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## Minutes For August 2, 2007

SOLANO COUNTY PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD THURSDAY, August 2, 2007 AT THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION CENTER - FIRST HEARING ROOM,  
LOCATED AT 675 TEXAS STREET FAIRFIELD, CALIFORNIA

Commission Members Present: Hermsmeyer, Riddle, Alvarez, Laevastu & Leong

Staff Present: Sykes, & Tanner-Linne

1. Chair Hermsmeyer called the meeting to order at 5:45 PM. A quorum was confirmed.
2. Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the June 27, 2007 special meeting were approved, and the July 12 meeting minutes were approved with one change, with Commissioner Riddle making the motion and Chair Herms seconding the motion.
3. Approval of Agenda: The agenda was approved. Commissioner Laevastu made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Riddle seconded the motion. The agenda was approved unanimously.
4. Chair Announcements and Actions

In January 2007 the commission provided Yolo County with a letter of support for a grant under Prop. 50. Yolo County received \$900,000 for projects to improve public access to Putah Creek.

5. Commissioner and Staff Comments (Informational Only)

There were no commissioner or staff comments.

6. Discussion of, and Appointment of Committee to Develop, an Evaluation Process for Distribution of Kinder Morgan Funds (Action item)

Jerry Emanuelson, Suisun Marsh Natural History Association stated due to the importance of the item and the amount of money involved, that the Chair should be on the Kinder Morgan Committee.

Commissioner Riddle stated he thought the committee should be formed that would have two commissioners, one staff member, one citizen or two.

Commissioner Alvarez asked whether there was any discussion at the last meeting about the need for a committee.

Chair Hermsmeyer stated that there was agreement between the commissioners present at the last meeting that the complexity of the issue, a committee should be formed, which would make a recommendation to the commission. The commission would make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors. There is no current deadline for making

recommendation to the Board.

Commissioner Alvarez stated this is a total package to the board. Here is a lump of money; here is how we recommend dispersing it and the process to follow for dispersing it. He would like the total amount to include not only the fund but the interest also. This could be an ongoing funding source.

Commissioner Laevastu stated that it was a "subcommittee," and what she saw it addressing is fund allocation, to disperse all the funds at one time or spending them over time, whether there should be a competitive process, or the evaluation process should be. She also supported having public members on it.

Chair Hermsmeyer said he felt the commission could provide direction to the committee, but the commission would make the final recommendation about the dispersal of the funds. He stated he would like to see something that would be a gradual dispersal of funds instead of all at once.

Commissioner Leong said we are developing a "committee" not a subcommittee. He liked the idea of not dispersing the funds one time and having a committee formed with staff, commissioners and private citizens would be good. The Suisun Conservation District, Steve's group, would be good people to have in the committee. Even though it might seem like a conflict of interest.

Chair Hermsmeyer questioned whether it would be advisable to ask County Counsel to sit in to discuss the parametric settlement agreement, or at least to make sure the recommendations of the committee are reviewed by the County office.

Commissioner Alvarez agreed with the Chair that the package should be as tight as it can before going to the Board. The process we are talking about is the legal uses of the funds. He and Commissioner Leong agreed that having a representative from the Suisun Marsh area on the committee is good.

Chair Hermsmeyer stated all present tonight are all stakeholders, and he doesn't have to see an issue with conflict of interest. All have an opinion and the committee is to help develop some common thinking and bring it in back to the commission. The commission will make the final recommendation.

Chair Hermsmeyer said he wanted to give the committee a charge to decide regarding the dispersal of funds whether it should be a one time event or look at over a period of time.

Commissioner Riddle stated he felt the charge should go to the committee and have them do some research and determination back to this body. Have the committee meet and prepare a finding report to bring back to the commission. Commissioner Laevastu and Leong agreed.

Commissioner Alvarez suggested the committee view the Suisun Resource Conservation District's recent proposal for the parametric settlement as a sample. It describes the need to develop applicant solicitations, program goals and objectives, a process, ranking criteria and evaluations.

