



**FRESNO COUNTY ZOO AUTHORITY
SPECIAL MEETING**

9:00 AM, Wednesday, December 10, 2014

Fresno County Employees' Retirement Association

1111 H Street, Fresno, CA 93721

(559) 457-0681

ACTION SUMMARY MINUTES

1. Call to Order

CHAIRMAN HERZOG CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 9:00 AM. A QUORUM OF FIVE MEMBERS: JOHN GRAY, GERALD LYLES, KENT STRATFORD, PAUL TOSTE, AND RALPH WATERHOUSE WERE PRESENT. MEMBER OLIVER BAINES ARRIVED BEFORE PUBLIC COMMENT.

2. Public Comments

This time is made available to receive comments from the public on matters within the Board's jurisdiction that are not on the Agenda. Attention is called to the fact that the Board is prohibited from taking any action on matters that are not on the Agenda. Members of the public are limited to three minutes to speak during Public Comments as well as for each item on the agenda. In order to accurately record the minutes, members of the public are asked to speak only from the podium. Before beginning comments, please state for the record your name and affiliation, if any.

HELD; COMMENT RECEIVED.

3:45

3. Consent Agenda

These matters are routine in nature and are usually approved by a single vote. Prior to action by the Board, the public will be given the opportunity to remove any item from the Consent Calendar. Items removed from the Consent Calendar may be heard immediately following approval of the Consent Calendar.

- a. Review and approve minutes of October 29, 2014
- b. Review and approve payment of County of Fresno invoice for Professional and Specialized Services in the amount of \$19,449.47 for September and October 2014
- c. Receive Treasurer's Reports for October 30, 2014

PUBLIC COMMENT HELD.

ITEMS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY -- PT/RW

4:50

4. Receive Fresno County Zoo Authority 2013-14 audited financial statements and independent auditor's report from Brown Armstrong Accountancy Corporation

RECEIVED - OSVALDO GUTIERREZ OF BROWN ARMSTRONG PRESENTED THE AUDIT. HE STATED NO ISSUES WERE NOTED AND THAT AN UNMODIFIED CLEAN OPINION WAS GIVEN.

PUBLIC COMMENT HELD.

9:03

5. Receive Fresno Chaffee Zoo Director's Report

RECEIVED - DIRECTOR SCOTT BARTON REPORTED THE BIG NEWS OF THE YEAR- MEASURE Z PASSED WITH COMMUNITY SUPPORT OF 72%; SIMILAR TO 10 YEARS AGO; ATTENDANCE REMAINS STRONG, AHEAD OF LAST YEAR, AND WILL PERHAPS REACH 700,000; REPRESENTING A 70% INCREASE OVER THE LAST 5-6 YEARS. ZOO LIGHTS ATTENDANCE IS STRONG; AFRICAN ADVENTURE CONSTRUCTION IS GOING WELL WITH PLANS TO BEGIN MOVING IN ANIMALS IN LATE SPRING; BOARD MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO TOUR THE SITE. THE FIVE TIGERS NEED MORE SPACE, AND FUNDS WILL BE REQUESTED FOR A CONCEPTUAL DESIGN OF AN EXHIBIT, USING BEST IDEAS FROM OTHER ZOOS.

PUBLIC COMMENT RECEIVED.

18:15

6. Receive Fresno's Chaffee Zoo Corporation Chief Financial Officer's report

RECEIVED - CFO GOLDMAN REPORTED THAT THE ZOO CORP HAS A YTD OPERATING SURPLUS OF \$1.1M; SELF-GENERATED REVENUE IS 10% AHEAD OF YTD BUDGET; PERSONNEL AND OPERATING EXPENSES ARE 12% AND 7% UNDER BUDGET, RESPECTIVELY.

PUBLIC COMMENT RECEIVED.

25:00

7. 2015 Measure Z Operating and Capital Requests

- a. Approve Fresno's Chaffee Zoo Corporation fiscal year 2015 Measure Z Operating funds totaling \$4,500,120 for reimbursement of Animal, Maintenance/Horticulture, Veterinary and Visitor Services salary and benefits, Animal Food, Utilities, and Bank Fees to wire reimbursement funds to the Zoo.

