

**MINUTES  
LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS AUTHORITY (LCWA)  
BOARD MEETING  
May 2, 2019**

The meeting was held at the Seal Beach Fire Station #48 at 3131 North Gate Road, Seal Beach 90803. The meeting was called to order by Board Member Roberto Uranga at approximately 12:35 p.m.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **FLAG SALUTE**
3. **ROLL CALL**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mr. Roberto Uranga  
Ms. Megan Cooper  
Mr. Joe Kalmick  
Mr. Daryl Supernaw

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Mark Stanley, Executive Officer  
Dena Williams, Board Secretary  
Salian Garcia, Fiscal Manager  
David Edsall, Jr., Deputy Attorney General

4. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments.

5. **CHAIR'S REPORT**

Chair Schuchat was absent, no report was given.

6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

One set of minutes for Board Meeting from February 7, 2019.

**Board voted – 4 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abstentions. Minutes were passed.**

**REGULAR CALENDAR**

7. **STATUS REPORT ON WORK PLAN IMPLEMENTATION**

**A. LAND MANAGEMENT UPDATE**

Marcelo Ceballos stated that in the last three months Tidal Influence has been conducting trail maintenance and fence line maintenance due to the high volume of rainfall this season, trash cleanups have been conducted and they also have been meeting with Vector Control groups to discuss site access and safety and they are gearing up for fire safety clearance with the shared property lines.

Mr. Stanley asked about the fence line completion and Mr. Ceballos stated that the Department of Water and Power has completed their fence line replacement project and everything looks good. There were no further questions.

**B. LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM COORDINATOR UPDATE**

Daniel North stated that the nature walks for the months of February and March there were large rain events so for the safety of the brave four attendees, February's Raptor Ramble was cancelled.

Mr. North stated that in April, the Turtle Trek hosted nearly 50 visitors and for many, it was their first time visiting. Mr. North also stated that multiple Pacific green sea turtles were witnessed by all 50 attendees along the San Gabriel River.

Mr. North stated that the Habitat Restoration Event was cancelled for both February's and March's events due to unsafe working conditions but in April, 64 community members came out to restore the degraded habitats of Zedler Marsh.

Mr. North stated 141 native plants were planted, 600 lbs. of nonnative vegetation was removed, there were 295 volunteer hours this last quarter contributing \$7,121 in in-kind services, the interns were also able to propagate 704 new plants, and removed 265 lbs. of nonnative vegetation.

Mr. North mentioned that there were a few special events this last quarter. Mr. North stated that the Vans shoe and clothing company hosted a special Earth Day volunteer outing where 16 staff members helped to install 90 native plants and removed 250 lbs. of nonnative vegetation. Mr. North also mentioned that for the first time the Stewardship Program hosted a Bioblitz event in partnership with Long Beach City College and the Aquarium of the Pacific where the students collect data by using the smartphone application, iNaturalist, where they explore the trails of Zedler Marsh collecting photos of all the plants and animals in the area.

Elizabeth Lambe shared some photos from the Jane Adams school field trip with the "Explore the Coast" program and also from Heroes Elementary School in Santa Ana the third grade class was able to visit the wetlands through the Be Safe program.

**C. EL DORADO AUDUBON UPDATE**

Mary Parsell stated that the El Dorado Audubon Society has been conducting these walks since 1979 and it all began on the parcel that is now called the Steam Shovel Slough.

Ms. Parsell also stated that in January there were 5 days of rain but that they still went on the walk observing water pooling all over the site. Ms. Parsell stated that nine species were observed including Dowitcher, Killdeer, Great Blue Heron, Red-tailed Hawk & White-crowned Sparrow.

Ms. Parsell stated that in February the rain continued but there were some observers who documented 5 species including Mallard, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Snowy Egret & Red-winged Blackbird.

Ms. Parsell stated that in March the highlights included Peregrine Falcon and a Scrub Jay chasing a Snowy Egret and other highlights included the first swallow of the season, Northern Rough-winged Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Lesser Goldfinch, White-crowned and Lincoln Sparrow.

