



**FRESNO COUNTY ZOO AUTHORITY
ACTION SUMMARY MINUTES**

9:00 AM, Wednesday, April 26, 2017

NOTICE: SPECIAL LOCATION FOR THIS MEETING ONLY

Fresno Chaffee Zoo

African Adventure Kopje Lodge Simba Room

84 West Belmont Ave, Fresno, CA 93728

(559) 498-5910

1. Call to Order

CHAIRMAN MICHELLE ROMAN CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 9:10 AM. A QUORUM WAS PRESENT INCLUDING THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS PETER HERZOG, GERALD LYLES, KENT STRATFORD, PAUL TOSTE AND RALPH WATERHOUSE. MEMBER LEE BRAND AND ALTERNATE MEMBER OLIVER BAINES WERE ABSENT.

THE CHAIRMAN NOTED THERE WERE TWO CHANGES TO THE AGENDA: THE MONTHS STATED ON AGENDA FOR ITEM 3C SHOULD BE CHANGED TO JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH AND THE QUARTER ENDED MARCH 2017; AND AT THE REQUEST OF ZOO CORPORATION FINANCE DIRECTOR BRIAN GOLDMAN, ITEM 7 WOULD BE PULLED AND WOULD BE BROUGHT BACK AT A LATER MEETING. COORDINATOR CATHY CROSBY NOTED THAT THE CORRECT TREASURERS' REPORTS WERE PROVIDED AND LEGALLY POSTED.

0:03:53

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. **RECEIVED; FRESNO COUNTY DISTRICT 5 SUPERVISOR NATHAN MAGSIG THANKED ZOO AUTHORITY MEMBERS FOR THEIR VOLUNTARY SERVICE.**

0:04:46

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.

MEMBER TOSTE REQUESTED ITEM A AND MEMBER WATERHOUSE REQUESTED ITEM C BE PULLED FOR DISCUSSION. MEMBER LYLES MOVED FOR APPROVAL OF ITEM B. SECONDED BY MEMBER WATERHOUSE, THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY AND WITHOUT COMMENT. MEMBER LEE BRAND AND ALTERNATE MEMBER OLIVER BAINES WERE ABSENT.

0:07:49

a. Review and approve minutes of January 25, 2017

MEMBER TOSTE QUESTIONED THE DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION OF ITEM 10. MR. GOLDMAN CLARIFIED THE AMOUNT OF THE APPROVED REVISED REQUEST, AND ZOO AUTHORITY TREASURER MEGAN MARKS CONFIRMED HER UNDERSTANDING OF THAT AMOUNT. MEMBER TOSTE MOVED FOR APPROVAL OF ITEM A. SECONDED MEMBER HERZOG, THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. MEMBER LEE BRAND AND ALTERNATE MEMBER OLIVER BAINES WERE ABSENT.

0:07:37

b. Review and approve payment of County of Fresno invoice for Professional and Specialized Services in the amount of \$24,878.46 for January and February 2017

MEMBER LYLES MOVED FOR APPROVAL OF ITEM B. SECONDED BY THE CHAIRMAN, THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY AND WITHOUT COMMENT. MEMBER LEE BRAND AND ALTERNATE MEMBER OLIVER BAINES WERE ABSENT.

0:12:50

c. Receive Treasurer's Reports for November, December and Quarter Ending December 2016

MEMBER TOSTE NOTED THAT THE MARCH 2017 TREASURER'S REPORT ITEM (3C.3), PAGE 3, SHOWED A BUDGET TO ACTUAL VARIANCE OF TAX PROCEEDS OF -14.74%, AND ASKED IF THERE WOULD BE A NEED TO ADJUST THE BUDGET. MS. MARKS RESPONDED THAT AN ADJUSTMENT CAN BE BROUGHT FORWARD WITH NEXT FISCAL YEAR'S BUDGET FOR PRESENTATION AT THE NEXT MEETING, AND THE IMPACT OF RECENT METHODOLOGY CHANGES BY THE STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION WILL ALSO BE CONSIDERED. MEMBER WATERHOUSE MOVED FOR APPROVAL OF ITEM C, AMENDING THE MOTION TO STATE THE REPORTS WERE FOR JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH AND THE QUARTER ENDED MARCH 2017. SECONDED BY MEMBER TOSTE, THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. MEMBER LEE BRAND AND ALTERNATE MEMBER OLIVER BAINES WERE ABSENT.

