



## FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION

### Minutes of the October 20, 2005 Meeting

#### Attending Members

Crystal Norris  
Jim Lynch  
Al Ferris  
Dave Hillendahl  
Dennis Rosatti  
Brock Dolman  
Pierre Gadd  
Dave Cook  
Andrew Pozzi

#### Absent Members

George Snyder  
Martin Bauman  
Jake Weise

#### Others

Martha Bentley, The Bird Rescue Center  
Mary Ellen King, The Bird Rescue Center  
Vic Chow, Ocean Discovery!  
Michelle Chow, Ocean Discovery!  
Marcia Johnson, Laguna de SR Foundation & Audubon  
Jeff Holden  
David Lewis, UCCE  
Steve Riske, Dept of Fish & Game  
Paul Vossen, UCCE  
Bill Cox, Dept. of Fish & Game  
Deanna McAulay, Ag. Commissioner's Office

Chairperson Crystal Norris called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

### **Adoption of Minutes**

A motion to accept the June minutes was made by Al Ferris with a second by Jim Lynch. Motion carried.

### **Correspondence**

The following correspondence was received:

1. Resolution of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Sonoma appointing David Cook to the Sonoma County Fish and Wildlife Commission, District 3
2. Department of Fish and Game Calendar for November 2005
3. Department of Fish and Game News Releases –
  - *DFG Names Lake County Warden as Best Wildlife Cop in State*
  - *Portions of Klamath and Trinity to Close Oct. 22 for Adult Salmon as Anglers Reach Quota*
  - *DFG Urges Anglers to Catch and Release with Care*
4. State of California Fish and Game Commission Agenda for their November 3 meeting

### **Financial Report**

The Abalone Fund in September received \$90 from the courts and \$836.95 from collections with a fund balance of \$19,757.60. The General Fund received court revenues in September of \$5,985.75 and District Attorney revenues of \$833.33 with a fund balance of \$176,133.99. Motion to accept the financial reports as presented was made by Pierre Gadd with a tie for second by Dave Hillendahl and Al Ferris. Motion carried.

## **Old Business**

By-Laws Resolution was approved by County Counsel. Brief discussion regarding the three unexcused absences rule ensued. A question was raised as to where the attendance issue came from and it was explained that it came from the original resolution and therefore was included in the By-laws. This is to ensure that the commission will have a quorum at each meeting. The Agricultural Commissioner's Office will keep a record of attendance; therefore, it is important that if a commissioner cannot attend a meeting they are responsible for contacting the office prior to the meeting.

## **New Business**

**Sotoyome Resource Conservation District** – FARMS Leadership Program, Rick Kaye, grant request for \$2,774.94 for interactive booths at the Sonoma County Ag Day.

Rick Kay was present and asked for the first reading to be postponed until next month. Request was approved by Crystal Norris to postpone the first reading of the Sotoyome Resource Conservation District grant request until the November 17 meeting.

**First Reading Ocean Discovery!** – Michelle Chow and Vic Chow were present from Ocean Discovery! requesting a grant for \$6,860 for Bringing Fish and Wildlife Conservation & Education to Sonoma County Schools. This program would enhance the MARE (Marine Activities, Resources, and Education) curriculum and improve the educational experiences of Sonoma County's elementary and middle schools during the 2005/06 academic school year.

Vic Chow explained that the program is geared for grades Kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. He explained the grant would be used to build a portable touch tank (life span of 10 years) to bring to local Sonoma County schools. Ocean Discovery! targets Title 1 and rural schools that do not have the resources to allow/take field trips. Also the majority of schools now have a "No Water" policy, which will not allow children to take field trips to places where water is involved – the ocean. Ocean Discovery! also promotes "Ocean Week" for the whole family to attend at a participating school.

The commission began to ask questions regarding how many people work with Ocean Discovery!, what schools, what are you planning on charging schools, transportation of the water table and the animals, and safety of the fish?

Michelle responded that the schools would be charged \$100 to \$200 for using the table, which will be at the school for a week or more (Other programs are charging in the neighborhood of \$1,500). They have three schools currently who are involved, which are Fort Ross, Bodega Bay, and La Fiesta schools. Michelle added that any fish involved would not be in the touch table but in aquariums for display.

Vic responded that a big pick-up truck would transport the water table and the animals are transported in aerated ice chests. He also stated that currently Ocean Discovery! has 20 volunteers and staff combined.

Crystal Norris stated this would be considered the first reading of this grant.

**UCCE Presentation regarding Russian River Coho Salmon Captive Broodstock Program**  
David Lewis and Paul Vossen of UCCE were present. David Lewis gave a proficient PowerPoint presentation updating the commission on the grant that was awarded them in 2002/03 fiscal year of the progress of reestablishing native Coho salmon into historic habitat within the Russian River watershed.

## **Reports and Comments**

### **Board**

Crystal Norris brought to the commission's attention that Doug Gore had telephoned her regarding the two grants he had received in September. He let Crystal know that he is unable to begin and/or complete these projects in this fiscal year 05/06 due to October 15 deadline for working in the creeks and he would like to return the two checks. Due to Doug's prior grant completions the commission felt that he should return the checks, and resubmit the two grants in June of 2006 for approval in the 06-07 fiscal budget. This will allow Doug to complete his projects within the time restraints of DFG permits. There was a unanimous agreement from all commissioners – no vote was taken.

Dave Hillendahl inquired about George Synder and his absences? Crystal Norris stated that she had spoken to George regarding his absences and asked what he would like to do about his seat on the commission? George expressed to Crystal that he is willing to step down and inquired if she might have a name of a replacement. Dave said he would get a name of a potential replacement and bring it to the next meeting.

Dennis Rosatti stated he had called the participating colleges regarding the Fish and Wildlife Commission scholarships and has updated the addresses.

Brock Dolman expressed his appreciation for the work Doug Gore has done in Dutch Bill Creek.

Al Ferris updated the commission on his apprenticeship program with Dennis Rosatti in regard to the commission's scholarships – going well.

Dave Hillendahl introduced Jeff Holden, hopefully, as his future replacement.

### **Public**

Martha Bentley of the Bird Rescue Center stated the center would be represented at future meetings.

Marcia Johnson of the Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation & Audubon also expressed the foundation will be represented at future meetings.

Steve Riske of California Department of Fish & Game stated Warden Bob Parer has transferred, which leaves him down to four wardens for Marin and Sonoma County.

Paul Vossen of the University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) expressed his appreciation for the commissions past assistance.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deanna McAulay, Secretary