

SOLANO COUNTY PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION

**APPROVED MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD
THURSDAY, July 8, 2010**

**County Administration Center - First Floor Hearing Room,
675 Texas Street, Fairfield, California**

Commission Members Present: Riddle, Hermsmeyer, Alvarez, Leong
Commission Member Excused: Whited

Staff Present: Sykes

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Hermsmeyer called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. A quorum was confirmed.

2. Approval of Minutes for May 13, 2010

Motion to approve (Riddle), with second (Leong). Approved unanimously.

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve agenda (Alvarez) with second (Leong). Approved unanimously.

4. Chair Announcements and Commissioner Comments

Chair Hermsmeyer noted there was a recent newspaper on Tule Elk featuring local Dept. of Fish and Game biologist Helayna Pera. He had also observed increased attendance on the beach at Sandy Beach Park.

5. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

6. Approve Recommendation for Grant Awards Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund Program for Fiscal Year 2010/11

The recommendations of the FWPF Evaluation Committee were submitted (attached), for the Commission's review and approval. The Chair called for any public comments on this agenda item.

Applicant Sue Wickham of Solano Land Trust thanked the Commission for a favorable rating for their Rush Ranch application, but wondered why their award was only partially funded. Staff Sykes also noted that 2 other applicants had asked for more information about the scores given to their applications.

Applicant Doug Darling thanked the Commission for support of the Greater Vallejo Rec. District's application.

In response to public comment, the Commissioners had the following comments.

Riddle stated that the recommendations of the Evaluation Committee were sound, and that they had gone very in-depth and had the benefit of the oversight of professional biologists. The recommendations brought forward were a consensus of the Committee. He recommended that applicants need to spend time paying more attention to the “big ticket” high scoring items that they may have overlooked or not answered fully. In fact, there were several projects that were nearly identical in their applications, and there was little to distinguish the benefits of one from the other. So the scoring was very close.

Hermesmeyer agreed with Riddle and suggested that a more detailed review of the scoring and decisions of the Evaluation Committee did not appear to be warranted.

Riddle suggested that applicants be instructed to attend the pre-application Workshops if they want suggestions from Staff on how to score best on their applications.

Hermesmeyer requested that Staff prepare a thank you letter to send to the Evaluation Committee.

Leong stated he had made his own spreadsheet evaluating the acreages that would benefit from the projects, and the amount of the match. He observed that several projects with high match amount, and therefore, a demonstrated commitment to the projects, were funded. He was comfortable with the recommended awards.

Hermesmeyer moved that the Committee’s recommendations be approved and forwarded to the Board for final approval. Alvarez seconded the motion, and suggested that for those projects that did not receive full funding (#2 – Rush Ranch Docent Training, and #6 – Suisun RCD’s WHIP program), that they be given additional funds if any other project failed to execute their contract. This was amended onto the motion. Motion was approved unanimously (4-0)

7. Parks and Recreation Division Staff Report

Staff Sykes provided tables of attendance and revenue for FY2009/10, and the status of ongoing projects from the FY2008/09 grant cycles for the Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund and Suisun Marsh Specific Fund (tables available on request).

Sykes reported one Park Ranger Limited Term position had been eliminated due to budget cuts, and that Ranger was now an extra-help employee, working weekends only at Lynch Canyon. Lynch Canyon will be operated from July 1 to September 5 (weekends only), and then re-open on February 12, 2011 (weekends only.)

Sykes handed out CD’s of an environmental impact report for the Shiloh III Wind Turbine Project to Commissioners Leong and Hermesmeyer. Staff would be preparing a comment letter for the Chair’s signature.

8. Next regular meeting was confirmed for September 9, 2010 at 5:30 pm. Meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm.