



BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Minutes of Quarterly Meeting

Date: June 17, 2021
Time: 1:00 p.m.
Location: Zoom Conference
Call

I. Call to Order

The meeting was held *via* Zoom Video Conference Call in order to maintaining social distance and to be consistent with other measures in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

President Steve LaMar called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m.

Roll Call

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

William Miller, (Alternate) US Fish and Wildlife Service
Steve LaMar, Irvine Ranch Water District
Diane Doesserich, Metropolitan Water District
Renee Latu (Alternate), Southern California Edison
Douglas Feremenga, Transportation Corridor Agencies
Scott Smith, City of Irvine
Dean Kirk, Irvine Company
Nancy Gardner, City of Newport Beach
Hallie Jones, At-Large Public Alternate (Recreation)
Michael Recuperero, At-Large Public Director (Business)
Jennifer Bower, Orange County Fire Authority
Tom Maloney, Coastal Greenbelt Authority
Kerwin Russell, (Alternate) Southwest Resource Management Association

The following Directors were recorded as absent:

David Mayer, California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Todd Lewis, California Department of Parks and Recreation
Stacy Blackwood, County of Orange
Travis Huxman, University of California, Irvine

Thomas Eastman, At-Large Public Director (Environment)

II. **On a motion by Director Nancy Gardner, which was seconded by Director Scott Smith, the minutes of the March 17, 2021 meeting was approved** with abstentions from those who were not present at the meeting.

III. **Investment Report: 1st Quarter 2021**

Daniel Schoessow, Senior Vice President and Senior Investment Officer of Northern Trust, reported on the investment performance of the Endowment, Acquisition and Restoration, Cowbird, and Pacific Pocket Mouse Custodial Funds during the 1st Quarter of 2021.

IV. **Financial Report: May 31, 2021**

President LaMar invited Treasurer Dean Kirk to provide an overview of the May 31, 2021 Financials. After focusing on the assets report, Treasurer Kirk asked the executive director to highlight other details of the balance of the report.

After presentations President LaMar called for a motion to approve the Financial Report.

On a motion by Director Gardner, which was seconded by Vice President Diane Doesserich, the May 31, 2021 financial report was approved unanimously.

V. **Wildland Report**

A. Western Spadefoot Toad Project Update

Danny Fry, Science Coordinator and Wildland Fire Lead for NCC, provided the board an update on the progress made in the implementation and monitoring the Spadefoot toad ponds creation and uplands habitat restoration in the Coastal portion of the reserve.

B. City of Irvine Mayor's Tour of the Reserve

Darin Loughrey, Outreach and Engagement Coordinator for NCC, reported on a successful tour provided to the Mayor of Irvine and city staff that was conducted by NCC and the Irvine Ranch Conservancy.

C. Potential Threat to the Orange-throated Whiptail

Mendel Stewart, Natural Resource Management Coordinator for NCC, informed the board of a potential threat to one of the reserve's Target Species—Orange-throated whiptail resulting from the accidental introduction of a whiptail species from the Sonoran Desert of Arizona. To assess the potential threat and competition, NCC submitted a multiple year Local Assistance Grant request to the California Department

of Fish and Wildlife, in coordination with the US Geological Survey in San Diego, and is waiting to see if the grant will be awarded.

VI. **Committee Reports**

President LaMar invited committee chairs for any updates on committee activities.

VII. **Executive Director's Report**

The executive director share with the Board of Directors the recent Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) signed between the US Fish and Wildlife Service and NCC. Will Miller provided background for the MOU that was initiated by his agency. The MOU affects the role of the Service on the Board. To add to the agency's transparency individuals appointed by the Service will serve as Liaisons and not directors or alternates as described in the Implementation Agreement for the Central and Coastal Subregional NCCP/HCP for Orange County. As required in the MOU, Service Liaisons shall refrain from voting on NCC contracts or financial matters, as well as personnel matters.

The executive director also called the board members attention to the Board Roster in the meeting packet. He encouraged members to review their contact information for accuracy and if changes in membership for their agency had recently occurred or anticipated to get a written confirmation of the change and the date to his attention for official record purposes.

Lastly, Jim Sulentich introduced the full board to a joint project requested by OC Parks. The project is a one-year study of mountain lions at Whiting Ranch Wilderness Park and will be conducted by UC Davis with Dr. Winston Vickers as principal investigator. NCC's financial participation was approved by the Executive Committee.

VIII. **Strategic Plan Update**

The executive director provided a quarterly overview of status of the NCC Strategic Plan. He highlighted the progress that has been made after the Covid-19 lull in implementation.

IX. **Oral Communications**

President LaMar extended an invitation to meeting participants interested in communicating on matters not part of the meeting agenda.

X. **Adjournment**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, _____
James Sulentich, Executive Director

ATTEST: _____
President, LaMar