Steve Chappell, Executive Director of Suisun Resource Conservation District discussed the possibility of the parametric settlement funds being used as matching funds for obtaining additional grants from other agencies and how the process would work.

Linda Fiack, Executive Director of Delta Protection Commission, stated the County might also consider an endowment fund. She stated other counties are also working on endowment funds for long-term expenditures. Other agencies have established principles which are similar to what you could establish with the settlement. They then found a way to assign a price to those.

Commissioner Leong suggested a representative from State Fish & Game might also like to be on the committee. Steve Chappell suggested they might be an expert for the committee to consult, but there are a lot of knowledgeable people who could be resources. Steve said he could see the commission having three or four panels to review the projects and have an outside review panel, if concerned with conflict of interest on this committee.

Linda Fiack recommended that the committee also look at the opportunities for funding educational projects. Linda Delta Trails stated she had an outline from another organization. She said you can also learn from them because she shows what will work and not work.

Commissioner Laevastu stated the committee could recommend principles on whether to spend the money on public education, or habitat enhancement.

After additional discussion, Chair Hermsmeyer concluded that the general consensus was that the committee should have commissioners, Dan Sykes representing County Staff, and members of the public. Commissioner Alvarez stated the committee should bring in people as assistants as they feel they are needed. Commissioner Alvarez also said, we are developing a framework, not the program itself.

Commissioner Laevastu and Commissioner Riddle volunteered to be on the committee. Commissioner Alvarez said he would be an alternate.

Staff Sykes asked whether the commission has a date they would like the committee to have the charge completed.

Commissioner Alvarez said he liked having a time line would give credibility to the Board of Supervisors. He suggested 90 days, and if the committee needs another 15 or 30 days they can let the commission know.

Commissioner Laevastu made a motion to form the committee. Commissioner Alvarez stated there was not the motion because the Chair has the right to appoint a committee. Commissioner Riddle said the first meeting would be a formation meeting, and suggested that initially Staff Sykes should be the chair, and then the committee will decide who will be the chair at the first meeting.

Staff Sykes asked if they wanted someone from County Counsel to be on the committee. Commissioner Riddle said no, Counsel would only need to participate if there are questions.

Chair Hermsmeyer asked if there were members of the public that would like to volunteer. Steve Chappell, Linda Fiack, and Jerry Emanuelson all volunteered.

Chair Hermsmeyer appointed the committee with Commissioners Laevastu and Riddle (with Commissioner Alvarez as alternate), Staff Sykes, Steve Chappell, Linda Fiack and Jerry Emanuelson. Jerry Emanuelson requested that he have Monique Liquori to be an alternate for him due to an upcoming vacation.

Chair Hermsmeyer said the committee would develop a structure or framework that would address the amount of dispersal, should the dispersal be incremental, such as a long-term endowment, and the qualifications and criteria for dispersal.

Commissioners Leong and Riddle stated they would like the committee to bring a progress report back to the commission at the next meeting on September 13. Chair Hermsmeyer requested everyone to give Staff Sykes their schedules and do the scheduling for the first meeting.

## 7. Review of Other Committees and Commissioner Assignments

The commissioners reviewed the list of current committees. The following committees are being disbanded due to the completion of their work.

Lake Solano Park  
Sandy Beach Regional Park  
Belden's Landing Water Facility  
Friends of Solano Regional Park District  
South County Regional Parks Planning  
County Code Section Nineteen Update  
Mount Vaca Planning/Development

Fish & Wildlife Fund Grants  
New Park Naming  
County Parks Smoking Guidelines Development  
County Parks Trails & Bikeways  
Revenue Source Development for County Parks

The two remaining committees are Mare Island Regional Park Committee, and the newly formed Kinder Morgan F Committee. Commissioner Leong stated that he is preparing a report on the Mare Island Regional Park, and then committee could also be disbanded after that.

8. Public Comments

There were no other public comments.

9. The next regular meeting was confirmed for September 13, 2007 at 5:30 pm, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

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