CFO GOLDMAN PRESENTED THE OPERATING REQUEST; HIGHLIGHTING THE INCREASE IN PER CAPITA REVENUE, LOW STAFF TURNOVER AND NEW POINT-OF-SALE SYSTEM TO TRACK DATA. AFRICAN ADVENTURE ADDS 13 ACRES TO EXHIBIT SPACE; HIRING FOR IT WILL BEGIN IN APRIL, AND ITS OPENING WILL PROVIDE GREATER REVENUE OPPORTUNITIES IN EDUCATION, MEMBERSHIP AND GROUP EVENTS. 2015 WILL ADD 29 FULL- AND 6 PART-TIME STAFF, AND ADDITIONAL OPERATING EXPENSES IN UTILITIES, ANIMAL FEED, VET SUPPLIES, UNIFORMS AND LIABILITY INSURANCE. SALARIES AND

BENEFITS ARE PROJECTED TO BE 58% OF THE OPERATIONS BUDGET, AND WILL BE COMPARABLE FOR THE INDUSTRY AND THE FRESNO AREA.

DIRECTOR BARTON, HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER LAURA MARTINEZ, MR. GOLDMAN AND BOARD MEMBERS DISCUSSED THE OPPORTUNITY TO HIGHLIGHT THE JOB CREATION AND THE ECONOMIC AND TOURISM IMPACT PROVIDED TO THE COMMUNITY BY THE ZOO. THERE WILL BE NO INCREASE IN ADMISSION FEES FOR 2015, AND ADMISSION HAS REMAINED UNCHANGED SINCE 2004.

PUBLIC COMMENT RECEIVED.

ITEM 7a. WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY – PT/JG

48:45

- b. Approve Fresno's Chaffee Zoo Corporation fiscal year 2015 Measure Z Capital funds totaling \$23,250 for animal acquisitions and transportation, and bank fees for reimbursement of capital claims.

CFO GOLDMAN PRESENTED THE CAPITAL REQUEST AND RESPONDED TO MEMBER QUESTIONS.

PUBLIC COMMENT HELD.

ITEM 7b. WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY – PT/RW

50:13

- 8. Receive final draft of Fiscal Year 2013-14 annual report and approve or provide direction to staff

BOARD COORDINATOR CATHY CROSBY PRESENTED THE REPORT AND NOTED CHANGES TO BE MADE. AFTER DISCUSSION, DIRECTION WAS GIVEN FOR ADDITIONAL CHANGES. A MOTION TO APPROVE THE REPORT INCLUDING CHANGES AND THE AUDIT REPORT PRESENTED EARLIER.

PUBLIC COMMENT HELD.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY – PT/RW

56:30

- 9. Biennial Conflict of Interest Code Review

BOARD COORDINATOR CATHY CROSBY REPORTED ON THE AMENDMENTS REQUESTED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, THE REQUIREMENT FOR THE BIENNIAL NOTICE'S RE-SUBMITTAL AND THE AFFIDAVIT DOCUMENT. A RESOLUTION WITH THE DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO THE DISCLOSURE CATEGORIES WAS AVAILABLE TO THOSE PRESENT AND TO MEMBERS FOR THEIR CONSIDERATION.

- a. Review 2012 Zoo Authority Conflict of Interest Code Disclosure Categories, and consider approval of amendments as requested by the Board of Supervisors' letter of October 31, 2014
 - 1) Approve amendment to Disclosure Category I
 - 2) Approve amendment to Disclosure Category II
 - 3) Approve amendment to Disclosure Category III

PUBLIC COMMENT RECEIVED.

1:12:55

AFTER DISCUSSION, MEMBERS VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE CHANGES TO THE DISCLOSURE CATEGORIES AND RESOLUTION 2014-3 FOR THE CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE. – GL/PT

- b. If amendments are not approved, authorize Chair to sign and re-submit the 2014 Local Agency Biennial Notice; or,
If approved, authorize Chair to note amendment(s), sign and re-submit the 2014 Local Agency Biennial Notice, and provide direction to staff to return with draft revised Conflict of Interest Code for adoption at next scheduled meeting

PUBLIC COMMENT HELD.

