

**MINUTES
LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS AUTHORITY (LCWA)
BOARD MEETING
NOVEMBER 2, 2017**

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 12:28 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. FLAG SALUTE

3. ROLL CALL:

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ms. Suzie Price
Ms. Schelly Sustarsic
Mr. Sam Schuchat
Mr. Roberto Uranga

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

STAFF PRESENT:

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

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Ann Cantrell thanked the LCWA for putting all of the documents on the website before the meeting and that it was the first time in 10 years she was able to review all of the information before a meeting.

5. CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Price stated that she attended the opening of the Zedler Marsh walking trail and outdoor classroom and it was fantastic, the team did a great job and there were a lot of volunteers in attendance.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There were one set of minutes for Board Meeting from August 3, 2017.

Board Member Sustarsic moved to approve the 8/3/17 minutes; Vice Chair Schuchat seconded the motion. Board voted – 4 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abstentions. Minutes were

passed.

REGULAR CALENDAR

7. STATUS REPORT ON WORK PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

A. LAND MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Eric Zahn stated that they have not experienced any major issues outside of what they would normally see. Mr. Zahn also stated that some residents in Seal Beach have fire safety concerns with vegetation growing out of control along the driveway fence line on the State Lands Parcel and that a number of golf balls have been found on the Zedler Marsh site which is a major safety hazard and Mr. Zahn promised that there would be an update at the next meeting with the outcome of both of these issues.

B. LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM COORDINATOR UPDATE

Alene Spindel stated that the Nature walks supported by the Los Cerritos Wetlands Land Trust continue on the Hellman property and now the Zedler Marsh Trail as well with the El Dorado Audubon. Ms. Spindel also stated that there were a couple of public restoration events at Zedler Marsh with 140 volunteers, 250 volunteer hours used to remove 300 pounds of non-native plants and 175 pounds of trash and planted 135 native plants. Ms. Spindel also stated that the grand opening of the Zedler Marsh Trails event took place on September 30th with more than 150 people in attendance and many LCWA partners and supporters contributed and attended the event.

C. EL DORADO AUDUBON UPDATE

Mary Parsell stated that the birdwalks are on the 2nd Saturday of the month from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. and added on July 4th, Sunday, from 3 p.m.-5 p.m. at Zedler Marsh Trail. Ms. Parsell also stated that in July, it was a warm summer morning and they observed Southern Tarplant, White-tailed Kite, Belding's Savannah Sparrow and Shorebirds which were the highlights in July. Ms. Parsell stated that in September, they spotted Blue-grey Gnatcatchers and Cassin's Kingbird and in October, they spotted Canada Goose flying from the Seal Beach National Wildlife Refuge and landing in the OC Retention Basin and some White-crowned Sparrow on a clearing.

D. LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS LAND TRUST UPDATE

No report was given.

E. HOMELESS RELOCATION PROGRAM UPDATE

Lenny Arkin Stahl stated that they have an event planned to clean up the Long Beach side of the river of the homeless encampments and mentioned that this would not be a long term solution because everyone that was relocated out of the encampment almost always return. Mr. Arkin Stahl also stated that he hopes Corporal Grey and Officer Johnny Dodson will attend our next meeting to give an update and express their thoughts on what is going on. Chair Price asked what the LCWA could do to help with the frustrations. Mr. Arkin Stahl answered that he would like to have a meeting

with the chair, aside of this meeting, to work on a plan in keeping out the criminals that keep returning to the property.

F. STATUS REPORT AND UPDATE ON THE BRYANT ACQUISITION

Mr. Stanley stated that the LCWA is continuing to work through the process and continues to move forward and there will be a report to bring back to the board at the next meeting. Chair Price thanked Mr. Stanley for following up on the opportunity which is a huge development for LCWA.

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

Mr. Stanley stated that the LCWA is working with ESA and will be contacting each of the JPA partners as we move forward with the planning document.

Ms. Ann Cantrell stated that for the Bryant Acquisition she was not aware that the Authority had received a grant in the amount of \$1,000,000 back in 2012 to acquire the Steam Shovel Slough and the money is now being used to acquire the Bryant property. Ms. Cantrell also stated that she would have opposed this action had she known about it beforehand and it would have solved a lot of the problems that they are facing now with the land swap.

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

Eric Zahn gave a presentation on this item and stated that the Draft EIR was circulated for public comment by the City of Long Beach on July 21st and ECORP Consulting reviewed chapters of the DEIR and technical reports that were directly related to the LCWA interests in this project. Mr. Zahn also stated that a total of 31 public comment letters were submitted to the City of Long Beach which included letters from California Coastal Commission, Department of Toxic Substances Control, South Coast Air Quality Management District, Sanitation Districts of LA County CalTrans, El Dorado Audubon and the Los Cerritos Wetlands Land Trust as well as many letters from the general public all of which have been reviewed by LCWA staff.

