

**SOLANO COUNTY PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
November 8, 2012**

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

Members Present: Commissioners Alvarez, Riddle, Whited and Chairman Hermsmeyer
Members Excused: Commissioner Leong
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 September 13, 2012 were unanimously approved (motion by Riddle, second by Whited).

3. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved unanimously.

4. Chair and Commissioner Comments

There were no Commissioner comments.

5. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

6. Approve Recommendation of Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund (FWPF) Awards for FY2012/13 to be forwarded to the County Board of Supervisors (Action Item)

Dan Sykes spoke briefly about the committee's evaluation and scoring process. The amount of funding allocated for the grants was \$220,000. Applicants submitted eleven applications and the committee recommended funding or partial funding of 10 of the projects. The scoring summary sheet was included in the commission's agenda packet. The members of the evaluation committee were Commissioner Whited, Steve Foreman and Laureen Barthman-Thompson.

Commissioner Alvarez asked if there was any discussion or consideration given to the groups that were not funded at 100%. Mr. Sykes stated that he would ask those applicants to submit a revised cost estimate that shows what scope of the project could still be accomplished.

In response to Chairman Hermsmeyer's inquiry, Mr. Sykes stated that the fund balance remaining in the fund after the current awards are made, would be in the range of \$10,000-\$20,000.

A motion was made by Commissioner Whited and seconded by Commissioner Riddle to forward the committee's recommendation for grant approval to the Board of Supervisors. The motion passed unanimously.

Steve Chappell, Suisun Resource Conservation District, briefly shared his appreciation for the committee's efforts in the process and commented on how the fund has yielded some very good projects in the marsh.

There was some discussion among the commission and staff with regard to the idea of keeping a separate accounting of fund monies from the Kinder Morgan fund and Fish and Game fine funds. It was suggested that this item be put on a future meeting agenda. Mr. Sykes will provide a total of the grant awards made from the Kinder Morgan funds to date and the Fish and Wildlife Fund balance, for the next Commission meeting.

7. Staff Presentation and Update - Marketing and Promoting Parks (Informational)

Dan Sykes provided a PowerPoint presentation depicting the county's efforts to better promote the County Parks and their services, raise public awareness and increase attendance. He also provided a look at the new Park and Recreation Division's interactive website for reserving camping and picnicking sites. He noted that the online reservation system would be available to the public starting in January 2013.

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

A. Attendance and revenue

Overall park system attendance continues to increase due to the growth in day use attendance at Sandy Beach Park. Attendance and revenues at Lake Solano and Lynch Canyon over the prior 2-3 years have fluctuated but seem relatively steady over the long-term. There was a decrease last year in revenues at Belden's Landing, which may have resulted from down-time of a defective automatic payment machine (which has since been replaced). In the first 4 months of the current fiscal year, Belden's attendance appears to be recovering, with a trend closer to that of 2 years ago.

B. Status of FWPF and SMSF Grant Projects

Tables showing the status of all active SMSF Grant Projects from the FY2010/11 and FY2011/12 grant cycles were provided in the agenda packet.

C. Status of ongoing park projects

Staff reported they are progressing with improvements at Sandy Beach Park (disabled accessibility and fish cleaning station projects), Belden's Landing parking lot (pavement and curb repairs), and Lake Solano campground (fire ring and table replacements).

D. Ethics training for Commissioners, reminder

Refresher training in ethics and the Brown Act are required for each Commissioner and can be completed on-line at <http://localethics.fppc.ca.gov/ab1234>.

9. Confirm date of next regular meeting and Adjournment (Action Item)

The next Commission meeting was confirmed for January 10, 2013 at 5:30 p.m. Since there was no further business the meeting was adjourned.