

Approved Meeting Minutes of the Contra Costa County Fish and Wildlife Committee on January 16, 2019

- 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.

Clark Dawson, Roni Gehlke, Susan Heckly, Kathleen Jennings, Nicole Kozicki, Daniel Pellegrini, Heather Rosmarin and Jeff Skinner attended the meeting. Judy Bendix and Brett Morris provided advance notice that they would not be able to attend the meeting. Kelly Davidson (Mt. View Sanitary District), Helen Fitanides (The Watershed Project), Phil Kohlmetz (International Bird Rescue), and James Roberts (Marine Science Institute) attended the meeting. Maureen Parkes (CCC Department of Conservation and Development) attended as staff.

- 2) Review/Approve minutes from the July 18, 2018 meeting.** The minutes were approved as written.

Vote: 7 - 0

AYES: Dawson, Gehlke, Heckly, Jennings, Pellegrini, Rosmarin and Skinner

ABSENT: Bendix and Morris

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) 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 the FWC on the following:

- Brett Morris and Judy Bendix provided advance notice that they would not be able to attend the meeting today.
- Membership Update:
 - The Board of Supervisors reappointed Roni Gehlke and Kathleen Jennings on October 16, 2018 to the At-large 1 and 2 positions (respectively) for four-year terms expiring on December 31, 2022.
 - The Board of Supervisors appointed Nicole Kozicki on October 16, 2018 to complete the vacant At-large Alternate I position with a term expiring December 31, 2020.
 - The District IV and District V positions will expire on February 28th.
 - Staff sent an updated roster to the Committee members via email on January 16th.
- In September 2018, due to the amount of time before the next regular meeting in November, Kathleen Jennings and Danny Pellegrini reviewed and approved The Watershed Project's 2017 final report so that they could be reimbursed in a timely manner.
- Rodney Smith contacted the Danville Manager of Transportation and was successful in having two deer crossing advisory signs placed on Camino Tassajara Road.

- A gentleman from West Danville called in stating that he saw a Nutria near his home. Staff advised him to contact the CA Department of Fish and Wildlife and also provided a website to report the sighting on: <https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Invasives/Report>

Correspondence items forwarded to the Committee:

- Emails from Committee Members
 - Ceremony Announcement from Kathleen Jennings: Cal State East Bay Concord Campus Wins O.W.L. Award – Campus Switches from Poison to Owl Boxes and Raptor Perches – January 16, 2019 – 11 a.m.
 - Forwarded email from Jeff Skinner – KTVU News Article: Death on the Delta puzzles fishing community and state officials
 - Forward emails from Heather Rosmarin regarding Grayson Creek Cleanup – 2018 Pleasant Hill Community Service Day - September 22, 2018
- Board of Supervisors eUpdates
 - eUpdates from Supervisor Mitchoff (2)
 - eUpdate from Supervisor Gioia
- California Fish and Game Commission Notices (34)
- Invitations
 - Invitations from Marine Science Institute to explore the San Francisco Bay on November 17, 2018 and the Delta on February 9, 2019
 - Invitation from Urban Tilth to their Speak & Eat event on November 17, 2018 at Point Molate Beach Park
 - Invitation to Pleasant Hill Instructional Garden’s Open House on October 28, 2018
 - Invitation from International Bird Rescue to their annual open house on October 20, 2018
- IPM Committee and Subcommittee emails (11)
- Newsletters and Announcements
 - John Muir Land Trust Horizons Newsletter
 - League of Women Voters – Bay Area Monitor and Monitor Notes (14)
 - Lindsay Wildlife Experience (3)
 - Pleasant Hill Instructional Garden
 - River Otter Ecology Newsletter
 - Save Mount Diablo – Recent News, Announcements, and Field Notes (2)
 - The Gull – Newsletter of the Golden Gate Audubon Society
 - Urban Bee Lab – The Buzz (2)

Nicole Kozicki advised the FWC that the civil portion of the Tong case was resolved and that \$150,000 will be directed to the Contra Costa County Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund.

Heather Rosmarin informed the Committee that she would be presenting the results of the Grayson Creek Bird Survey, a community science project to document avian diversity in Grayson Creek, on April 4, 2019 at the Contra Costa County Watershed Forum and at the Mt. Diablo Audubon Society monthly meeting. She will circulate more details when available.

5) Consider the following CONSENT items:

- a) Review and accept the letter of appreciation from Lindsay Wildlife Experience for their 2018 “Physiologic Monitoring Equipment Needs in a Triage Wildlife Hospital” project.
- b) Review and accept the letter of appreciation from Golden Gate Audubon Society for their 2017 “Eco-Richmond/Bird Friendly Schools Program” project.
- c) Review and accept the progress report from The Watershed Project for their 2018 “Monitoring Water Quality in Contra Costa County Watersheds” project.
- d) Review and accept the progress report from Regional Parks Foundation for their 2018 “Kids Healthy Outdoors Challenge” project”.
- e) Review and accept the final report from Marine Science Institute for their “2018 Delta Education Supplies” project.
- f) Review and accept the final report from Worth a Dam for their “Build a Beaver Pond project”.

