

Minutes of the February 21, 2008 Meeting

Attending Members

Crystal Norris
Brock Dolman
Martin Bauman
Andrew Pozzi
Pierre Gadd Jr.
Jeff Holden
Al Ferris
Dave Cook
Jo Bentz
Jim Lynch

Absent Members

Ned Hill
Gene Gaffney

Others

Melania Mahoney, Wildlife Fawn Rescue
Marjorie Davis, Wildlife Fawn Rescue
Robert Pennington, Community Clean Water Institute
Jim Goodman, Dept. of Fish & Game
Dan Curtin, Ag. Commissioner's Office

Chairperson Crystal Norris called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m.

Adoption of Minutes

Crystal Norris asks if there are any additions or corrections to the January 2008 minutes. Al Ferris notes that on page 4 of the minutes Dave Cook was noted as himself and asks that the record be corrected. There was also a correction on page 5, noting that Andy Pozzi, not Crystal Norris, asked Robert Pennington who would be collecting the Data Management Consultant fees from the Dutch Bill Creek Turbidity grant request. A motion to accept the January minutes was made by Al Ferris, with a second by Pierre Gadd. Motion carried.

Correspondence

- A. Letter and handouts from the Board of Supervisors regarding *Annual Statement of Economic Interests*
- B. Email correspondence from the California Regional Quality Control Board, North Coast Region – *Update on Regional Water Board's Sediment Work Plan*
- C. Letter from Charles Armor, Regional Manager of Department of Fish & Game in support of the Dutch Bill Creek Turbidity, Nutrient and Bacteria Study

Financial Reports

January 2008 Financials: The Abalone Fund received \$85.00 from Central Collections, \$980.00 from Probation and \$96.10 in Interest, with a fund balance of \$9,417.24. The General Fund received \$2,341.72 from Superior Court revenues, \$282.57 from Probation, and \$2,180.21 in Interest, with a fund balance of \$174,579.45.

A motion to approve the January 2008 Financial Reports is made by Jim Lynch, with a second by Pierre Gadd. Motion carried.

Old Business

Second Reading of *Dutch Bill Creek Turbidity, Nutrient and Bacteria Study, Community Clean Water Institute* - Robert Pennington, Program Coordinator, is requesting a grant for \$7,500.00 for the Dutch Bill Creek Turbidity, Nutrient and Bacteria Study.

Crystal Norris mentions the letter included in the correspondence with this month's packets from Charles Armor, Regional Manager of the Department of Fish & Game in support of the project. She then mentions that she received a message from Dave Lewis with UC Cooperative Extension stating that he would not be writing a letter of support due to the fact that he sits on numerous committees and does not want to cause any conflict of interest.

Robert Pennington passes out a letter from Rich Fadness, Regional Water Monitoring Coordinator, with the California Regional Water Quality Control Board. In addition, he passes out a revised budget with more clarification and detail of the project expenses and some photos of the project.

Pierre Gadd asks Robert who will be doing the sampling. Robert indicates that he himself will be doing the sampling.

Andy Pozzi mentions that he spoke with Nels Worden, SSU Technical Advisor, about the project expenses. Andy says that per his conversation with Mr. Worden, there would be no charge on water sampling & E.coli Analysis, due to the fact the equipment was owned by Sonoma State, and that the college could not charge for use of its equipment. Robert says that Nels has read the revised budget and approves of it. Robert then clarifies for Andy that Nels is on the Board of Directors of the Community Clean Water Institute, is the lab Technical Advisor for the project, and works for Sonoma State University as a laboratory advisor.

Andy then questions the need for the E.coli analysis aspect of the study, as it would seem to be a health issue. Robert explains that it is related to the overall study so that they can narrow down the communities where there may be problems.

Al Ferris asks why there need to be more studies at Dutch Bill Creek, if the water quality is already decent. He toured the entire area during the previous week. Robert says that the study will be used as a model to gauge water quality for other watersheds in the area.

Brock Dolman comments that conducting turbidity level research in Dutch Bill Creek is definitely challenging and supports the study. He feels that the E.coli aspect of the study is warranted, especially at the low overall cost involved and since the turbidity level testing would be occurring in the watershed at the same time. He feels that there is a need for a consistent study to test the overall water quality.

