TNBC

The Natomas Basin Conservancy

Web site: www.natomasbasin.org

Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

4:00 p.m.

2150 River Plaza Drive, #460 Sacramento, CA (meeting in Suite 400)

Upcoming Regular Meetings

- May 7
- June 4
- July 2 (cancelled)



April 2, 2008





Agenda format and readings tips

• Agenda packet sections

| Agenda packet # | Section name | What's included |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| 0 | Agenda | This is the main agenda. Reading this section will provide the reader with an understanding of the plan for the meeting. |
| 2 | Supplemental materials | On some agenda items, there are handouts that are more extensive than can be covered in the "Discussion" section of the main agenda. These materials are included in agenda packet #2. |
| 3 | Executive Director's packet | The Executive Director includes items of general interest to the Board of Directors in agenda packet #3. The items in this packet are for general information, not action. |
| 4 | Executive Session | Material in this packet is for Board members' information in closed, executive session. It is confidential and not made public. |

• Item organization

This agenda is prepared in order to facilitate understanding of the Conservancy Board of Director's agenda packet. Each agenda item is numbered in the far left-hand column. Then, as the reader moves from left to right, more information is provided. Ultimately, the far right-hand column presents a discussion of the agenda item.

| 1 | Call to Order | Call to Order of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors | Admin. | Ø | O The Board President will call the meeting to order if a quorum is present. Announcements by the Board President or Executive Director may be made at this time. |
|---|---------------|--|--------|---|--|
|---|---------------|--|--------|---|--|

• Exhibit symbols attendant with agenda item

| Agenda exhibit symbol in the "Pg." column | Definition |
|---|--|
| Ø | There is no supplemental information that accompanies an agenda item. |
| ① | There is more information in supplemental handouts. |
| 2.21 | Means that in agenda packet number 2, there will be supporting information on page 21. |

• Staff agenda item recommendations symbols

In the "Discussion" column, there are a series of symbols used, also in order to facilitate quick understanding. These indicate the status of staff recommendations.

| Agenda exhibit symbol in the "Pg." column | Definition | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| O | There is no staff recommendation on the matter. | | | | |
| \oplus | Staff recommends approval. | | | | |
| • | Staff does not recommend approval. | | | | |

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| # | Section | Item | Type | Pg. | Discussion |
|---|---------------|---|---------|------|---|
| 1 | Call to Order | Call to Order of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors | Admin. | Ø | O The Board President will call the meeting to order if a quorum is present. Announcements by the Board President or Executive Director may be made at this time. |
| 2 | Action | Approval of the Minutes | Consent | 2.2 | ⊕ The Board President will request approval of the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting of March 5, 2008. (Minutes of the March 5, 2008 Annual Meeting of the Corporation are included in this agenda packet for information only. These minutes will be submitted for approval at the 2009 Annual Meeting of the Corporation.) |
| 3 | Action | Revision to Conservancy Internal Financial Control Policy | Consent | 2.11 | ⊕ The Conservancy's Internal Financial Control Policy needs updating. The changes are considered to be minor. (See attached policy with proposed changes in the agenda packet.) The Conservancy's Finance Committee has reviewed and considered these proposed amendments and submits them for Board action. |
| 4 | Action | Establish a Travel and Expense Reimbursement policy | Consent | 2.16 | ⊕ The Conservancy's auditor has recommended that the Conservancy adopt a travel and expense reimbursement policy. Such a policy is submitted for Board approval (see proposed policy in the agenda packet). The Conservancy's Finance Committee has reviewed and considered this proposed policy and submits it to the Board for approval. |
| 5 | Action | Security camera installation | Action | 2.20 | ⊕ The Conservancy has grown to the point where more and more management oversight is required. Conservancy staff believes that it is probable that pressure for greater demands on staff time could be reduced by the strategic location of security cameras. This would enable certain inspections to be conducted remotely. If after a year or so the use of cameras turns out to be productive, additional camera placement can be considered. This includes the possibility of cameras specifically focused on key wildlife concentrations (Swainson's hawk nests, areas where giant garter snakes frequent, etc.). This in turn could assist with a public education and science outreach component, and do so at very |

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 $[\]emptyset$ = No additional exhibits in Agenda Packet.

 $[\]bullet$ = Staff does not recommend approval.

| | | | | | minimal cost. |
|---|--------|---|--------|------|---|
| | | | | | Staff requests authorization to engage Maxpower Electronics, Inc. to install the cameras and attendant hardware in the amount of \$13,229.08. (All Lines Supply / Aware Group also was asked to propose on this but declined, saying Maxpower could do the work better and less expensively.) |
| 6 | Action | Authorization for Farm Air Flying Service, Inc., to utilize the landing strip on the Conservancy's Bianchi West tract | Action | 2.22 | ⊕ The only remaining agricultural aircraft operator in the Natomas Basin is Farm Air Flying Service, Inc. The Conservancy and its tenants use Farm Air, and without the firm operating in the Basin, costs would rise substantially, and delays in planting crops would likely also result. (Rice is typically seeded by air.) Farm Air has requested permission to use the Conservancy's Bianchi West tract landing strip for use in serving its customers, including the Conservancy and its tenants. |
| | | | | | Before acquiring the Bianchi West tract, the Conservancy completed Phase One and Phase Two environmental testing. This was done in order to ascertain the level, if any, of toxicants in the soil at the landing strip site. (The studies revealed acceptable levels, so the Conservancy moved forward with its acquisition of the tract.) With this baseline data, the Conservancy can easily keep track of the status of soils on and around the runway. |
| | | | | | Staff requests authorization to enter into an agreement with Farm Air Flying Service, Inc. to allow it to utilize the Conservancy's Bianchi West landing strip. The authorization would include the following restrictions, among others: |
| | | | | | 1.) the authorization terminates December 31, 2008, |
| | | | | | 2.) only seed and fertilizer are permitted to be used on the landing strip, |
| | | | | | no pesticides may be used on the strip without the written authorization of the Conservancy's Executive Director, |
| | | | | | 4.) only in-Basin sites may be served by Farm Air from the landing strip, and |
| | | | | | 5.) a properly executed right-of-entry agreement must be in the Conservancy's office prior to Farm Air's use of the landing strip, and that the ROE contain the Conservancy's standard indemnification, hold harmless protections, and that the Conservancy be named as an additional insured on the relevant Farm Air insurance policy or policies. |
| | | | | | At this point, the Executive Director sees no reason why authorization of pesticide use on the landing strip by Farm Air should be granted. However, there could be special occasions that might warrant such authorization, but only for |

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| | | | | | the use by the Conservancy or its contractors and tenants. |
|----|------------|--|--------------|------|--|
| 7 | Action | Audit of December 31, 2007 financials | Action | 1 | ⊕ The Board is asked to approve the 2007 audit of the Conservancy's financials by Gilbert Associates. The Board earlier selected Gilbert as the designated auditor for the 2005 and 2006 financial statements. Gilbert is operating under a five-year agreement with the Conservancy. Staff requests the Board accept the audit as presented with final approval of the Conservancy's Audit Committee. |
| 8 | Discussion | City of Sacramento report | No action | Ø | O Report from the City of Sacramento regarding HCP-related activity and other topics. |
| 9 | Discussion | Financial statement review | No action | 1 | O A financial statement update will be provided for the period ended February 29, 2008 (unaudited). |
| 10 | Discussion | Biological Effectiveness Monitoring Report for 2007 | No action | Ø | O Jones & Stokes will be present to review the results of the 2007 biological effectiveness monitoring activity. |
| 11 | Discussion | Update on Memorandum of Understanding with the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (SAFCA) | No action | Ø | O At the last Board meeting, staff explored with the Board the matter of the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (SAFCA) and its Natomas Levee Improvement Program (NLIP). The preparation of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was recommended. This MOU was to clarify intentions between SAFCA and the Conservancy with respect to multiple projects associated with the large-scale NLIP. SAFCA and Conservancy staff have explored the concept of the Conservancy serving as manager for many of these projects, primarily habitat land management on land where SAFCA will conduct NLIP project mitigation. While the SAFCA work is not anticipated to be covered under the 2003 NBHCP, it affords the Conservancy an excellent opportunity to provide further certainty the NBHCP can be successfully implemented. It also affords additional opportunities to enhance conditions for many of the species covered under the 2003 NBHCP. |
| | | | | | Conservancy staff will present the Board with an update on the project. |
| 12 | Discussion | Western Area Power Administration (WAPA)/ Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) | No action | 2.26 | O The Conservancy appealed to the Western Area Power Administration and the Sacramento Municipal Utility District to not install new 230-kV transmission lines inside the Natomas Basin. The primary concern is potential for harm to the Swainson's hawk and resulting complications in meeting the 2003 NBHCP's mitigation, BEMP standards and mid-point performance reviews. The transmission lines are now proposed for installation immediately adjacent to the eastern boundary of the Natomas Basin. The |

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| | | | | | Conservancy has documented Swainson's hawk nests inside the Natomas Basin in the general vicinity of these proposed lines. Staff will brief the Board on the implications of this development. |
|----|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------|---|---|
| 13 | Public Comments | Public Comments | No action | Ø | O Opportunity for members of the public to address the Conservancy's Board of Directors. |
| 14 | Executive Session | Executive Session - Personnel | Action | 1 | O Executive Session pursuant to Government Code Section 54957, Employee performance evaluation. Executive Director. |
| | | | | | In open session: Consider authorizing the Board President to execute and deliver an amendment to the Employment Agreement between the Conservancy and its Executive Director, John Roberts, extending the effective date of the Employment Agreement to March 15, 2011. |
| 15 | Executive Session | Executive Session – Real Estate | Action | Ø | O Executive Session for real estate is planned. |
| 16 | Executive Director's Report | Executive Director's Report | No action | 1 | O Various matters for Board members' general information. |
| 17 | Adjournment | Adjournment | Admin. | Ø | O Official adjournment of the meeting. |

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