

**Minutes of a Regular Meeting<sup>1</sup>**  
of  
**The Natomas Basin Conservancy**

August 2, 2017  
Offices of the Natomas Basin Conservancy  
2150 River Plaza Drive, Suite 460  
Sacramento, CA  
4:00 p.m.

**BOARD MEMBERS  
PRESENT:**

= attended  
 = did not attend

- Chandra Chilmakuri
- David Christophel
- Steve Cohn
- Jeff Helm
- Jill Leal
- Kevin McRae
- Jeff Norton
- John Shirey
- Steven Willey

**STAFF/LEGAL COUNSEL  
PRESENT:**

John Roberts, Kim Burns, Valerie Huezo, Jennifer Skupic  
and Jeremy Lor, Ed Quinn and Kara Ueda, Best Best &  
Krieger

**GUESTS:**

Nick Avdis, Thomas Law Group; Jean Jordan, Sutter  
County Counsel

**TAC:**

None

**CALL TO ORDER**

Willey called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors to order, noting a quorum was present.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Roberts announced the resignation of current Board Chair Davin Norene and introduced and welcomed guest Jean Jordan, Sutter County Counsel.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**




There were no public comments.

**ACTION-REGULAR SESSION**

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<sup>1</sup> Notice of meeting posted on TNBC website.

Willey requested a motion to approve June 7, 2017 Board of Directors meeting minutes and consent items.

<p>3</p> 		<p>Approval of the minutes  <i>All items listed under the Consent Agenda, including minutes, are considered and acted upon by one motion. Any Board member may request an item be removed for separate consideration.</i></p>	<p>Consent</p>	<p>⊕ The Board Chair will request approval of the minutes and consent items of the Board of Directors meeting of June 7, 2017.</p>
<p>4</p> 		<p>SAFCA request for land management on its Natomas Farms West, Sharma and AKT tracts; Implementation Agreement #8</p>	<p>Consent</p>	<p>⊕ The SAFCA Implementation Agreement #8 to the Master Agreement between the Conservancy and SAFCA, approved by the Board at the June 7, 2017 Board meeting, calls for a marsh management contract at SAFCA's Natomas Farms, Sharma &amp; AKT marsh complexes. Pursuant to that, HRS has been designated by SAFCA to continue land management at these marsh complexes.</p> <p>The expected start date on the new agreement is October 1, 2017. Costs for this service will be billed directly to the appropriate SAFCA budget \$60,000 per year, and additional tasks based on time and material. Staff recommends approval of this 3-year contract.</p>
<p>5</p> 		<p>SAFCA Implementation Agreement #9</p>	<p>Consent</p>	<p>⊕ SAFCA constructed a GGS/Drainage Canal as a migration corridor for Giant garter snakes (GGS) and for drainage purposes as part of the Natomas Levee Improvement Project (NLIP). SAFCA requested the Conservancy conduct GGS monitoring on the GGS/Drainage Canal in accordance with the SAFCA SSIP &amp; SSMP for that property. The GGS monitoring effort will be fully reimbursed by SAFCA.</p> <p>Staff recommends approval of this item to further efforts with SAFCA and to obtain important information about GGS movement from the southerly portion of the Natomas Basin to the north.</p>

(Res.17.08.01) On a motion by Shirey and a second by Norton, the Board unanimously approved the June 7, 2017 minutes and consent items.

Board members

- |                                                        |                                                   |
|--------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chandra Chilmakuri | <input type="checkbox"/> Kevin McRae              |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David Christophel  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jeff Norton   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steve Cohn         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Shirey   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jeff Helm                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steven Willey |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jill Leal          |                                                   |

Vote symbols

- = "aye" vote
- = "no" vote
- = not present
- = abstain or recuse

## ACTION

### Biological Effectiveness Monitoring Program-Program Document revision.

Based on discussions with the Conservancy's biological monitoring contractor and other biologists, this item contains a staff recommendation that the Conservancy's Board of Directors authorize and approve the revised Conservancy BEMP Program Document, the guide for which the annual BEMP program is conducted. The biological monitoring compliance effort is one of the Conservancy's largest line item expenses. The Board heard an outline of the proposed revised BEMP Program Document at its June 7, 2017 Board meeting.