1:18:53

AFTER DISCUSSION, MEMBERS VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AND RESUBMIT THE NOTICE. – JG/PT

1:19:15

- c. Review County of Fresno Conflict of Interest Affidavit, and consider its adoption as per October 31, 2014 Board of Supervisors request to adopt similar language as an additional requirement of Zoo Authority Board members upon taking office, or annually thereafter

PUBLIC COMMENT RECEIVED.

1:22:00

AFTER DISCUSSION, MEMBER WATERHOUSE MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE ADOPTING THE AFFIDAVIT. THE MOTION FAILED FOR LACK OF A SECOND.

1:25:22

10. Approve 2014 Measure Z Capital funds request for \$44,000 to develop conceptual design for an expanded Tiger exhibit

CFO GOLDMAN PRESENTED THE REQUEST. DIRECTOR BARTON EXPLAINED THE PROCESS TO SELECT THE LOCAL LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT THAT HAS EXPERIENCE WITH PARKS AND HISTORIC AREAS, AND WITH THEIR EXPERTISE AND THAT OF STAFF, AND IDEAS FROM OTHER ZOO'S EXHIBITS, HE BELIEVES THE CONCEPTUAL DESIGN FOR THE EXPANSION CAN BE ACHIEVED.

PUBLIC COMMENT RECEIVED.

1:36:39

AFTER DISCUSSION THE BOARD APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE \$38,00 FOR DESIGN, \$4,000 MANAGEMENT, AND \$2,000 FOR CONTINGENCY. – PT/OB

1:36:40

11. Confirm next meeting date(s)

Adopted meeting dates include: January 28, 2015
February 26, 2015
March 26, 2015

AFTER DISCUSSION OF AUTHORITY DOCUMENTS THAT NEED UPDATING, EXPIRING TERMS OF MEMBERS, THE ISSUE OF LEGAL REPRESENTATION, AND NOTING THE CORRECT FEBRUARY AND MARCH MEETING DATES AS THE 25TH, MEMBERS APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE CANCELLING THE JANUARY MEETING. – PT/JG

1:42:30

12. Chair's comments

HELD; MR. HERZOG THANKED MS. CROSBY FOR HER SERVICE, AND MEMBERS FOR THEIR EFFORT AND FOCUS ON THE TOPICS BEFORE THE BOARD OVER THE PAST YEAR. HE WISHED EVERYONE A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR.

1:42:56

13. Board Member comments

HELD; MEMBERS THANKED MR. GOLDMAN FOR THE QUALITY OF HIS OPERATIONS FUND REQUEST; THE AUTHORITY STAFF FOR THEIR WORK, AND ZOO STAFF FOR THE WONDERFUL EXPERIENCE THEY PROVIDE. MEMBER LYLES TALKED ABOUT HIS YEARS OF VOLUNTEERING IN THE COMMUNITY, AND THE SUPPORT OF THE COMMUNITY HE RECEIVED THIS PAST YEAR, VERSUS NEGATIVE COMMENTS FROM ONLY 3 PEOPLE. MEMBERS HERZOG AND TOSTE EXPRESSED APPRECIATION AND CONFIDENCE IN MEMBER LYLES. MEMBER WATERHOUSE ECHOED THEIR COMMENTS, AND MENTIONED MEMBER LYLES' DEDICATION AND VALUE TO THE ZOO SOCIETY DURING THE ZOO'S DIFFICULT TIMES BEFORE MEASURE Z.

TREASURER JEFF BLANKS INTRODUCED SENIOR ACCOUNTANT AARON RATTO, INCOMING TREASURER. HE WAS THANKED FOR HIS WORK BY DR. TOSTE.

1:52:20

14. Adjourn

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE CHAIRMAN ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 10:52 AM.

All supporting documentation is available for public review in the office of the Fresno County Zoo Authority, 2220 Tulare Street, 6th Floor, Fresno, 93721, during regular business hours. For further information, please contact Catherine Crosby, Zoo Authority Coordinator, at 600-4305, email zooauthority@co.fresno.ca.us, or visit www.zooauthority.org. Requests for disability-related modification or accommodation needed in order to participate in the meeting must be made to the Zoo Authority Coordinator no later than 9:00 a.m. on the day prior to the meeting.