

**SOLANO COUNTY PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF  
January 10, 2013**

**County Administration Center - First Floor Hearing Room  
675 Texas Street, Fairfield  
5:30 p.m.**

**Members Present:** Commissioners Leong, Riddle, Whited and  
Chairman Hermsmeyer  
**Members Excused:** Commissioner Alvarez  
**Staff Present:** Dan Sykes and Kristine Letterman

**1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Chairman Hermsmeyer called the meeting to order. A quorum was confirmed.

**2. Approval of the Minutes**

The minutes of November 8, 2012 were approved by unanimous vote (motion by Commissioner Whited, second by Commissioner Riddle).

**3. Approval of Agenda**

It was suggested to table Agenda Item No. 7 regarding the nomination of Chair and Vice-Chair until after the Board of Supervisors makes their commission appointments.

A motion was made by Commissioner Leong and seconded by Commissioner Riddle to approve the agenda with the deletion of item no. 7. The motion passed unanimously.

**4. Chair and Commissioner Comments**

Chairman Hermsmeyer shared with the commission an article that was published in the Rio Vista newspaper regarding the Yolo Ranch Restoration project. The project encompasses 18,000 acres and will involve mitigation, habitat improvement and land restoration.

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Commissioner Leong referred to a recent article in The Estuary newsletter regarding the coastal commission's interest in helping to fund the set-up of non-motorized boat launches in Solano County. Mr. Leong suggested applying for any grants that may be available to use for the set-up of a launch at Pierce Harbor. Mr. Sykes pointed out that in the past there have been concerns with Pierce Harbor surrounding such issues as property access and adequate parking. Mr. Sykes stated that he would provide the commission with an update on the status of the site at a future commission meeting.

**5. Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

**6. Committee Report: State Parks Working Group (Alvarez)**

This item was postponed due to the absence of Commissioner Alvarez.

**7. Chair and Vice-Chair Elections**

This item was removed from the agenda.

**8. Approve 2013 Meeting Dates (2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every other month)**

It was motioned by Commissioner Riddle and seconded by Chairman Hermsmeyer to approve the Park and Recreation Commission meeting dates of March 14, May 9, July 11, September 12, and November 14, 2013. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Leong noted that he would be absent from the March 14<sup>th</sup> and May 9<sup>th</sup> commission meetings.

**9. Review Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund balance and consider appointment of ad hoc committee to recommend future of FWPF grant program.**

Staff reported that the Commission had completed its task of distributing the mitigation funds from the Kinder Morgan Settlement after several grant cycles of the (Countywide) Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund (FWPF) and Suisun Marsh Specific Fund (SMSF) Grant Programs. The staff report listed the amounts awarded to projects during six grant cycles that have been conducted, for a total of \$490,489 from the FWPF and \$576,399 from the SMSF. With the completion of these disbursements, Staff anticipates the next FWPF grant cycle in FY2013/14 would have an available fund balance of approximately \$9,000-10,000 that could be awarded as project grants.

Staff recommended that, based on the substantially lower amount of grant funds available next year, the commission consider a modified or abbreviated grant application process. Staff further suggested that an ad hoc committee be appointed to consider options for how to run the FWFP process in the future.

Jeff Taylor, Solano Resource Conservation District, stated that Steve Chappell would be interested in helping with this process, and would be available to serve as a member on the ad hoc committee.

After some discussion, Chairman Hermsmeyer appointed an ad hoc committee to meet and recommend a future application process for the FWPF grant program. The members are Chairman Hermsmeyer, Commissioner Riddle, and Jerry Emmanuelson.

**10. Parks and Recreation Division Staff Report (Informational, with Possible Action)**

a. Park grant projects and pending grant applications

The staff report indicated that there are currently two active grants, and two pending grant applications. The first active project is for the installation of a fish cleaning station at Sandy Beach Park (grant amount \$60,000); the second is for improvements to the Lake Solano Nature Center (grant amount \$74,870). The two pending applications include a grant request for \$93,071 to add fishing and boating amenities to Belden's Landing; and the second grant request in the amount of \$62,680 is to purchase 88 tons of recycled rubber nuggets that would be used as landscaping mulch at Belden's Landing.

b. Review of Ranger Staff law enforcement duties

Because of ongoing concerns with law enforcement duties of the park ranger staff, the County's Departments of Resource Management and Human

Resources, and the Sheriff's and County Administrator's Offices continue to work together to determine the necessary modifications to these positions to establish the appropriate law enforcement duties.

c. County Parks branding and logo project

Beginning in January, County Parks will work with a consultant to develop a brand, logo and promotional materials for the County Parks system. Specific goals of the project are to raise public awareness and usage of the parks, and to better market the parks to potential partner organizations and sponsors.

d. Attendance and revenue

The total attendance for FY2012/13 was 79,023 with a total of \$231,549 in revenue (YTD).

**11. Confirm date of next regular meeting and adjournment**

The next Commission meeting was confirmed for March 14, 2013 at 5:30 p.m. Since there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned.