

Mono County Fisheries Commission

Regular Meeting

Monday, September 4, 2013 ~ 10:00 a.m.

June Lake Community Center

June Lake ~ California

Minutes of Meeting

I CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m.

II Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

III ROLL CALL

Present were Commissioners Steve Marti, John Webb, Dan Anthony, Gaye Mueller, Bob Dunn, Jim King (10:12) and Gary Jones. Staff present was Dan Lyster and Nancy Alaniz. Supervisor Fesko was also present.

V COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

None

V APPROVAL OF MINUTES

July 31, 2013

Anthony corrected the minutes by stating that the motion listed under item 4 needed clarification and the second and vote listed. Item 4 was corrected to state, "**Motion by Webb to advise the BOS they are willing to expend \$10,000 from their 13/14 discretionary funds and the earmarked money (*rolled over from FY 12/13 discretionary funds*) in the Conway Ranch fund (\$4084.34) toward the installation of an ag well and a 25 hp pump for Conway Ranch if the BOS will expend the remaining amount. *Second by Jones. Passed unanimously.*"**

Motion by Mueller to accept the July 31, 2013 minutes with the listed corrections. Second by Jones. Passed unanimously with Anthony abstaining since he was not at that meeting.

VI STAFF/COMMISSIONERS REPORTS

Mueller reported that she spoke to Don Barrett at Lake Mary Marina regarding Barrett's concerns about the location of CDFW stocking at the lake. Erdman stated he would speak to Barrett regarding his concerns.

Webb stated, as a follow up to a previous discussion regarding net stocking, that the County and IAG had decided in the past against net transportation.

Webb asked Fesko about the BOS's response to the FC request of splitting the cost of the installation of an ag well at Conway Ranch with the BOS (item 4 last meeting.) After a brief discussion it was determined that the motion in question did not indicate a mode of communication with the BOS. Alaniz was directed to write a letter to the BOS regarding this issue.

VII F&W UPDATE

Erdman reported that CDFW donated fish to the Tri-Co Fair for kids fishing and the leftovers were donated to the Elks Club for a BBQ. CDFW has met with Inyo and Mono Co. planning departments regarding the proposed critical habitat and listing of the yellow legged frog. There are additional meetings planned. The West Walker River regulation change is moving forward without opposition, with a potential change date of January 1, 2014.

Webb asked Erdman about the status of the Kern River hatchery and information he had received regarding a reduction in their stock. He also asked about a local reduction in fish stocking and size. Erdman was unaware of these issues.

VIII FUND BALANCES

The F&G Fine Fund balance was reported by the Finance Department as \$13,125.78 (balance after BFEF/ESWC \$5625.78). The MCFC regular budget is \$25,000. The Conway Ranch Fund was reported as \$24,807.93 (with \$20,000 encumbered.)

IX BUSINESS MATTERS

1. Presentation Ref: Status of High Mountain Lake Project/Frog Study - Erdman

Biologist Jim Erdman, CDFW, shared a PowerPoint presentation and engaged in a discussion regarding the proposed critical habitat area, the High Mountain Lake Project and the fish and amphibians in the area. He is scheduled to return to the November 6 meeting for further discussion on this topic.

2. Modify FC Management Plan for BOS – Marti

Tabled pending management plan recommendations from Consultant Tony Vaught.

3. Discussion of Conway Irrigation – Marti/Webb

Marti reported that the FC's recommendation to the BOS regarding the termination of Fred Fulstone as water master was rejected by the BOS. Supervisor Fesko explained that there were multiple reasons for the BOS's decision. One minor reason was that the applicant for the position had requested more payment than was available. Another more significant reason was that the BOS felt there were not adequate policies and procedures in place to provide direction for Fulstone and there was a lack of communication. The BOS planned on implementing and informing Fulstone of the policies and procedures, then if he is unable to adequately comply, action may be taken. The BOS also believed that the most logical person to regulate the water is one who uses it,

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such as Fulstone does for grazing.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the status of the ditches and pond, the

equipment and potential plans needed to rectify their status, and the ongoing maintenance of the water conveyances on Conway Ranch. Also discussed was the current contract with Fulstone and his perceived inadequacies, the declined replacement applicant, and discontent with how County staff and the BOS handled the situation.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 1:10 pm.

The next regular meeting of the MCFC will be held in the June Lake Community Center, June Lake on Wednesday, October 2, 2013 at 10 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy Alaniz, Secretary