



Minutes of Quarterly Meeting

Date: March 16, 2017
Time: 1:00 p.m.
Location: Community Meeting Room, Irvine Ranch Water District
15500 Sand Canyon Avenue, Irvine, CA

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:03 p.m., by President Steve LaMar. President LaMar led the meeting attendees in the flag salute.

Roll Call

The following Directors or Alternates, constituting a quorum of the Board, were recorded as present at the meeting:

Jonathan Snyder, US Fish and Wildlife Service
James Newland, Alternate, California Department of Parks and Recreation
Stacy Blackwood, County of Orange
Steve LaMar, Irvine Ranch Water District
Diane Doesserich, Metropolitan Water District
Ken Bomgrebe, Southern California Edison
Travis Huxman, University of California, Irvine
Darin Loughrey, Alternate, City of Irvine
Nancy Gardner, City of Newport Beach
Elizabeth Brown, At-Large Public Alternate (Environment)

The following Directors were recorded as absent:

David Mayer, California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Valarie McFall, Transportation Corridor Agencies
Dean Kirk, Irvine Company
Headlands Reserve, LLC

Michael Recupero, At-Large Public Director (Business)
Thomas Eastman, At-Large Public Director (Recreation)
Brian Norton, Orange County Fire Authority
Tom Maloney, Coastal Greenbelt Authority

II. On a motion by Vice President Diane Doesserich, which was seconded by Director Stacy Blackwood, the minutes of the December 15, 2016, meeting was approved with abstentions from those who were not present at the meeting.

III. Investment Report: 4th Quarter 2016

Daniel Schoessow, Senior Vice President and Senior Investment Officer of Northern Trust, reported on the investment performance of the Endowment, Acquisition and Restoration, and Cowbird Funds during the 4th Quarter of 2016.

IV. Governance

President LaMar announced that every two years elections are held by the Board of Directors for the positions of At-Large Directors and Alternates. The Executive Committee, serving in its capacity as the Nominations Committee, received expressions of interest from the public and evaluated qualifications. The Nominations Committee presented a slate of Directors and Alternates for Board of Directors consideration. A sample ballot was included in the Board meeting materials. President LaMar called for nominations from the floor.

Ballots were distributed to all eligible voting members of the Board of Directors. Completed ballots were collected and tallied by staff. The following individuals will serve as At-Large Public members of the Board of Directors during the 2017 – 2019 term:

At-Large Public Director (Business): Michael Recupero
At-Large Public Alternate (Business): Jerry King
At-Large Public Director (Environment): Thomas Eastman
At-Large Public Alternate (Environment): Elizabeth Brown, PhD
At-Large Public Director (Recreation): Mark Denny
At-Large Public Alternate (Recreation): vacant

President LaMar announced that he and the rest of the Board of Directors appreciates the interest these individuals have in the work of the organization and looks forward to their engaged participation.

V. Wildland Reports:

A. 2016 Draft Nature Reserve of Orange County Annual Report

Milan Mitrovich, Science Coordinator for the Natural Communities Coalition, reminded the Board that a draft of the 2016 Annual Report was on the organization's website and provided a brief overview of the 2016 highlights.

On a motion by Director Nancy Gardner, which was seconded by Director James Newland, the 2016 draft Nature Reserve of Orange County Annual Report was accepted by the NCC Board of Directors, and staff were authorized to forward the Report to the Wildlife Agencies for review, comment and approval.

VI. Tax Returns, FY 2016

Executive Director James Sulentich referred the Board to the draft tax return for the October 1, 2015 through September 30, 2016, fiscal year. The executive director informed the Board that the Executive Committee had received a presentation from organization's audit and tax preparation firm—Windes, and the draft is recommended for Board of Directors approval in its current form. The 2016 Tax Return was approved unanimously by voice vote.

VII. Financial Report: February 28, 2017

In the absence of the Treasurer, President LaMar asked Executive Director Sulentich to provide a brief overview of the February 2017 financials. Following a brief discussion, President LaMar called for a motion to approve the financial report.

On a motion by Director Blackwood, which was seconded by Director Gardner, the February 28, 2017, financial report was approved unanimously.

VIII. Committee Reports

President LaMar directed Board members to the committee meeting minutes in the Board packet. The President invited committee chairs to provide highlights of their work. Director Gardner, Chair of the Outreach Committee provided a status report on planning efforts to educate local elected officials and their staff on the NCCP/HCP and Reserve.

IX. Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Sulentich invited Director Jonathan Snyder, US Fish and Wildlife Service, to update the Board of Directors on the status of the Take accounting effort initiated by the Wildlife Agencies in partnership with Reserve landowners.

The executive director informed the Board that the office relocation to Irvine Ranch Historic Park is complete and expressed great appreciation to the Irvine Ranch Water District for providing office space to the organization for more than a decade.

Finally, the executive director reminded the Board that the June 15, 2017, meeting will include a field trip. Staff will work with the Executive Committee to coordinate field trip goals and meeting logistics.

X. Strategic Plan Update

The executive director called the Board of Directors' attention to the strategic plan dashboard included in the Board packet and summarized highlights since the last meeting.

XI. Oral Communications

President LaMar invited Board members and other meeting attendees to provide brief updates on matters of interest to the organization.

Marilyn Thoms, OC Public Works, provided the Board an update on the integrated regional water plan.

Director Travis Huxman reported that the Center for Environmental Biology at UC Irvine would be hosting an Ecological Management Workshop on May 19, 2017. This meeting will precede a science integration meeting hosted by the Center and University May 23 and 24, 2017, focused on aquatic systems from the headwaters to the ocean.

IX. Adjournment and Closed Session

There was no call for closed session. The public meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, _____
James Sulentich, Executive Director

ATTEST: _____
Steve LaMar, President