Ms. Parsell stated that in April they observed Peregrine Falcon, Scrub Jay, Snowy Egret, Northern Rough-winged Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Lesser Goldfinch, White-crowned Sparrow, Lincoln Sparrow in addition to several species of hawk and Belted Kingfisher.

**D. HOMELESS RELOCATION PROGRAM UPDATE**

Lenny Arkinstall provided a powerpoint presentation of the clean up and efforts of the Stewards and Officers have been providing on each parcel. Mr. Arkinstall introduced Officer Armond and Officer Gray from Long Beach who informed us of the services they provide to Lenny and the homeless encampments.

Board Member Uranga thanked the officers for their service and for being so compassionate towards the homeless community.

Board Member Cooper asked if the officers always relocate the person who is homeless. The officers answered that they offer them all of the services that are available to the individual, but they cannot force them to accept the services.

**E. LCWA RESTORATION PLAN PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT UPDATE**

Eric Zahn stated that the staff working on the restoration Plan Program officially initiated the CEQA process and they were able to file in both Los Angeles and Orange Counties and staff completed mailings to the residents and property owners and sent certified mailings to the jurisdictional agencies and to all of the required tribal groups.

Mr. Zahn stated that a scoping meeting was held on March 21st in Long Beach and was well attended.

Mr. Zahn mentioned that the consultant ESA has been diligently working on the preparation of the Draft EIR and are working on finalizing the project description as well. Mr. Zahn stated that there will be a meeting involving the public in the

late fall or early winter just to keep everyone up to date with the project because it is a complex planning effort.

Megan Cooper asked if there was a committee from the community members and are there any members from tribes that have historical, cultural connections. Mr. Zahn answered that we have not formed a community committee group that officially offers advice on this project. Mr. Zahn also stated that for years LCWA did not have any tribes engaging with the project until now with the Los Cerritos Wetlands Oil Consolidation and Restoration Project.

**F. EXPENDITURES REPORT**

Mark Stanley gave a brief synopsis of the FY 2018/2019 budget and summarized the Expenditures and Revenues as of March 31, 2019.

**8. STATUS REPORT AND UPDATE ON THE LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS OIL CONSOLIDATION AND RESTORATION PROJECT**

Eric Zahn stated that staff will continue to include this project on the agenda and update the board members on the status of the Los Cerritos Wetlands Oil Consolidation and Restoration Project as this is the most dynamic projects going on.

Mr. Zahn also stated that the Coastal Commission had a hearing regarding the project's Coastal Development Permit (CDP) held on December 13, 2018 and was approved, however, it has 19 Special Conditions, total of 25, that need to be met prior to the issuance of the permit.

Mr. Zahn stated that LCWA is closely tracking the progress of the Mitigation Bank and will be involved in all discussion between the Interagency Review team and BOMP with the latest IRT meeting held on April 11, 2019, the Interim Management Plan was discussed with LCWA representatives.

**The report was filed and received by the Governing Board.**

**9. CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO REQUEST AND NEGOTIATE FOR LEGAL COUNSEL SERVICES RELATED TO THE UPPER LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS MITIGATION BANK AND ASSOCIATED SERVICES.**

Sally Gee stated that this item is requesting legal counsel services related to the Upper Los Cerritos Wetlands Mitigation Bank and associated services to review aspects of the Mitigation Bank documents that pertain to future responsibilities and potential liabilities for LCWA.

Ms. Gee also stated funding will be allocated from the Option Agreement in the amount of \$300,000 and the term and amount will be determined after negotiations are finalized with the selected firm for legal counsel services.

**Board member Kalmick moved to approve Item 9; Board Member Supernaw seconded the motion. Board voted – 4 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abstentions. Item 9 passed.**

**10. RECEIVE AND FILE THE FY 17/18 LCWA FINANCIAL COMPLIANCE AUDIT AND RELATED FINDINGS.**

Mark Stanley stated the FY 17/18 Financial Compliance Audit was attached to the report as Exhibit A and the Annual Financial Report was attached as Exhibit B and was conducted by Fedak & Brown LLP with the cooperation of the City of Long Beach and LCWA staff.