Mr. Zahn stated that the current operating Local Coastal Program needs to be amended by the City of Long Beach to allow this project to be implemented.

Mr. Zahn further stated the third Interagency Review Team (IRT) meeting took place on August 24th via conference call where site analysis and bank crediting were the two main topics covered on the call.

Mr. Zahn also stated the LCWA is near completion with the secondary review of the real estate appraisals for the OTD parcel and Synergy Site property and once fully vetted, the appraisal will be brought before the LCWA board for final acceptance.

Mr. Zahn stated that BOMP hosted an Open House event in order to provide stakeholders with information about the project and was attended by over 200 members of the public representing as many as 11 organizations including Coastal Commission staff members, Audubon, Land Trust and local HOA's.

Chair Price thanked Eric for his engagement throughout the entire process of this project. Ms. Price also stated that she thought that the recommendations brought to the board were very valuable to her as a decision maker. Ms. Price wanted to know if it was her understanding that when concerns come up or mitigating some of the issues from some of the comments that have been made, that Eric and his team were involved with LCWA in handling these issues. Mr. Zahn answered that was correct.

Board Member Schuchat asked if there had been any comments on the EIS/EIR from any of the tribes and has there been any tribal outreach. Mr. Zahn answered that there had been some outreach with the tribe of Tongva and that they did submit their comments to the City of Long Beach.

Ms. Kristen Cox stated that she is opposed to building on the wetlands or a fault line and that it makes no sense whatsoever.

Mr. Marshall Blesofsky stated that he was representing the Long Beach Citizens For Fair Development and stated that he is opposed to the oil drilling which he believes is actually a plan for developing oil and that we should be developing resources that are renewable.

Mr. Steve Brothers read a statement from Long Beach 350.org which states that their three main angles are to 1) keep carbon in the ground, 2) help build an equitable carbon neutral economy and 3) work with the city to limit the emissions exacerbating climate change.

Ms. Virginia Bickford from the California Cultural Resource Preservation Alliance stated that her organization submitted a note and a follow-up note to the DEIR but that it was not listed as being a contributor and if they were not listed, were the comments considered. Alene Spindel answered that the comments were received and that the organization was just not listed.

Mr. Phil Geisen stated that he has lived in Long Beach since 1982 and thinks that we are threatening ourselves with the consolidation and restoration plan.

Ms. Ann Cantrell stated that LCWA entered into an agreement last year for the land swap of the 5 acres for restoration and thinks that the plan will cut holes in the berm that separates the slough from the oil fields. Ms. Cantrell also stated that the slough is already restored and doesn't need any more restoring.

Ms. Anna Christensen stated that if LCWA is going to list organizations, to please list every organization including Long Beach Area Peace Network and that she too, is opposed to the Los Cerritos Wetlands Restoration & Oil Consolidation project because of the oil drilling proposed in the plan and the mineral rights that the BOMP will have.

9. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE AN AMENDMENT TO TIDAL INFLUENCE, LLC'S PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND PROPERTY SERVICES CONTRACT FOR ADDITIONAL PROJECT MANAGEMENT SERVICES (16003) (RESOLUTION 2017-07)

Salian Garcia stated that the LCWA has successfully partnered with Tidal Influence to manage the LCWA properties for the last few years and due to recent personnel changes with the LCWA staff capacity is severely limited in its ability to provide all levels of the required Project Management services. Ms. Garcia also stated that in order to

adequately support the current project management scope of work and include additional project management services, it is necessary to amend the current contract's scope work and budget. Ms. Garcia further stated that staff is recommending authorizing a contract amendment to the Tidal Influence Project Management and Property Services Contract for the addition of Task 5 in the scope of work detailed in Exhibit A and budget for the additional \$30,000 attached as Exhibit B and the draft Amendment Three is attached as Exhibit C.

Vice Chair Schuchat just re-iterated that LCWA was adding \$30,000 to the standing contract and Ms. Garcia answered that was correct.

Board Member Sustarsic moved to approve the resolution; Board member Uranga seconded the motion. Board voted – 3 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abstentions. Resolution was passed.

10. DISCUSSION AND ADOPTION OF CALENDAR YEAR 2018 LCWA GOVERNING BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

No action was required for this item. Vice Chair Schuchat stated that he would not be able to attend the February board meeting due to him being out of the country. Chair Price suggested that we consider a different venue for the August meeting. Both of these comments were so noted.

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. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be February 1, 2018 at the Seal Beach Fire Station #48.

13. ADJOURNMENT UPON COMPLETION OF BUSINESS

Chair Price adjourned the meeting at approximately 1:48 p.m.

X

Suzie Price
Chair

X

Dena Williams
LCWA Board Secretary