The FWC reviewed and accepted Consent Items 5a, 5b, 5c, 5d, 5e and 5f.

Vote: 7 - 0

AYES: Dawson, Gehlke, Heckly, Jennings, Pellegrini, Rosmarin and Skinner

ABSENT: Bendix and Morris

ABSTAIN: None

- 6) Review and accept the progress report from Mills College on their 2017 “Ecology of Fear: What Stresses Out Wild Mammals?” project. Consider their request for an extension of time to complete the project. The FWC reviewed and accepted Mills College’s progress report and approved their request for an extension of time to complete their project.

Vote: 7 - 0

AYES: Dawson, Gehlke, Heckly, Jennings, Pellegrini, Rosmarin and Skinner

ABSENT: Bendix and Morris

ABSTAIN: None

- 7) Review and accept the final report from Earth Team for their 2017 “Research, education and habitat improvement on Marsh Creek” project. Consider their request to utilize \$770 in remaining funds for travel and per diem expenses. The FWC reviewed and accepted Earth Team’s final report and their request to utilize \$770 in remaining funds for travel and per diem expenses.

Vote: 7 - 0

AYES: Dawson, Gehlke, Heckly, Jennings, Pellegrini, Rosmarin and Skinner

ABSENT: Bendix and Morris

ABSTAIN: None

- 8) Review and accept the final report from UC Berkeley for their 2017 “Farming for Native Bees” project. Consider their request to utilize \$500 in remaining travel funds for a bee taxonomist. The FWC reviewed and accepted UC Berkeley’s final report and approved their request to utilize \$500 in remaining travel funds for a bee taxonomist.

Vote: 7 - 0

AYES: Dawson, Gehlke, Heckly, Jennings, Pellegrini, Rosmarin and Skinner

ABSENT: Bendix and Morris

ABSTAIN: None

- 9) **Review and consider a request from UC Berkeley for an extension of time to complete their 2018 “Native Bees in Urban Brentwood and Agricultural Brentwood” project. Consider their request to utilize approximately \$1,761 in remaining travel funds for a bee taxonomist.** The FWC reviewed and approved UC Berkeley’s request for an extension of time to complete their project and approved their request to utilize approximately \$1,761 in remaining travel funds for a bee taxonomist.

Vote: 7 - 0

AYES: Dawson, Gehlke, Heckly, Jennings, Pellegrini, Rosmarin and Skinner

ABSENT: Bendix and Morris

ABSTAIN: None

- 10) **Discuss outcome of the September 13, 2018 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 bees by Professor Gordon Frankie, good attendance, and great food prepared by Danny Pellegrini and his crew. Of special note, at the Fall Forum this year, was the honoring of Nicole Kozicki upon her retirement from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife by joint resolution of United States Congressmen Thompson, DeSaulnier, Swalwell and McNerney; joint resolution of California State Assemblymembers Frazier and Grayson; joint resolution of California Assemblymember Baker and California Senator Glazer; and the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors. Nicole’s contributions through directing Fish and Game fines for nearly 30 years to the Contra Costa County Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund funded many community projects that benefit the protection, conservation, propagation, and preservation of fish and wildlife in the County.

The Committee continued the discussion of the 2019 Fall Forum to the February 20, 2019 meeting.

- 11) **Review and consider approving the draft 2018 work plan and annual report to the Board of Supervisors.** The Committee reviewed and approved the 2018 work plan and annual report with two additional items.

Vote: 7 - 0

AYES: Dawson, Gehlke, Heckly, Jennings, Pellegrini, Rosmarin and Skinner

ABSENT: Bendix and Morris

ABSTAIN: None

- 12) **Consider the 13 Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund applications submitted by January 7, 2019.** Consider inviting one or more organizations to the following meeting if the Committee has further questions on their grant proposals.

As per a memo dated January 18, 2011, one member provided disclosure regarding potential or perceived conflicts of interest. Kathleen Jennings disclosed that she is a Board member on the Peyton Slough Wetlands Advisory Committee, an organization that has a relationship to Mt. View Sanitary District which had applied for a grant. The grants were reviewed and discussed in detail. Kelly Davidson (Mt. View Sanitary District), Helen Fitanides (The Watershed Project), Phil Kohlmetz (International Bird Rescue), and James Roberts (Marine Science Institute) provided additional verbal information in response to the Committee’s questions regarding their grant applications and will provide supplemental information for the Committee’s review at the February 20, 2019 meeting. The Committee directed staff to contact Contra Costa Resource Conservation District and Greens at Work for additional information. The consideration of the grant applications was continued to the February 20, 2019 meeting.

13) Determine the agenda for the next meeting. The next meeting is February 20, 2019. Possible agenda items for upcoming meetings include:

- Continue review Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund grant applications
- Election of Officers
- Continue to discuss outcome of the September 13, 2018 Fall Forum and consider plans and potential speakers for 2019.