

**MINUTES
LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS AUTHORITY (LCWA)
BOARD MEETING
MAY 3, 2018**

The meeting was held at the City of Seal Beach Fire Station #48 Community Room. The meeting was called to order by Chair Suzie Price at 12:30 p.m.

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

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ms. Suzie Price
Mr. Sam Schuchat
Ms. Schelly Sustarsic
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**

Ms. Anna Christiansen stated that she wanted to address the issue of pesticide spraying on the wetlands above the slough and pointed out that pesticide spraying is part of the restoration plan which is called a grow kill cycle and is asking LCWA to exclude pesticide spraying on the wetlands.

Ms. Ann Cantrell stated she is also concerned about the pesticide spraying and has been trying to find out what kind of herbicide is being used on the Synergy property and was told it was something that wouldn't kill bees but she is still concerned about all of the other wildlife that are on the wetlands.

- 5. CHAIR'S REPORT**

Chair Price stated that she did not have a report at this time.

- 6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

There were one set of minutes for Board Meeting from February 1, 2018.

Chair Price moved to approve the 2/1/18 minutes; Board voted – 3 Ayes; 0 Nays; 1 Abstention. Minutes were passed.

REGULAR CALENDAR

7. STATUS REPORT ON WORK PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

A. LAND MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Marcello Ceballos gave an update on all LCWA properties. Mr. Ceballos stated that there are several places where barbed wire is needed and that they recommend hiring a fence contractor and also recommend an update to the signage at the entrance gate to Zedler Marsh to reduce the amount of unapproved visitors once the Bryant property has been acquired by the LCWA.

Chair Price asked if Mr. Ceballos could give an update on the encampments on the grounds. Mr. Ceballos stated that at this time there was only one encampment on the Bryant property so far.

Chair Price recognized Anna Christensen as wanting to make a statement to this item. Ms. Anna Christensen stated that there was some pesticide research made and that there was a mistake made by Mr. Zahn and she would like to see consequences for mistakes made.

Mr. Stanley stated that due to this subject being brought up at the last meeting, he stated that Mr. Zahn had some information he would like to share with the board members.

Mr. Zahn re-iterated that the LCWA does not authorize any herbicide application on its 170 acre property and mentioned that there are 12 different land owners of the complex and LCWA is not the regulatory agency and we do not have ability to enforce any potential violations on other entity's properties.

Chair Price made a motion that LCWA staff would engage with the owners and operators of the Synergy Site regarding their program and what their future plans are. Board member Sustarsic seconded the motion.

B. LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM COORDINATOR UPDATE

Daniel North stated that they have averaged over 50 attendees on the Land Trust funded nature walks and it was a healthy mixture of both first-time visitors and returning guests. Mr. North also stated that for volunteer restoration they are averaging up to 54 volunteers who have helped install over 500 native plants and removed up to 1500 pounds of nonnative vegetation and the newly cleared areas can now be utilized by native flora like the special status species southern tarplant.

Mr. North mentioned that the stewardship program hosted several Camp Fire groups from the Long Beach area who helped with putting native plants in the ground and watered emerging seedlings surrounding Zedler Marsh.

Mr. North also mentioned that the Explore the Coast program funded by the California Coastal Conservancy was reignited in Los Cerritos Wetlands which brings children from underserved elementary schools throughout the Long Beach area which not only provides them with their first experience in Los Cerritos Wetlands but also provides them with some of their first experiences in the natural world. Mr. North stated that both of the programs have accommodated over two hundred young adventurers and they have been given the opportunity to grow their value for Los Cerritos Wetlands.

C. EL DORADO AUDUBON UPDATE

Mary Parsell stated that the bird walks are on the 2nd Saturday of the month from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Ms. Parsell stated that on January 13, 2018 the group was on the Hellman property, there were clear skies, temperature was warm and a total of 27 avian species were visible.

Ms. Parsell mentioned that on February 20, 2018 the group was at the Hellman property, and they spotted 36 different species. Ms. Parsell stated that on March 10, 2018 the group visited the Hellman property and spotted over 37 different species. Ms. Parsell also stated that on April 14, 2018 that the group was at the Hellman property, they were able to see 24 different species.

D. HOMELESS RELOCATION PROGRAM UPDATE

Lenny Arkinstall stated that he and Suzie Price teamed up with USC alumni and cleaned the 5 acre parcel on Studebaker and no homeless have returned. Mr. Arkinstall re-iterated that they are down to 1 camp on the property, the occupant has been there for 17 years and they are trying to help him move to a homeless shelter or get the help that he needs without arresting him.

