

**MINUTES
LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS AUTHORITY (LCWA)
BOARD MEETING
November 3, 2016**

The meeting was held at the City of Seal Beach Fire Station #48 Community Room. The meeting was called to order by Chair Sam Schuchat at 12:31 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL:

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ms. Ellery Deaton
Mr. Sam Schuchat
Ms. Suzie Price
Mr. Daryl Supernaw

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

STAFF PRESENT:

Mark Stanley, Executive Officer
Dena Williams, Board Secretary
Luz Quinnell, Project Manager
David Edsall, Counsel

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There were two sets of minutes for Special Meeting on July 6, 2016 and Board Meeting on August 4, 2016

Vice Chair Price moved to approve the 7/6/16 minutes; Board Member Deaton seconded the motion. Board voted – 4 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abstentions. Minutes were passed. Vice Chair Price moved to approve the 8/4/16 minutes; Board Member Deaton seconded the motion. Board voted – 4 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abstentions. Minutes were passed.

CONSENT CALENDAR

5. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT PROPOSITION 1 GRANT FUNDS SUBJECT TO AWARD FROM THE STATE COASTAL CONSERVANCY FOR THE LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS PLANNING AND RESTORATION PROJECT.

6. **CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT PROPOSITION 1 GRANT FUNDS SUBJECT TO AWARD FROM THE SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY FOR THE: 1. LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS ACQUISITION OF THE BRYANT PROPERTIES AND 2. LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS RESTORATION AND PLANNING PROJECT.**

Board Member Deaton moved to have this resolution approved. Vice Chair Price seconded the motion. Board voted: 4 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abstentions. Passed unanimously.

REGULAR CALENDAR

7. **STATUS REPORT ON WORKPLAN IMPLEMENTATION INCLUDING LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM, SYNERGY OPTION AGREEMENT, REAL PROPERTY LAND OWNER COMMUNICATIONS AND GRANT STATUS REPORT.**

Executive Officer, Mark Stanley, called on Mary Parsell to give an update. Mary stated that in the board packet there were photos of some of the birds that are spotted on their monthly watches. Mary also invited everyone to join in on the bird watches which are held every second Saturday of the month.

Alene stated that there were three special events that took place since that last meeting. Alene also stated that the Stewardship Program partnered with The Land Trust and had 75 volunteers participate to remove more than 1,200 lbs. of trash from the wetlands properties, State Lands parcel, the Haynes Cooling channel fishing area and Calloway Marsh. Alene said that for the first time The Stewardship Program supported the "Service-Learning Showcase" tour for CSULB faculty and staff who explored the Zedler Marsh trails and participated in a propagation project that involved enhancing the trails system, propagated 3500 native plants, removed non-native vegetation and collected native seeds with college interns and service-learners.

Lenny Arkinstall stated that the wetlands property had been cleared of all homeless encampments but he just left the property and there are 5 new camps that have been set up. Lenny also stated that he has a solution to the on-going issue, but that he needs the support and input from the board. He wants to do a power-point presentation to the board so that board members can see exactly what is going on and maybe enforce environmental laws due to the dangerous "urban campers". Vice Chair Price suggested presenting the PowerPoint to her environmental crime section from her prosecutor's office.

Chris Webb briefly stated that Moffatt & Nichol have initiated the soil assessment for the Bryant property and the Hellman site and is expected to present their findings at the February 2017 board meeting.

8. **CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE 1. MEMORANDUM OF UNRECORDED GRANT PROJECT AGREEMENT, 2. COMPLIANCE WITH RECORDING A DEED RESTRICTION AND 3. MAINTENANCE OF THE PROPERTY**

OF PERPETUITY CONSISTENT WITH THE ZEDLER MARSH URBAN TRAILS SYSTEM PROJECT.

Tia Blair gave a PowerPoint presentation of the Zedler Marsh Urban Trails project that has been ongoing since May 14, 2014 and was completed on June 30, 2016 with the help of a grant from Prop A Grant funds. Tia mentioned a few of the improvements that were done, which included installing 2,000 linear feet of new nature trails, planting of 3,000 native plants, installed 2 new gates for easier public access, installed 7 education interpretive signs and improved existing recreational resources by establishing a new trail connection between the San Gabriel River Bike Trail and Zedler Marsh by installing a new gate. Tia also mentioned that with the help and cooperation of Signal Hill Oil, Rosie the Riveter Charter School, Long Beach Conservation Corp and over one-hundred volunteers they were able to complete the Zedler Marsh Urban Trails.

Elizabeth Lambe added that if the LCW Land Trust learns of any schools that are interested in taking their children on a field trip to the Zedler Marsh Urban Trails, would that be acceptable and Tia answered that would be great. Vice Chair Price mentioned that her city utilizes a group called "The Green Team" to help with restoration projects and maybe the stewardship program could use their help as well. Tia answered most definitely.

