.

- V. New Business
 - a. **Funding for fish passage on Calabazas Creek. \$4,630.00.** Sonoma Ecology Center. Mark Newhouser. (707) 996-0712. *Second Reading.*

Report: Richard Dale reported that grant funds would be used to fund conceptual design of a fish passage structure for a culvert barrier on Calabazas Creek at Dunbar Road. The passage structure would give Steelhead access to approximately 1.6 miles of additional spawning and rearing habitat. Completed conceptual design plans will be used to obtain funding for development.

Action: A motion was made Jeff Holden to fund the grant for the full amount of \$4,630.00; motion seconded by Andy Pozzi. Grant #188.

Passed with: 8 ayes, 0 nays, 4 absent.

- b. **Funding for Sonoma Valley wildlife connectivity project. \$1,500.00.** Sonoma County Regional Parks Foundation. Melissa Kelley and Melanie Parker. (707) 565-1830. *Second Reading.*

Report: Melissa Kelley reported that grant funds would be used to fund a wildlife corridor at Sonoma Valley Regional Park. The corridor would connect the Mayacamas Mountains to the Sonoma Mountains. Such a project requires collaboration with the Sonoma Land Trust, Audubon Canyon Ranch, and local landowners. Grant funds will also help fund monitoring wildlife using remote game cameras, which will provide an opportunity for public education and engagement on the Regional Parks website.

Action: A motion was made by Al Ferris to fund the grant for the full amount of \$1,500.00; motion seconded by David Cook. Grant #189.

Passed with: 8 ayes, 0 nays, 4 absent.

- c. **2016 Scholarships. Five (5) scholarships at \$1,000.00 each.**

Report: 14 scholarship applications were submitted; all applications were qualified and blinded for review by the Commission. Blind voting was conducted, with present commissioners providing their top 5 finalists. The top 5 finalists and recipients of the 2016 scholarships are:

- Eric Cecil, Santa Rosa, attending Sonoma State University
- Alexandra Dobson, Sonoma, attending University of California Berkeley
- Thomas Gare, Sonoma, attending University of Wyoming
- Amandeep Singh, Santa Rosa, attending University of California Los Angeles
- Ellie Slick, Petaluma, attending Oregon State University

VI. Old Business

- a. Discussion regarding revenue and budget. Jim Lynch, Andy Pozzi, Dagny Thomas and five CDFW representatives met with Sonoma County District Attorney Jill Ravitch. The handling of misdemeanor cases was discussed. It was agreed to follow the handling of a few misdemeanor cases through the entire system and evaluate at a later date. Discussion regarding pursuing a review by a state auditor of the misdemeanor fines and formula to determine fines. Commission will continue to look into the getting a breakdown of accounting on misdemeanor cases and the avenues of requesting an audit.

VII. Reports/Comments

- a. Public
b. Board

VIII. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle Johnson
Commission Secretary