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COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES FISH AND GAME COMMISSION

MINUTES

Meeting of Thursday, July 10, 2003

6:00 p.m.

383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration Room 374A

(213) 974-9297

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Brad Nuremberg, Chair
Sandra Aronberg, Vice Chair
Richard Alexander
John Hybarger

STAFF PRESENT

Martha Littlefield
Ken Wales

OTHERS PRESENT

Rebecca Barboza, California State Department of Fish and Game
Rudy Ceballos, Volunteer, Hollenbeck Recreational Center
Andy Church, California State Department of Fish and Game
Liz Church, Hollenbeck Recreational Center
Chanelle Davis, California State Department of Fish and Game
Ta'Shara Murray, Deputy, Los Angeles County Second Supervisorial District
Kathrynn Penny, "Fishing in the City" Hollenbeck Recreation Center
Karyl Ralles, Society for Bighorn Sheep
Michael Ralles, Society for Bighorn Sheep
Doug Updike, California State Department of Fish and Game
John T. Callihan
Wade Hamel

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Nuremberg called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF APRIL 17, 2003

On motion of Commissioner Hybarger, seconded by Commissioner Aronberg, the Commission unanimously approved the April 17, 2003 minutes.

REVIEW OF FINANCIAL REPORTS

Chairperson Nuremberg reviewed most recent Summary Report of Income, Expenditures and Fund Balance and reported a fund balance of \$135,882.41 as of May 30, 2003.

Commissioner Hybarger inquired about the collection of fines from oil and toxic waste spills. He requested staff inquire about the fund disbursement of the fines collected. **On motion of Commissioner Hybarger,**

seconded by Commissioner Aronberg, the Commission unanimously accepted the financial report as presented.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairperson Nuremberg reported issues discussed at the 2003 Annual Regional Conference of the Southern Counties Fish and Game Commissions included the lack of wardens and the lack of attention given to individual counties by Department of Fish and Game.

The Los Angeles County Urban Wildlife Management Association has invited the Commission to attend one of their meetings. Commission representation would be beneficial. One issue discussed was the effect of wildlife encroaching into suburban areas. The organization has created a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that each participating agency signs. **On motion of Commissioner Hybarger, seconded by Commissioner Aronberg, the Commission unanimously approved becoming a signatory of the Los Angeles County Urban Wildlife Management Association's Memorandum of Understanding. Commissioner Hybarger plans to represent the Commission at the September 25th Association meeting.**

Steve Holl's Bighorn Sheep report and the California Department of Fish and Game's scheduled burns were discussed. **On motion of Commissioner Hybarger, seconded by Commissioner Aronberg, the Commission unanimously accepted Steve Holl's June 3, 2003 report.**

Chairperson Nuremberg recommended the Commission consider funding provided by the Wildlife Conservation Board for the development of facilities for public access for hunting, fishing or other wildlife-oriented recreation for current and future ventures. He asked Commissioner Hybarger to review the possibility of a joint venture.

COMMISSIONER HYBARGER'S REPORT

Commissioner Hybarger reported on the following:

- June 14, 2003 'Knabe Katch' Fishing Derby was a successful event.
- July 11, 2003 'All Night Family Fishing' is in its final preparation stage.
- July 19, 2003 Safari Club's 'Youth Safari Day' has many children's events and animal exhibits and recommends that Commissioners attend.
- September 20, 2003 'Knabe Katch' Fishing Derby – it is in the early preparation phase.

Commissioner Hybarger also asked Commissioners to consider an alternative plan regarding the placement of a species on the endangered list. Rebecca Barboza reported on the efforts to secure volunteers to assist in the tracking of the Nelson's Bighorn Sheep.

REPORT FROM THE CALIFORNIA STATE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME REGARDING SECTION 4903 FUNDING FOR BIGHORN SHEEP PROGRAM

Doug Updike reported registration fees were placed in the Dedicated Sheep Fund but now the funds are placed in a Fish and Game Preservation Fund. He estimated that eighty thousand dollars was misplaced in the last two years.

Each division manager is provided an allotment of the State approved funds based on the overall revenues and expenses generated. Some allotments were fragmented between departments and managers have used these funds to meet departmental budget shortfalls, regardless of whether Bighorn Sheep work has been done. The jobs charged range from simple salaries to contracted jobs to universities and corporations. Revenues are set annually and expenses have exceeded revenues placing the accounts in a negative situation. Six funds providing funding of about one million dollars for the Bighorn Sheep were being used for other activities: the Environmental License Plate Fund; the General Fund; Fish and Game Preservation Fund; Pitman Robertson Act Funds; Sierra Fund; and the Dedicated Sheep Fund.

Mr. Updike suggested the Commission recommend that the Department of Fish and Game realign expenditure authority so that expenditures remain within the sheep program.

Chairperson Nuremberg thanked Mr. Updike for an informative presentation and stated that the Commission would consider sending letter to the Department.

GRANT REQUEST FOR \$2,500 FROM THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY SECOND SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT FOR THE AUGUST 1, 2003 FISHING DERBY AT KENNETH HAHN LAKE

Ta'Shara Murray, Deputy, Second Supervisorial District, provided a description of the request and a brief history of the event. **On motion of Commissioner Alexander, seconded by Commissioner Hybarger, the Commission unanimously approved the grant request for \$2,500 to stock catfish at Kenneth Hahn Lake.**

GRANT REQUEST FOR \$2,500 FROM HOLLENBECK RECREATION CENTER TO PURCHASE CATFISH FOR STOCKING HOLLENBECK LAKE FOR ITS SEPTEMBER 27, 2003 "FREE FISHING DAY"

Kathrynn Penny, Hollenbeck Recreation Center, provided a brief explanation of the request and how it will benefit the children within the Hollenbeck area. She also reported that this is the fifth year that the Center has requested funds for this project. Andy Church provided an overview of the State's involvement in the event and thanked the Commission for its continued support, especially in light of the State budget concerns. **On motion of Commissioner Aronberg, seconded by Commissioner Hybarger, the Commission unanimously approved \$2,500 to purchase catfish to stock Hollenbeck Lake.**

MATTERS NOT POSTED ON THE AGENDA

Chairperson Nuremberg reported that the Commission had received an update from the Wild Turkey Federation and staff will keep the Commission apprised as the project continues.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were none.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.