Mr. Arkinstall also stated that the outreach team now has him housed. He stated that there are No Trespassing signs up now to help the police department out and there will be a meeting. Lastly, Lenny stated that he was sent a picture of a 6 foot python that grows over 20 feet out of Machado Lake and his team were able to contain it and get it safely out of the water and turned over to fish and wildlife.

E. LCWA RESTORATION PLAN PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT UPDATE

Eric Zahn stated that the LCWA's consultant for this project is Environmental Science & Associates (ESA) as well as all of their sub-consultants have been working hard on this project over the past few months to develop the optimizing of the restoration plan. Mr. Zahn stated that the workshop held on March 28, 2018 at the Mary Wilson Library was a success as there was standing room only.

Anna Christensen stated that she would like the tribal groups such as Tongva and Achomawi included in the Environmental Impact Report consultations as they both have cultural connections to the Los Cerritos Wetlands.

F. EXPENDITURES REPORT

Salian Garcia stated that in Exhibit A the FY 2017/2018 Budget contained balances as of April 15, 2018. Ms. Garcia also stated that the JPA contribution

revenue is at 50% of budgeted revenues and the Authority is awaiting for contributions from the Coastal Conservancy and the City of Seal Beach.

Ms. Garcia also stated that the expenses included payment of insurance policies and signage for the LCWA property.

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

Eric Zahn stated that the LCWA authorized the Executive Officer to enter into an Option Agreement with Los Cerritos Wetlands, LLC for the conveyance of real property on August 4, 2016. Mr. Zahn also stated that Beach Oil Minerals Partners (BOMP) has been identified as the project applicant and since the approval of the Option Agreement, BOMP is actively seeking various permits, approvals, and/or entitlements for the project which includes the completion of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

Mr. Zahn stated that the Final EIR, Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program was approved by City of Long Beach City Council on January 16, 2018, the application to approve the Local Coastal Plan Amendment was approved by Long Beach City Council on January 16, 2018 and ratified by the Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority Board of Directors on February 1, 2018. The application for the Local Coastal Plan Amendment was submitted to the California Coastal Commission (CCC) in March 2018 and was returned to the applicant as it was deemed incomplete.

Mr. Zahn stated that the applicant and CCC staff are working together to address the application's deficiencies in hopes of getting it on the agenda for a CCC hearing in late-summer 2018.

Mr. Zahn mentioned that BOMP is intending to submit the Mitigation Bank's Draft Bank Enabling Instrument (BEI) in May 2018 and upon submission, the Interagency Review Team (IRT) will have 60-90 days to provide comments on the Draft BEI. Mr. Zahn finished by saying it is anticipated that the final BEI could be approved as early as October 2018, but it cannot be officially approved by Coastal Commission until the Coastal Development Permit is approved.

Chair Price asked if any staff members from the City of Long Beach had been in attendance for the Interagency Review Team meetings. Mr. Zahn answered that no one from City of Long Beach had been in attendance as of yet. Chair Price suggested that it would be crucial to include someone from the City of Long Beach and City of Seal Beach in attendance at the meetings as the project moves along.

Anna Christensen stated that she believes the entire restoration project is completely misleading and she opposes any progress of this project.

Ann Cantrell stated that her comment is similar to what Ms. Christensen just said and that she would add that someone from the public should be invited to all of the ongoing meetings for this project besides someone from City of Long Beach and City of Seal Beach.

Board Member Supernaw stated that it was his understanding that Mr. Koontz from the City of Long Beach was very clear on the inclusivity of tribal issues and he also

mentioned that his council office is in the process of creating a native American commission for the City of Long Beach.

9. PRESENTATION OF THE LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM VISION PLAN

Eric Zahn of Tidal Influence gave a slide presentation of the Stewardship Program Vision Plan which has proven to be a very successful community-based restoration effort.

Mr. Zahn stated that the stewards have been working to enhance and restore 12-acres around Zedler Marsh since 2009 and are exploring other portions of LCWA land holdings that could be improved through community involvement; hence, the Vision Plan was developed to help visualize where additional stewardship projects could take place and what they could look like.

10. PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54965.8, LCWA WILL 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.

The Board received land acquisition information, advice and provided direction.

11. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

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

B. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

12. ADJOURNMENT UPON COMPLETION OF BUSINESS

Chair Price adjourned the meeting at approximately 1:30 p.m.

X

Suzie Price
Chair

X

Dena Williams
LCWA Board Secretary