

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES

Sacramento, CA

June 27, 2018

1:00 pm – 2:15 pm

ATTENDANCE

Association of California Water Agencies

Director: Tim Quinn – Present

Alternate: Dave Bolland – Absent

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Director: Nancee Murray – Present

Alternate: OPEN

California Farm Bureau Federation

Director: Karen Mills – Present

Alternate: Noelle Cremers – Absent

California Forestry Association

Director: Kirsten Kolpitcke – Present

Alternate: George Gentry – Present

California Hydropower Reform Coalition

Director: Pete Bell – Absent

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. – Present

Director: David Muraki – Present

Director: Chris Nota - Absent

California Natural Resources Agency

Director: John Laird – Absent

Alternate: Todd Ferrara – Present

California Tribal Interests

Director: Larry Myers – Present

Alternate: Ken Tipon – Absent

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

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

Office of Ratepayer Advocates

Director: Truman Burns – Present
Alternate: OPEN

Pacific Gas & Electric Company

Director: Mike Schonherr – Present
Alternate: Rebecca Doidge - Present

Rural County Representatives of California

Director: Lee Adams – Present
Alternate: John Viegas – Absent

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: Liz Berger - Absent

STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL STAFF

Executive Director Heidi Krolick
Director of Land Conservation Jessica Daugherty
Director of Finance and Operations Aaron Robertson
Deputy Director of Land Conservation Erin Healy
Senior Project Manager Steve Schweigerdt
Senior Project Manager Chantz Joyce
Project Manager Lauren Faccinto
Office Administrator Robyn White
Finance and Compliance Administrator Debbie Daugherty

OTHERS

Ron Lunder, President, Mountain Meadows Conservancy
Peggy Fulder, Friends of Mountain Meadows

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

- Adoption of the minutes of the May 2, 2018 board of directors meeting (**Consent calendar item**)
- Approval of Sacramento, California as the location of the September 19, 2018 board meeting (**Consent calendar item**)
- Approval of the Stewardship Council's Updated Strategic Plan 2018 through Dissolution
- Approval of the recommendation of CALFIRE as the recipient of fee title to approximately 1,311 acres available for donation within parcels in the Lake Spaulding (Lake Valley Reservoir, Six Mile Valley) planning unit. This action supersedes any previous fee donee recommendations to CAL FIRE in the Lake Spaulding planning unit. Additionally, CAL FIRE will coordinate with the neighboring San Joaquin County Office of Education (SJCOE) regarding an access agreement between SJCOE and CAL FIRE, a draft of which will be provided to the Stewardship Council simultaneously with the draft LCCP.
- Approval of the recommendation of Wildlife Heritage Foundation as the conservation easement holder for the lands to be retained by PG&E at the Lower Drum (Folsom) planning unit. This action supersedes any previous conservation easement holder actions at the Lower Drum (Folsom) planning unit.
- Approval of the recommendation of Wildlife Heritage Foundation as the conservation easement holder for the lands to be donated to San Joaquin County Office of Education (SJCOE) at the Lake Spaulding (Lake Valley Reservoir) planning unit. This action supersedes any previous conservation easement holder actions at the Lake Spaulding (Lake Valley Reservoir) planning unit.
- Approval of the Fall River Lake Trail Improvement and Ecocultural Enhancement Project for a grant of \$299,230 to the Fall River Valley Community Services District (CSD) with a shortened Dispute Notice Period of five (5) business days after minutes of the board meeting are distributed.
- Approval of the Indian Ole Dam Public Access Improvements for a grant of up to \$130,000 to the Mountain Meadows Conservancy with a shortened Dispute Notice Period of five (5) business days after the minutes of the board meeting are distributed.

ATTENDANCE AND QUORUM

Stewardship Council Board President Art Baggett called the roll, declared a quorum, and called the meeting to order.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES

Mr. Baggett asked if any board members had a conflict of interest with regard to any of the proposed actions. Todd Ferrara stated he had a perceived conflict of interest on the Lake Spaulding (Lake Valley Reservoir, Six Mile Valley) planning unit action involving CAL FIRE.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ron Lunder, President of the Mountain Meadows Conservancy was present and provided comment pertaining to the action involving the enhancement grant funding for the Indian Ole Dam Public Access Improvements as noted below.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

BOARD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Stewardship Council Board Vice President Soapy Mulholland, acknowledged staff members Heidi Krolick and Chantz Joyce for 10 years of service with the Stewardship Council and thanked them for their dedication and hard work.

Ms. Krolick then directed the board to the updated Strategic Plan 2018 through Dissolution located in the packet. She noted changes in the land program objectives and goals had been approved by the Watershed Planning Committee and that the Youth Investment Committee had discussed and approved changes to the Youth objectives and goals.

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 board meeting.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Director of Finance and Operations, Aaron Robertson reported that the Stewardship Council had received a clean audit for 2017. He noted staff was in the process of circulating a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a new auditing firm for 2018 and beyond. Mr. Robertson explained that the Fiduciary Committee had decided a new firm should be selected as a best practice and in order to continue to ensure accountability. He said the RFP's were due at the end of this week with interviews to be scheduled in July and awarded at the end of August.

FIDUCIARY COMMITTEE

Fiduciary Committee Chair, Truman Burns, turned the meeting over to Mr. Robertson.

