



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**Minutes of Quarterly Meeting**

Date: September 16, 2021  
Time: 1:00 p.m.  
Location: Zoom Conference Call

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**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.

President LaMar presented a plaque on behalf of the Board of Directors honoring Stacy Blackwood's many years of service both as a representative of the City of Irvine's Community Services Department initially and most recently as Director of OC Parks.

**Roll Call**

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

Jonathan Snyder, (Liaison) US Fish and Wildlife Service  
William Miller, (Liaison) US Fish and Wildlife Service  
Steve LaMar, Irvine Ranch Water District  
Stacy Blackwood, County of Orange  
Diane Doesserich, Metropolitan Water District  
Douglas Feremenga, Transportation Corridor Agencies  
Scott Smith, City of Irvine  
Dean Kirk, Irvine Company  
Nancy Gardner, City of Newport Beach  
Thomas Eastman, At-Large Public Director (Environment)  
Mark Denny, At-Large Public Director (Recreation)  
Hallie Jones, At-Large Public Alternate (Recreation)  
Jennifer Bower, Orange County Fire Authority

The following Directors were recorded as absent:

Todd Lewis, California Department of Parks and Recreation  
Ken Borngrebe, Southern California Edison  
Travis Huxman, University of California, Irvine  
Michael Recupero, At-Large Public Director (Business)  
Tom Maloney, Coastal Greenbelt Authority  
Shelli Lamb, Southwest Resource Management Association

II. **On a motion by Director Nancy Gardner, which was seconded by Vice President Diane Doesserich, the minutes of the June 17, 2021 meeting was approved** with abstentions from those who were not present at the meeting.

III. **Investment Report: 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2021**

Daniel Schoessow, Senior Vice President and Senior Investment Officer of Northern Trust, provided the Board of Directors an overview of the current economic expansion, interest rates, credit markets and equities. The overview was followed by a report on the investment performance of the Endowment, Acquisition and Restoration, Cowbird, and Pacific Pocket Mouse Custodial Funds during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter of 2021.

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

President LaMar called on Treasurer Dean Kirk to provide a report on the August 31, 2021 Financials. The executive director highlighted other details relating to deposits and disbursements and profit and loss statements.

Following the review of the Financials President LaMar called for a motion to approve the Financial Report.

**On a motion by Director Gardner, which was seconded by Secretary Mark Denny, the August 31, 2021 financial report was approved unanimously.**

V. **Governance**

Executive Director Jim Sulentich was called on to present the draft amended language to the Natural Communities Coalition Bylaws that reflects the change in the role and titles of participants for the US Fish and Wildlife Service as required in the recent Memoranda of Understanding between the Service and NCC.

**On a motion by Director Gardner, which was seconded by Director Stacy Blackwood, the edits to the Natural Communities Coalition Bylaws were approved unanimously.**

VI. **FY 2021-22 Proposed Budget**

The executive director called the board's attention to the meeting packet and the section documenting the details of the proposed FY 2021-22 proposed budget. He provided a general overview of the operational expenses proposed for the new fiscal year. Danny Fry, Science Coordinator and Wildland Fire Lead, presented proposed projects and related expenses.

Following questions, President LaMar called for a motion to approve the proposed budget.

**On a motion by Director Gardner, which was seconded by Director Blackwood, the proposed FY 2021-22 budget was approved as presented unanimously.**

VII. **Wildland Report**

*Seed Enterprise Update: Status of Partners' Needs Assessment*

G. Mendel Stewart, Natural Resource Management Coordinator for NCC, provided a summary of the interviews conducted with reserve partners relating to their habitat restoration native seed needs over the next three to five years. He thanked members of the board for their responsiveness and demonstrated interest in the seed enterprise.

VIII. **Committee Reports**

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

Stacy Blackwood, Chair of the Boundary Amendment and Acquisition Committee, called the board members' attention to Attachment 9 in the meeting packet and the analysis of a proposed Minor Amendment of the NCCP/HCP Boundary associated with the Irvine Lake Recreational Lease Parcel. The Boundary Committee met in July to consider the proposed amendment and voted in support and to recommend it to the Executive Committee for consideration at the July, 2021 meeting and to the Board of Directors at the September meeting. Director Blackwood walked the board through the general terms of the proposed Minor Amendment and asked that the boundary adjustment be considered for approval by the NCC Board of Directors.

President LaMar called for a motion to approve the Minor Boundary Amendment.

**On a motion by Director Blackwood, which was seconded by Secretary Denny, the Minor Boundary Amendment (MA 19-01) relating to the Irvine Lake Recreational Lease Parcel was approved unanimously.**

IX. **Strategic Plan Update**

The executive director provided a status update relating to progress on the board approved 2019 -2021 Strategic Plan.

X. **Executive Director's Report**

The executive director provided an update on the decision by the Executive Committee, NCC staff and consultant to postpone the board/partner strategic planning workshop focused on 2022 – 2024 until such time all parties can safely meet again in person.

He also said that the current UC Irvine director, Dr. Travis Huxman would be resigning and Executive Committee and staff would be coordinating to find a replacement.

Lastly, associated with Dr. Huxman's departure, Dr. Doug Feremenga, Director for the Transportation Corridor Agencies, graciously agreed to serve as Chair of the Technical Advisory Committee of the Board. NCC staff is looking forward to Director Feremenga's leadership of the committee.

XI. **Oral Communications**

President LaMar extended an invitation to meeting participants interested in communicating on matters not part of the meeting agenda. Director Gardner announced there would be an Outreach and Engagement Committee meeting immediately following the board meeting.

XII. **Adjournment**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 2:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, \_\_\_\_\_  
*James Sulentich, Executive Director*

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
*President, LaMar*