



**Sonoma County Fish and Wildlife Commission
Meeting Minutes
November 18, 2010 – 7:30pm**

<u>Attending Members</u>	<u>Absent Members</u>	<u>Others</u>
Crystal Norris Jo Bentz Dave Cook Dave Lloyd Jim Lynch Brock Dolman Andrew Pozzi Gene Gaffney Darius Anderson	Al Ferris Jeff Holden Caroline Christian	Capt. Steve Riske, CA Dept. Fish & Game (DFG) Ed Hoener, Sonoma County Sheriff's Office Mary Clemens, Sonoma County Regional Parks Mary Jo Delos, Sonoma County Regional Parks Jim Goodman, DFG Hunter Education Janice Goodman, DFG Hunter Education Dagny Thomas, Ag Commissioner's Office

Chairperson Crystal Norris calls the meeting to order at 7:29 p.m.

Adoption of Minutes

Crystal asks if there are any additions or corrections to the October 2010 minutes. There are none. Jim Lynch makes a motion to approve, with a second by Darius Anderson. Motion carried with nine 'Ayes', three 'Absent'.

Correspondence

None

Financial Reports

In October 2010, the Abalone Fund received \$75.00 from Central Collections, and \$9.52 in interest, with a fiscal year fund balance of \$5,000.00. The General Fund received \$2,212.14 from the Superior Court, \$391.18 from Probation, \$317.55 in interest, and paid out \$450.00 in office expenses, with a fiscal year fund balance of \$52,026.31.

Crystal asks for a motion to approve the October 2010 financial reports as presented. Jim Lynch makes a motion to approve, with a second by Gene Gaffney. Motion carried with nine 'Ayes', three 'Absent'.

Crystal mentions that Tiffany Simpson, one of the regional DFG wardens, apprised her of a \$2,500.00 award from the District Attorney's Office for a 5,000 gallon waste spill. An initial \$100 payment will go to the DFG Fish and Wildlife Preservation Fund, and the \$2,400 balance paid to

the Fish and Wildlife Commission in \$100 per month increments. The funds are designated specifically for projects on the Russian River or law enforcement. A letter from the District Attorney is forthcoming.

Old Business

Mary Jo Delos, Executive Director, Sonoma County Regional Parks Foundation, is requesting a grant in the amended amount of \$3,500.00, for *Fall Festival – Amphibian and Reptile Exhibit*, second reading

Mary Jo explains there is a second amendment to the grant request; they are now requesting \$3,000.00. Bird Rescue is unable to receive a stipend because their site is located on Regional Parks' property and it would be a conflict of interest.

The grant would help to offset costs to Sonoma County Reptile Rescue, the Nor Cal Bat Fund, Ocean Discovery, Petaluma Wildlife Museum, and Fawn Rescue.

Mary Clemens says that over 6,700 school children were in attendance count for the 2010 festival, with a total of 13,000 attendees.

Andy Pozzi asks how they paid out the stipends in advance of a decision about the grant award. Mary Clemens says that the upfront funding came from the Regional Parks Foundation and if they don't receive the grant award, it would subtract money from the scholarship fund. They fund most Title One schools in Sonoma County for the field trips.

Mary Jo states that the Creepy Crawly Critter room is the mainstay and big draw of the event every year, even during the heavy rains this past fall. They spent \$14,000 last year on scholarships.

Jo Bentz asks what the scholarship costs cover. Mary Jo says they cover the average cost of \$100 per classroom, or \$5 per child. The schools fund the buses.

Jim Lynch makes a motion to approve the grant in the amended amount of \$3,000.00, with a second by Darius Anderson. Motion carried for grant #149, with nine "Ayes", three "Absent".

Captain Steve Riske, DFG, is requesting a grant in the amount of \$4,397.46, for *Russian River Enforcement*, and a grant in the amount of \$4,726.95, for *Abalone Regulation Enforcement*, second readings

Abalone Regulation Enforcement – Crystal asks if there are any additional questions or comments. Andy Pozzi makes a motion to approve the grant in the amount of \$4,726.95 from the Abalone Fund, with a second by Gene Gaffney. Motion carried for grant #150, with nine "Ayes", three "Absent".

Russian River Enforcement - Captain Riske states that through some recent developments, DFG is not currently putting any new boats into service rotation. There have been some complications with the process. In order to receive a new boat, they would have to give up a boat. They could potentially receive the Mokai Kayaks through a grant award, and the kayaks would not be considered 'boats'.

Darius will call the Director of Fish and Game in Sacramento and clarify the policy regarding boat purchases.

Crystal asks Ed Hoener from the Sonoma County Sheriff's Department if they would consider applying for a grant for the kayaks. Ed states the Sheriff's Department would like to sell their jet boat, purchase one Mokai kayak, and submit a grant request to the Commission for the additional kayak. The ownership would be retained by the Sheriff's Department and used by DFG for Russian River patrols.

Crystal states the grant request is tabled until January 2011.

New Business

Fish and Wildlife Commission logo decals - Crystal obtained price quotes for 2" X 2" and 3" X 3" versions of the decals. They are full color and waterproof. After discussion it is agreed that the cost of the printing should not exceed \$350.00. The Commission will distribute decals to grant recipients that purchase equipment and hold public/educational outreach events.

Jim Lynch makes a motion to proceed with the printing of the decals in two sizes, not to exceed \$350.00, with a second by Gene Gaffney. Motion carried with nine 'Ayes', three 'Absent'.

Reports and Comments

Commission –

- Dave Cook went crabbing and it's a very good year for crab.
- Gene Gaffney brought in a sample of animal scat he hopes someone can identify. He thinks it may be wild pig. He saw his very first coyote ever on Graton Road; it's the first time he's seen one in 34 years living in Occidental. He went abalone rock picking at Fort Ross recently and said it was disturbing to see such low quantities. Captain Riske states that rock picking and lack of replacing undersized abalone to the rocks have contributed considerably to the diminishing abalone populations.

Public –

- Jim and Janice Goodman won't be scheduling any DFG Hunter Education classes until February 2011 and are enjoying taking some time off.
- Dagny Thomas introduces Carrie Muller, the new Executive Assistant to the Agricultural Commissioner.

With no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dagny Thomas
Commission Secretary