Mr. Robertson introduced George Berla and Corey Berla of Berla Investments. Mr. Berla explained Stewardship Council's investment policies and strategy, our compliance with those policies and he explained each of the investment instruments. The investment portfolio primarily utilizes conservative fixed income mutual funds to optimize diversification, preserve principal and maintain liquidity. He noted the Fiduciary Committee updates the Stewardship Council's Investment Policies regularly and as of March 31, 2018 all investments complied with the portfolio mix percentages

identified in the Stewardship Council's policy. Mr. Berla also noted that in August a \$3M U.S. Treasury note matures and will transfer to the Vanguard Federal Money Market Fund.

Mr. Robertson directed the board to the 2018 Budget to Actual slide as of May 31, 2018 and noted the Upcoming Grants Payable Q3 2018 slide.

WATERSHED PLANNING COMMITTEE

CAL FIRE Fee Title Holder Recommendation at the Lake Spaulding (Lake Valley Reservoir and Six Mile Valley) Planning Unit (*ACTION*)

After Mr. Ferrara left the room, Ms. Mulholland turned the meeting over to Project Manager Steve Schweigerdt. Mr. Schweigerdt reviewed the proposed recommendation of CAL FIRE as the recipient of fee title to approximately 1,311 acres within parcels in the Lake Spaulding (Lake Valley Reservoir, Six Mile Valley) planning unit.

Mr. Schweigerdt noted there had been a significant increase in acreage based on PG&E's more recent review of property needed for operational purposes. He reported that staff is working with CAL FIRE to allow access that is appropriate to the adjacent property recommended for donation to the San Joaquin County Office of Education (SJCOE), and that this could take the form of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between CAL FIRE and SJCOE. David Muraki said that he would like SJCOE to be added as a conservation partner as part of the recommendation. Ms. Krolick stated that staff could certainly add language to the recommendation that notes SJCOE as a partner in the recommendation that will be posted on the Stewardship Council's website. Ms. Krolick further clarified that the Planning Committee's recommendation to the board includes a condition for CAL FIRE to coordinate with SJCOE regarding an access agreement between SJCOE and CAL FIRE, a draft of which will be provided to the Stewardship Council simultaneously with the draft LCCP.

Mr. Schweigerdt further explained that CAL FIRE was also working on implementing their Native American Tribal Action Plan and making progress.

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 board meeting.

Wildlife Heritage Foundation Conservation Easement Holder Recommendation at Lower Drum (Folsom Lake) Planning Unit (*ACTION*)

After Mr. Ferrara returned to the room, Mr. Schweigerdt reviewed the proposed recommendation for Wildlife Heritage Foundation (WHF) to hold the conservation easement (CE) on 12 acres that PG&E will retain near Folsom Lake in the Lower Drum planning unit.

Mr. Schweigerdt explained that Placer Land Trust (PLT) had previously been recommended as the CE holder on all lands in the Lower Drum planning unit, however, more recently PLT requested the Stewardship Council identify another organization to hold the CE.

He said that Stewardship Council staff and WHF had come to agreement on an acceptable endowment of \$111,000.

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.

Wildlife Heritage Foundation Conservation Easement Holder Recommendation at Lake Spaulding (San Joaquin County Office of Education Donation) Planning Unit (ACTION)

Mr. Schweigerdt reviewed the recommendation for Wildlife Heritage Foundation (WHF) to hold the conservation easement (CE) on 40 acres that the board recommended for donation to the SJCOE in the Lake Spaulding planning unit.

Mr. Schweigerdt explained that Placer Land Trust (PLT) had originally been recommended to hold the conservation easement on remaining lands in this area of Lake Spaulding planning unit but PLT had since reported to staff they were not interested in holding and monitoring a CE over a youth camp.

He then detailed how WHF was best suited to hold the CE as they had a strong organizational interest in youth outdoor education programs and offered various educational opportunities for teachers and students.

Mr. Schweigerdt noted that staff is currently working with WHF to come to agreement on an endowment funding amount and has a site visit scheduled with WHF and SJCOE to plan out the building envelop and monitoring strategies on July 30. Staff will present the reasonable endowment amount once negotiated and bring it to the board for approval with the Land Conservation and Conveyance Plan (LCCP).

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 board meeting.

Enhancement Grant Program: Fall River Lake Trail Improvement and Ecocultural Enhancement Project (ACTION)

Mr. Schweigerdt provided background on the Fall River Lake Trail Improvement and Ecocultural Enhancement Project proposed by the Fall River Community Services District (CSD) in the amount of \$299,230.

He explained the project would provide 1.8 miles of trail, Oak woodland restoration, OHV route decommissioning and interpretive panels and outdoor learning.

Mr. Schweigerdt then read a statement from the Fall River Valley CSD, who in partnership with the Lomakatsi Restoration Project and Intertribal Ecosystem Restoration Network said they were honored to receive the award and work with such a great team of land and water stewards.

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.

Enhancement Grant Program: Indian Ole Public Access Improvements Project (ACTION)

Mr. Schweigerdt provided background on the Indian Ole Dam Public Access Improvements project proposed by the Mountain Meadows Conservancy in the amount of up to \$130,000.

He explained the project would include a half mile trail, restroom facility, benches and picnic tables as well as a parking area and interpretive signs.

Mr. Schweigerdt then invited Ron Lunder the president of the Mountain Meadows Conservancy to address the board. Mr. Lunder thanked the board for their consideration of the proposal. He explained the importance of the improvements to the community.

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

Director of Land Conservation Jessica Daugherty provided the board with an update regarding the Land Conservation Program. She highlighted the increase in board adopted LCCPs for 2018 as well as recent field tours by staff and the board.

FINAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were none.

BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tim Quinn announced he will be retiring at the end of the year. He said he will know who his replacement will be by later this summer.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Baggett adjourned the meeting at approximately 2:15 p.m.

Nancee Murray, Secretary