Vice Chair Price moved to have this resolution approved. Chair Schuchat seconded the motion. Board voted: 4 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abstentions. Passed unanimously.

9. CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO EXECUTE A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH ASCON LANDFILL SITE RESPONSIBLE PARTIES FOR RESTORATION AT ZEDLER MARSH FOR SOUTHERN TARPLANT.

Luz Quinnell stated that this item is for restoration at Zedler Marsh for southern tarplant contingent upon the State Coastal Conservancy approval. Luz also stated that LCWA has been in negotiations with Ascon to develop a Memorandum of Agreement to accept mitigation funds for the Southern Tarplant Mitigation Plan. A final MOA is still in the works and should be completed by the February 2017 board meeting. Luz mentioned that this MOA and the planting of tarplant would enhance the habitat that already exists at Zedler Marsh.

Ann Cantrell wanted to know if tarplant was included when the 3,000 native plants were planted at Zedler Marsh. Tia answered by saying that there was tarplant already on the property and that it grows really well on all of the wetlands. Ann also asked what the mitigation is for. Luz answered that Ascon landfill site needed to close their plant and when they removed the southern tarplant they were told that they needed to re-plant the 187,000 tarplants somewhere.

Board Member Deaton motioned to approve the resolution; Board Member Supernaw seconded the motion. Board voted – 4 ayes; 0 nays; 0 abstentions. Passed unanimously.

10. CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT AN EXPENDITURE PLAN FOR THE LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS, LLC MEMORANDUM OF OPTION AGREEMENT FUNDS.

Mark Stanley stated that the Option Agreement that is in place took effect on September 2, 2016 which included receiving \$300,000 as a separate and individual source of revenue for granting the Option Agreement. Mr. Stanley continued to say that LCWLLC will implement a Mitigation Bank on the 77.3 acres which is on the northern portion of LCWLLC properties, an Interagency Review Team will review and approve the Mitigation Bank and will consist of the various regulatory agencies, including US Army Corp of Engineers, US Fish & Wildlife Services, California Department of Fish & Wildlife, National Marine Fisheries, California Coastal Commission and the Environmental Protection Agency. Mr. Stanley mentioned that due to the constraints on the funds, Staff is recommending expending up to 90 percent of earned revenue for Year One and for each progressive year thereafter, no more than 90 percent of earned revenue for Year Two and Year Three and that the purpose of this expenditure policy provides sufficient reserve funds in the event the LCWA may need to reimburse the LCWLLC prior to Year Three if the agreement is terminated, and secondly, maintains a balance for contingency funds.

Vice Chair Price moved to have this resolution approved. Board Member Deaton seconded the motion. Board voted: 4 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abstentions. Passed unanimously.

11. **CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE A CONTRACT TIDAL INFLUENCE FOR THE MANAGEMENT SERVICES ON THE LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS RESTORATION AND CONSOLIDATION PROJECT.**

This item was tabled.

12. **CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION TO DIRECT STAFF RESOURCES ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS AUTHORITY MITIGATION POLICY.**

Luz Quinnell stated that LCWA has received three different types of mitigation funds. Luz went on to state that the first one is from Coastal Commission Memorandum of Agreement, the second one is from Southern California Edison In-Lieu Fee and the third one is from the Orange County Flood Control District Wetland Restoration Services and Supplies. Luz also stated that because the mitigation programs continue to be efficiently implemented, additional companies and local agencies continue to contact the LCWA for the purpose of acquiring mitigation credits and therefore Staff recommends the development of a mitigation policy that provides guidance and procedures for receiving, analyzing, approving and implementing mitigation programs which will also require budget revisions to the FY 16/17 Budget.

Vice Chair Price moved to have this resolution approved. Board Member Supernaw seconded the motion. Board voted: 4 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abstentions. Passed unanimously.

13. **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. UNDER CONSIDERATION: PRICE AND TERMS.**

Chair Schuchat dismissed the board members to go into a closed session which began at 1:50 p.m. and ended at 1:52 p.m.

14. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

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

It was suggested that the next meeting be moved to February 3rd due to conflicting schedules with some of the board members. Board Member Deaton stated that she would check to see if the Fire Station was available for the third.

15. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be February 2, 2017 at the City of Seal Beach Fire Station #48 at 12:30pm that will need to be changed to February 3, 2017.

16. ADJOURNMENT UPON COMPLETION OF BUSINESS

Mr. Schuchat adjourned the meeting at approximately 1:53 p.m.

X

Sam Schuchat
Chair

X

Dena Williams
LCWA Board Secretary