



restoration | management | partnership

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
Minutes of Quarterly Meeting**

Date: September 15, 2022

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Location: Hybris Meeting: Irvine Ranch Water District Board Room and vis Zoom

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was a hybrid meeting with some members of the Board of Directors participating in-person in the Board Meeting Room at the Irvine Ranch Water District and others via Zoom Conferencing.

President Steve LaMar called the meeting to order at 1:08 p.m.

**Roll Call**

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

Carol Roberts, (Liaison) US Fish and Wildlife Service  
Will Miller, (Liaison) US Fish and Wildlife Service  
David Mayer, (Alternate) California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Todd Lewis, California Department of Parks and Recreation  
Jennifer Shook, (Alternate) County of Orange  
Steve LaMar, (Director) Irvine Ranch Water District  
Diane Doesserich, (Director) Metropolitan Water District  
Renee Latu, (Alternate) Southern California Edison  
Cascade Sorte, (Director) University of California, Irvine  
Scott Smith, (Director) City of Irvine  
Mark Denny, (Director) Irvine Company  
Nancy Gardner, (Director) City of Newport Beach  
Thomas Eastman, At-Large Public Director (Environment)  
Oscar Rodriguez, At-Large Public Alternate (Environment)  
Hallie Jones, At-Large Public Director (Recreation)

Jennifer Bower (Director) Orange County Fire Authority  
Tom Maloney, (Director) Coastal Greenbelt Authority

The following Directors were recorded as absent:

Douglas Feremenga, (Director) Transportation Corridor Agencies  
Michael Recupero, At-Large Public Director (Business)  
Shelli Lamb, (Director) Southwest Resource Management Association

II. **Approve Minutes of the June 16, 2022 Meeting**

President LaMar called for a motion to approve the minutes from the June 16, 2022 quarterly meeting.

**On a motion by Director Nancy Gardner, which was seconded by Vice President/Treasurer Diane Doesserich, the minutes of the June 16, 2022 meeting was approved** with abstentions from those who were not present at the meeting.

III. **Investment Report: January 1 – June 30, 2022**

Dan Schoessow, Senior Vice President Portfolio Manager of Northern Trust, provided the Board of Directors an overview of the recent economic trends in the country and future predictions as context. He then summarized the six-month investment performance of the NCC Endowment, Acquisition and Restoration, Cowbird, Funds, and Pacific Pocket Mouse Custodial Fund.

IV. **Financial Report: May 31, 2022**

President LaMar called on Vice President/Treasurer Doesserich to provide a summary of the August 31, 2022, financial report. She turned the reporting over to the executive director where he provided an overview of the Asset Report, Disbursements and Deposits, and Profit and Loss statements.

At the end of the report President LaMar called for a motion to approve the Financial Report.

**On a motion by Director Gardner, which was seconded by Alternate Jennifer Shook, the August 31, 2022, financial report was approved unanimously.**

V. **Draft 2022 – 2024 Strategic Plan Update**

Executive Director Jim Sulentich provided the Board of Directors a timeline for the development of the draft strategic plan from its initiation during the March 17, 2022, Board and Partners facilitated planning workshop through the current Board meeting. Reviews and comments were solicited during a total of nine Board and committee meetings. He shared that the current draft strategic plan will look differently from past documents due to a change in reporting format. The executive director invited Board members' comments to the draft presented in the meeting packet. He then asked President LaMar for approval.

**On a motion by Director Gardner, which was seconded by Secretary Mark Denny, the 2022 – 2024 Strategic Plan was approved unanimously.**

**VI. FY 2022 – 23 Proposed Budget**

The executive director initiated the proposed budget presentation by providing the Board of Directors the assumptions underlying the upcoming fiscal year and a minor process change relating to project approvals. He also reported that the draft budget was reviewed by the Finance and Executive Committees last month. Executive Director Sulentich highlighted for the Board the most significant operational changes between the approved current budget and the proposed budget. Following the presentation of the proposed operational budget he asked for Board questions.

Danny Fry, NCC Science Coordinator/Wildland Fire Lead, provided a summary of expenses associated with ongoing projects, and new projects identified in the 2022 – 2024 Strategic Plan. Upon the completion of the summary and Board questions, President LaMar called for a motion to approve the 2022 – 23 budget.

**On a motion by Director Gardner, which was seconded by Vice President/Treasurer Doesserich, the 2022 – 23 budget with the amended project approval process was approved unanimously.**

**VII. Committee Reports**

President LaMar called the Board's attention to the committee meeting minutes in the packet. He then asked if committee chairs to provide any additional information not captured in the minutes.

**VIII. Executive Director's Report**

*Conclusion of WCB Portion of the Western Spadefoot Project on the Coast.*—The executive director reported that NCC staff will be touring the Western Spadefoot pool creation and uplands habitat restoration sites with the Wildlife Conservation Board representative with whom we have worked next Wednesday. The site visit of the completed project will allow for the release of the funds that are held back as part of the grant agreement.

*Audit to Begin September 27<sup>th</sup>.*—Executive Director Sulentich reported that the CLA, the new audit firm, and NCC staff and accountant will begin the annual audit on September 27<sup>th</sup> with the goal of presenting the draft report to the Board at the December, 2022 meeting.

*August Board Roster.*—The executive director asked Board members to review the information in the board roster included in the meeting packet for accuracy.

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**IX. Oral Communications**

President LaMar invited meeting participants and guests with questions on matters not part of the meeting agenda.

**X. Adjournment**

The executive director reminded the Board the Outreach and Engagement Committee meeting is scheduled immediately following the Board meeting. He invited committee members and others interested to remain in person and on Zoom.

There being no further business of the NCC Board of Directors the meeting was adjourned at 2:26 p.m.

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

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