

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES

Via live webcast
March 3, 2021
11:00 am – 12:10 pm

ATTENDANCE

Association of California Water Agencies

Director: Dave Eggerton – Present
Alternate: OPEN

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Director: Nancee Murray – Present
Alternate: OPEN

California Forestry Association

Director: Rich Gordon – Present
Alternate: George Gentry – Absent

California Hydropower Reform Coalition

Director: Pete Bell – Present
Alternate: Richard Roos-Collins – Absent

California Public Utilities Commission

Director: Allison Brown - Present
Alternate: OPEN

California Public Utilities Commission Appointed Public Members

Director: Art Baggett Jr. – Absent
Director: David Muraki – Present
Director: Chris Nota – Present

California Natural Resources Agency

Director: Wade Crowfoot – Absent
Alternate: Jennifer Norris – Present

California Tribal Interests

Director: Larry Myers – Absent
Alternate: Ken Tipon – Absent

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

Director: Soapy Mulholland – Present
Alternate: Bob Schneider – Absent

Public Advocates Office

Director: Truman Burns – Present

Alternate: Julie Halligan - Present

Pacific Gas & Electric Company

Director: Mike Schonherr – Present

Alternate: Rebecca Doidge - Absent

Rural County Representatives of California

Director: Lee Adams – Present

Alternate: Miles Menetrey – Present

State Water Resources Control Board

Director: DeeDee D'Adamo – Absent

Alternate: Jeffrey Parks – Present

Trust for Public Land

Director: Dave Sutton – Absent

Alternate: John McCamman - Present

U.S. Forest Service

Non-Voting Liaison: Jerry Bird - Absent

STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL STAFF

Executive Director Heidi Krolick

Director Programs and Administration Erin Healy

Deputy Director of Land Conservation Steve Schweigerdt

Land Conservation Project Manager Megan Tolbert

Office Administrator Robyn White

Finance and Compliance Administrator Debbie Daugherty

OTHERS

Annie Cunial, Director, Outdoor Education, Sky Mountain, San Joaquin County Office of Education (SJCOE)

George Berla, CFA, Berla Investment Consultants

Corey Berla, CFA, Berla Investment Consultants

Greg Williams, Executive Director, Sierra Buttes Trail Stewardship

Sarah Hug, PG&E Staff Representative

Jaimes Swenson, PG&E Staff Representative

Cheryl Davis, PG&E Staff Representative

Ricky Prows, Maidu Summit Consortium

Molly McGettigan, Public Member

Les Hall, Public Member

Tom Tisch, Public Member

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS TAKEN BY THE BOARD AT THIS MEETING

- Adoption of the minutes of the December 9, 2020 Board of Directors meeting. (**Consent calendar item**)
- Approval of the revisions to the 2021 budget as presented.
- Approval of the proposed enhancement grant of \$253,000 to Sierra Buttes Trail Stewardship for the Bucks Lake Trail System.

ATTENDANCE AND QUORUM

Stewardship Council Board Vice President and Acting Chair Soapy Mulholland called the roll, declared a quorum, and called the meeting to order.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES

Ms. Mulholland asked if any Board members had a conflict of interest with regard to any of the proposed actions. There were none.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Annie Cunial, Director, Outdoor Education, Sky Mountain, SJCOE provided a presentation on SJCOE's plans for Sky Mountain Outdoor Education Center. She reviewed activities planned for the camp and provided information on how SJCOE is preparing to welcome students. She thanked the Board for the Council's support.

Deputy Director of Land Conservation Steve Schweigerdt introduced Greg Williams, Executive Director of the Sierra Buttes Trail Stewardship (SBTS). Mr. Williams gave a brief overview of SBTS and thanked the Board for their consideration of the Bucks Lake Trail System enhancement grant.

CONSENT CALENDAR

The Board approved the consent calendar items as noted above in the summary of actions and resolutions taken at Board meeting.

FIDUCIARY COMMITTEE

Fiduciary Committee Chair Truman Burns introduced the duties of the committee. He then turned the meeting over to Director of Programs and Administration Erin Healy to provide the financial update and details on the 2021 budget revision requested action.

2021 Budget Revision (ACTION)

Ms. Healy explained there had been some adjustments to the 2021 budget due to additional closings that occurred after the 2020 budget was approved but prior to the end of the 2020 calendar year which resulted in expenditures in 2020 rather than 2021 including a \$2.5M enhancement grant to

SJCOE with the closing of Sky Mountain Camp. The result was an approximate \$3.1M reduction in the 2021 budget.

After an opportunity for Board questions and discussion, the Board approved the 2021 Revised Budget as presented.

Presentation by Berla Investment Consulting

George and Cory Berla addressed the board with detailed fund trend data. They explained that the Stewardship Council is only invested in the fixed income market, particularly short term mutual and money market funds. They discussed other options of investment but stated considering the Council's upcoming dissolution they would not recommend changes to the Council's investment strategy, and suggested no modifications to the investment policy for the time being. Mr. Burns thanked the Berlas for their update.

WATERSHED PLANNING COMMITTEE

After Ms. Mulholland introduced the duties of the committee, she turned the meeting over to Mr. Schweigerdt.

Approval of the Bucks Lake Trail System enhancement grant (*ACTION*)

Mr. Schweigerdt reviewed the proposal from the Sierra Buttes Trail Stewardship (SBTS) for an enhancement grant in the amount of \$253,000 for construction of a new 6.2 mile multiuse trail system at the Bucks Lake planning unit to enhance public recreation and increase safe access to regional trails. He explained the trail system will be sustainably designed to minimize long term maintenance and impacts to natural resources.

After an opportunity for Board questions and discussion, the Board approved the action as described above in the summary of actions and resolutions taken at the Board meeting.

Land Conservation Program Update

Mr. Schweigerdt provided the Board with an update regarding the Land Conservation Program. He reported 61 transactions had closed escrow as of December 31, 2020 with 35 transactions remaining to close.

FINAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were none.

BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lee Adams welcomed Rural Counties Representatives of California (RCRC) new board alternate Miles Menetrey to the Board.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Mulholland adjourned the meeting at approximately 12:10 p.m.

Nancee Murray, Secretary