This item requested the Board accept the proposed revised BEMP Program Document. With this action, the document will be submitted to the state and federal Wildlife Agencies for approval, or alternatively, from the NBHCP Technical Advisory Committee.

The revised BEMP Program Document will also be included with the Request for Proposals (RFP) planned for circulation in order to seek qualified contractors for the Conservancy's biological monitoring effort for 2018 and beyond.

(Res.17.08.02) On a motion by Christophel and a second by Shirey, the Board unanimously approved the proposed revised BEMP Program Document.

#### Board members

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|--------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chandra Chilmakuri | <input type="checkbox"/> Kevin McRae              |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David Christophel  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jeff Norton   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steve Cohn         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Shirey   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jeff Helm                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steven Willey |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jill Leal          |                                                   |

#### Vote symbols

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RFP – Biological Effectiveness Monitoring. The current Biological Effectiveness Monitoring agreement with ICF International expires on December 31, 2017. Looking to a new agreement starting January 1, 2018, Conservancy staff proposed to circulate a Request for Proposals ("RFP"), including price and terms, to conduct biological monitoring for a three-year period with two one-year options to renew.

The biological monitoring effort is a requirement in the HCPs. The BEMP annual report is a key component of the Conservancy's Implementation Annual Report which is also required by the HCPs.

This item requested the Board's authorization to release and circulate the RFP for biological effectiveness monitoring and for Conservancy staff to seek multiple responses from qualified biological monitoring experts.

Responses will be presented to the Board at its October 4, 2017 meeting for the Board's action.

(Res.17.08.03) On a motion by Chilmakuri and a second by Cohn, the Board unanimously approved the release and circulation of the RFP for biological effectiveness monitoring and for Conservancy staff to seek multiple responses from qualified biological monitoring experts.

Board members

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|--------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chandra Chilmakuri | <input type="checkbox"/> Kevin McRae              |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David Christophel  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jeff Norton   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steve Cohn         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Shirey   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jeff Helm                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steven Willey |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jill Leal          |                                                   |

Vote symbols

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◆ = abstain or recuse

RFP – Land Management and Maintenance. December 31, 2017 marks the end of the existing land management and maintenance contract between the Conservancy and Sopwith Farms.

The Conservancy has prepared a Request for Proposals (RFP) designed to solicit responses from qualified contractors to conduct land management and maintenance work beginning January 1, 2018. Responses to the call for RFPs will be presented to the Board at its October 4, 2017 Board meeting. The contract is proposed for three years with two one-year options to renew.

Conservancy staff recommended the Board authorize the release of the land management and maintenance RFP with the intent to obtain responses from multiple qualified respondents

(Res.17.08.04) On a motion by Cohn and a second by Christophel, the Board unanimously approved the release of the land management and maintenance RFP with the intent to obtain responses from multiple qualified respondents.

Board members

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|--------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chandra Chilmakuri | <input type="checkbox"/> Kevin McRae              |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David Christophel  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jeff Norton   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steve Cohn         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Shirey   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jeff Helm                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steven Willey |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jill Leal          |                                                   |

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## DISCUSSION

Financial statement review. Burns provided financial statements for the period ended June 30, 2017 (unaudited). Additional financial information was provided.

Study Session: Conservancy contracting. The Conservancy's Board of Directors had requested that staff provide a study session on the Conservancy's leasing and contracting processes. Roberts provided an overview.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Various matters for Board members' general information were presented by the Conservancy's Executive Director.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive Session was held for real estate matters.

The Board reported out the sale of 2.25 acres of mitigation rights to Natomas Central Mutual Water Company (NCMWC).

## ADJOURNMENT

Official adjournment of the meeting.

(Res.17.08.05) On a motion by Shirey and a second by Chilmakuri the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 pm.

Board members

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|--------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chandra Chilmakuri | <input type="checkbox"/> Kevin McRae              |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David Christophel  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jeff Norton   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Steve Cohn                    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Shirey   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jeff Helm                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steven Willey |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jill Leal          |                                                   |

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ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Chandra Chilmakuri, Secretary*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*