Mr. Stanley gave a summarized report stating the Authority's net position increased by 0.21% or \$23,749 to \$11,289,593 million, total revenues increased by 107.71% or \$313,683 to \$604,901 primarily due to an increase in program and grant revenue and total expenses increased 95.17% or \$283,389 to \$581,152 primarily due to an increase in consulting and grant management expenditures from the prior year.

**This report was filed and received by the Governing Board.**

**11. CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE A CONTRACT FOR CONSULTANT SERVICES TO LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS STEWARDS FOR HOMELESS RELOCATION SERVICES.**

Sally Gee stated that on May 15, 2013 LCWA approved the Protocols and Guidelines for the Security and Safety (PGSS) to manage the LCWA PGSS for the purpose of removing the growing number of homeless encampments throughout the LCWA properties.

Ms. Gee also stated that staff is recommending re-authorizing the Los Cerritos Wetlands Stewards for Homeless Relocation Services and in addition, the LCWS is experienced and has provided the LCWA with excellent services.

Ms. Gee mentioned the Contract will not exceed \$8,700 annually for a multi-year agreement, beginning May 2, 2019 through May 2, 2022 with the option of 2 one-year extensions in which the fiscal budget of 2018-2019 includes the costs of contracting services for the implementation of PGSS homeless relocation services with funding being financed through the Signal Hill Petroleum Annual Lease fee and JPA contributions.

Board Member Cooper asked if the resolution could be revised to something referring to homeless people or homeless persons just to be mindful. Ms. Cooper stated that she didn't think the staff report needed to be revised but just the inclusion of the wording in the resolution itself would be fine.

David Edsall, Jr. assured her that he would review the resolution and make the necessary amendments. There were no further questions.

**Board Member Cooper moved to approve Item 11 with the understanding of the Resolution being amended; Board Member Kalmick seconded the motion. Board voted – 4 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abstentions. Item 11 passed. Board Member Cooper motioned to amend the resolution for Item 11. Board Member Supernaw seconded the motion. Board voted – 4 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abstentions.**

**12. PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.8, LCWA MAY HOLD A CLOSED SESSION TO CONSIDER THE DRAFT APPRAISAL REPORT AND THE**

**DRAFT LAND SWAP AGREEMENT BETWEEN LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS AUTHORITY AND LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS, LLC FOR THE APN 7237-019-809; 7237-017-010 THRU 014; 018; 019; LCWA NEGOTIATORS: MARKSTANLEY AND PROPERTY OWNER NEGOTIATOR: JOHN MCKEOWN AND MICHAEL DI SANO. UNDER CONSIDERATION: PRICE AND TERMS.**

13. **PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.8, LCWA MAY HOLD A CLOSED SESSION TO CONSIDER THE DRAFT APPRAISAL REPORT AND THE DRAFT PURCHASE AND SALE AGREEMENT BETWEEN LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS AUTHORITY AND BRYANT DAKIN LLC FOR THE APN 7237-020-053; 054; LCWA NEGOTIATORS: MARK STANLEY AND PROPERTY OWNER NEGOTIATOR: STEVE BRYANT AND KEVIN BRAZIL. UNDER CONSIDERATION: PRICE AND TERMS.**
14. **PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.8(D)(1), LCWA MAY HOLD A CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS THE MATTER OF *PUVNUGA WETLANDS PROTECTORS V. CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION, ET AL.*, LOS ANGELES SUPERIOR COURT CASE NO. 19STCP00435.**

Closed Session began at approximately 2:12pm and ended approximately at 2:21pm. The Board received information and advice and provided direction.

**15. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

**A. STATEMENTS, RESPONSES, QUESTIONS OR DIRECTIONS TO STAFF PURSUANT TO SECTION 54954.2(A) OF THE GOVERNMENT CODE.**

Next meeting will be August 2nd at Conservation Corps of Long Beach office.

**B. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**16. ADJOURNMENT UPON COMPLETION OF BUSINESS**

Board Member Uranga adjourned the meeting at approximately 2:26 p.m.

**X**

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Suzie Price  
Chair

**X**

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Dena Williams  
LCWA Board Secretary