

Minutes of a Regular Meeting¹
of
The Natomas Basin Conservancy

October 2, 2019

Offices of the Natomas Basin Conservancy
2150 River Plaza Drive
Sacramento, CA
4:00 p.m.

**BOARD MEMBERS
PRESENT:**

= attended
 = did not attend

Chandra Chilmakuri
 David Christophel
 Steve Cohn
 Michael Johnston
 Kevin McRae
 John Shirey

**STAFF/LEGAL
COUNSEL PRESENT:**

John Roberts, Kim Burns, Jennifer Skupic
Ed Quinn and Laura Fowler, Best Best & Krieger

GUESTS:

Nick Avdis, Mimi Chao, Allie Essert, Cheryle Hodge,
Richard Kim, John Norman, and Jeanette Vuong

TAC:

None

CALL TO ORDER

Shirey called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors to order, noting a quorum was present. Shirey informed the Board that Jeff Norton had submitted his letter of resignation from the Conservancy's Board.







PUBLIC COMMENTS



No public comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

Shirey requested a motion to approve the August 7, 2019 Board of Directors meeting minutes and consent items. Chilmakuri requested that item 8 Travel and Other Expense Reimbursement Policy be pulled from consent.

¹ Notice of meeting posted on TNBC website.

<p>3</p> 		<p>Approval of the minutes</p>	<p>The Board Chair will request approval of the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting of August 7, 2019.</p>
<p>4</p> 		<p>Sacramento Tree Foundation</p>	<p>The Sacramento Tree Foundation provides tree counting services as specified in the Conservancy's Implementation Annual Report. Historically, the services cost the Conservancy \$15,000 per year. Due to increased costs in providing this service, the proposed contract with the Sacramento Tree Foundation for the next three years will be \$17,000 per year.</p> <p>Board approval of this agenda item authorizes the Executive Director to execute and deliver a contract with the Sacramento Tree Foundation for fiscal years 2020-2022 at \$17,000 per year.</p>
<p>5</p> 		<p>Audit Committee Charter</p>	<p>The Conservancy's Audit Committee Charter is presented for Board review and approval with minor updates. The policy was last updated October 4, 2017.</p>
<p>6</p> 		<p>Finance Committee Charter</p>	<p>The Conservancy's Finance Committee Charter is presented for Board review and approval with minor updates. The policy was last updated October 4, 2017.</p>
<p>7</p> 		<p>Land Dedication Checklist</p>	<p>The Conservancy's Land Dedication Checklist is presented for Board review and approval with minor updates. The policy was last updated December 7, 2016.</p>
<p>9</p> 		<p>Agriculture leases – TNBC</p>	<p>This item requests the Board authorize the Executive Director to execute and deliver agriculture leases with the following farmers using the Conservancy's standard rice and non-rice agriculture lease templates for one year with the rent costs remaining unchanged from the previous year. These are typically very small properties (except Frazer South and Bianchi West, each approximately 100 acres) and short-term (one year). The Frazer South and Bianchi West leases are subjected to interruption should the Conservancy convert them to managed marsh (as planned).</p>

			<p>Bill Charter – Souza (28 acres, alfalfa), Rosa East and Rosa Central (100 acres each, pasture grass)</p> <p>Dennis Bastaio – Alleghany (50 acres, row crops)</p> <p>Kurt Bianchi – Frazer South and Bianchi West (100 acres each, rice)</p> <p>Brian McKenzie – Silva South (29 acres, rice)</p>
10		Agriculture leases – SAFCA	<p>This item requests the Board authorize the Executive Director to execute and deliver agriculture leases with the following farmers using SAFCA’s standard non-rice agriculture lease template for one year with the rent costs remaining unchanged from the previous year.</p> <p>Bill Charter – Hewitt (23 acres, option to farm), Novak (45 acres, tomatoes) and Willey (4 acres, tomatoes)</p>
11		Reclamation District 1000 Board of Directors Election	<p>This item requests authorization for the Executive Director to cast votes in the Conservancy’s interest in the election of Directors at the Reclamation District 1000. Election is scheduled for November 5, 2019.</p>

Shirey requested a motion to approve the minutes of the August 7, 2019 meeting minutes as well as the remainder of Consent Agenda items without item 8. Travel and Other Expense Reimbursement Policy.

(Res.19.10.01) On a motion by Johnston and a second by Chilmakuri, the Board unanimously approved the August 7, 2019 meeting minutes as well as the remainder of Consent Agenda items without item 8. Travel and Other Expense Reimbursement Policy.


Board members

- Chandra Chilmakuri
- David Christophel
- Steve Cohn

- Michael Johnston
- Kevin McRae
- John Shirey

Vote symbols

- = “aye” vote
- = “no” vote
- = not present
- ◆ = abstain or recuse

8		Travel and Other Expense Reimbursement Policy	<p>The Conservancy’s Travel and Other Expense Reimbursement Policy is presented for Board review and approval with minor updates. The policy was last updated October 4, 2017.</p>
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Skupic detailed the proposed changes in the Travel and Other Expense Reimbursement Policy and responded to questions from Chilmakuri.

Shirey requested a motion to approve updates to the Travel and Other Expense Reimbursement Policy.

(Res. 19.10.02) On a motion by Chilmakuri and a second by Christophel, the Board unanimously approved updates to the Travel and Other Expense Reimbursement Policy.

Board members

Chandra Chilmakuri
 David Christophel
 Steve Cohn

Michael Johnston
 Kevin McRae
 John Shirey

Vote symbols

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DISCUSSION

City of Sacramento report. Hodge provided a brief overview of City of Sacramento activities impacting the Natomas Basin.

Financial statement review. Burns provided financial statements for the period ended August 31, 2019 (unaudited). Additional financial information was provided and discussed.

2020 draft budget. Burns presented the 2020 draft budget. She apprised the Board that the proposed 2020 budget would be included in the NBCHP Finance Model which would come before the Board at its December 4, 2019 meeting. She also noted that as new end-of-year information was received, the final draft of the budget presented in December would likely contain adjustments from the current draft.

Giant garter snake translocation project update. Allie Essert with U.C. Davis updated the Board on her GGS translocation project.

Impacts of American bullfrog on Giant garter snake. Richard Kim with U.C. Davis discussed the ecological impacts of the invasive American bullfrog on GGS at the Conservancy's BKS tract.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

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

McRae left the meeting at 6:00 pm.

Recess of regular session of the meeting.

(Res. 19.10.03) On a motion by Cohn and a second by Johnston the Board unanimously voted to recess the regular session at 6:00 pm.

Board members

Chandra Chilmakuri
 David Christophel
 Steve Cohn

Michael Johnston
 Kevin McRae
 John Shirey

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive Session for performance evaluation was held.

Executive Session for real estate was held.

Nothing was report out of Executive Session.

ACTION

Employment Agreement. Nothing was reported out of Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

Official adjournment of the meeting.

(Res. 19.10.04) On a motion by Johnston and a second Chilmakuri by the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 pm.

Board members

Chandra Chilmakuri
 David Christophel
 Steve Cohn

Michael Johnston
 Kevin McRae
 John Shirey

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ATTEST:

Chandra Chilmakuri, Secretary

Date