Al Ferris wants to know where the information from the study will be going and how it affects Sonoma County. Robert replies that all information from their projects is available online on their website and is also given to the Water Quality Control Board. Robert feels that the information/data will be useful to many agencies such as the Department of Fish & Game, Water Quality Control Board, and the Water Agency – he believes that a study of this kind has never been done before.

Crystal Norris reminds the commission that the E.coli study is a very small part of the entire project and not the primary focus of the work.

Al Ferris is concerned that the results of the study may not be relevant to anything specific.

Brock Dolman makes a motion to approve the grant in the amount of \$7,500.00, with a second by Jo Bentz. There were 6 “yes” votes from Dave Cook, Jim Lynch, Jeff Holden, Jo Bentz, Brock Dolman and Martin Bauman. There were three “no” votes from Pierre Gadd, Andy Pozzi and Al Ferris. Motion carried for Grant #124 to Community Clean Water Institute.

New Business

First reading of *Headquarters/Satellite Projects, Wildlife Fawn Rescue* – Melania Mahoney, Executive Director, is requesting a grant for \$5,700.00 for Headquarters/Satellite Projects.

Melania Mahoney informs the commission that the February agenda was mis-printed and that the correct amount being requested for the grant is \$5,700.00, not \$7,500.00.

Melania is asking for funding to assist in the transition of the Wildlife Fawn Rescue headquarters from Marjorie Davis’ home to Melania’s home. This transition includes a new Emergency Care Center and new satellite location in Forestville. The Forestville satellite location will consist of an enclosure, a capture shoot, a shelter and a feeder. Wildlife Fawn Rescue has received donations of posts for the enclosures from around the community. She has been obtaining donations of appliances, supplies and hardware such as: a refrigerator, a sink, t-posts and used solar panel, etc. from places like Craigslist and from donations by the local community.

The emergency care shelter located at the headquarters is wooden, 2’ x 4’ construction and was built by Timbermill Farms. The floor is plywood and raised on cinderblocks, which allows for relocation of the structure, if necessary in the future.

Jo Bentz asks what type of fencing they will be using. Melania replies that they are using 2” x 4” non-climbing, 14 gauge, 9 foot tall fencing at the new headquarters location. For the Forestville location, they are looking at doing 10 foot tall fencing, due to the possibility of mountain lions in

the area. Both locations will have electric wire at the top of the fencing, powered by solar panels.

Crystal Norris asks about the primary expenses for the project. Melania says that most of the expenses are related to building materials & supplies. The headquarters location is finished. The Forestville location has not yet been started. The commission suggests that Wildlife Fawn Rescue ask the local high schools, Boy Scouts, FAA & 4-H, etc. for donations of labor in completing the building of the project. Fawn Rescue would like to have the project completed by the end of April.

Crystal states that this was the first reading of the grant and the second reading will be at the March 2007 meeting.

Reports and Comments

Commission

Dave Cook just returned from a week in Montana. He went snowboarding and visited Yellowstone National Park on a day trip. He saw lots of buffalo, eagles and elk. A highlight of the visit was seeing a wolf feeding on a buffalo carcass on a snowy plain.

Al Ferris mentions a non-profit project he has become involved with in Oroville called "Hooked on Fishing, Not Drugs". Western Outdoor News has furnished many supplies for the project, but the project still need poles, fish eggs, and other supplies. Al asks the commission to consider contributing anything they can toward the project.

Crystal Norris mentions that she and Andy met with the Agricultural Commissioner's Office regarding the FY 2008-2009 Budget and says that the commission is being asked to review their procedures and requirements for grant requests in the future. Also, the Agricultural Commissioner's Office will be working on an "actual" versus "projected" budget use and income for years past so that the F&W commissioners can take a look at what has been happening over the past years - in relation to what will be occurring in the future. She also reminds the commission that there are impending budget cuts for the upcoming fiscal year.

Public

Jim Goodman with the Department of Fish & Game mentions that there will be fourteen Hunter Education classes in 2008 and encourages the commissioners to attend.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dagny Thomas

Secretary