0:16:40

4. Fresno Chaffee Zoo Director's report

RECEIVED: DIRECTOR SCOTT BARTON WELCOMED AUTHORITY MEMBERS TO THE ZOO. HE REPORTED THAT WHILE THIS SEASON'S RAIN HAS BEEN GOOD FOR THE STATE, IT HAS REDUCED ATTENDANCE PROJECTIONS BY 60,000 SINCE JANUARY. HOWEVER, ATTENDANCE IS STRONG ON NICE DAYS, AND BUDGET PROJECTIONS ARE BEING ADJUSTED. POSITIVE NEWS INCLUDES THE JANUARY BIRTH OF THE FIRST RHINO IN THE ZOO'S HISTORY, 2016 VISITORS FROM ALL 50 STATES AND 30 COUNTRIES, AND GOOD REVIEWS ON WEBSITES YELP AND TRIP ADVISOR.

MEMBER HERZOG ASKED ABOUT THE CUMULATIVE VALUE OF THE ZOO'S FUTURE PROJECTS. MR. BARTON STATED THAT AT THE CURRENT CONCEPT STAGE, COSTS ARE NOT KNOWN. BUDGETS ARE DEVELOPED IN THE SCOPING STAGE WITH THE TEAM OF ARCHITECTS. ANOTHER UNKNOWN IS CONSTRUCTION COSTS THAT HAVE INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY FROM 4 OR 5 YEARS AGO. MEMBER LYLES NOTED THAT THE COST OF THE FUNDING REQUESTS EXCEEDS THE AVAILABLE FUNDS BY ABOUT \$14M. MR. BARTON ACKNOWLEDGED THIS, AND STATED THE ZOO'S INTENTION WAS TO KEEP SELF-GENERATED REVENUE AS A RESERVE IF MEASURE Z IS NOT EXTENDED IN 2024. IF THE ZOO MOVES AHEAD WITH PROJECTS, THEY WILL GET AHEAD OF MEASURE Z REVENUE. A BIG QUESTION FOR ZOO CORPORATION AND ZOO AUTHORITY BOARDS IS: SHALL THE ZOO CONTINUE TO BUILD NOW AT LOWER COST VS WAITING FOR FUNDS TO ACCUMULATE BEFORE BUILDING? MORE IMPROVEMENTS SOONER WOULD MEAN MORE VISITORS AND REVENUES. HIS PREFERENCE IS TO MOVE AHEAD AT A MODEST RATE, EVEN SLIGHTLY AHEAD OF MEASURE Z REVENUE, AND PERHAPS USING LOANS.

23:50

5. Receive Fresno's Chaffee Zoo Corporation Chief Financial Officer report for January, February and March 2017

RECEIVED; MR. GOLDMAN PRESENTED THE AUTHORITY WITH A CHECK FOR \$170,682.05 TO REIMBURSE THE MEASURE Z FUND FOR CITY OF FRESNO SHARED COSTS OWED FOR THE STORM DRAIN PIPELINE EXTENSION PROJECT. MR. GOLDMAN REPORTED THAT RAIN HAD REDUCED ATTENDANCE TO DATE BY 29%, ALTHOUGH SCHOOL ATTENDANCE TO DATE IS 28% HIGHER. CONSIDERING THIS, DEPARTMENTS HAVE REDUCED THEIR BUDGETS, AND TOTAL EXPENSES ARE 14.8% UNDER BUDGET THROUGH MARCH 31ST. HE ALSO REPORTED THAT THE ZOO CORP. 2016 AUDIT WILL BE PRESENTED IN JUNE.

0:28:22

6. Approve Fresno's Chaffee Zoo Corporation request for FY 2017 Measure Z Capital funds totaling \$3,568,675.00 for design of African River

MR. GOLDMAN REPORTED THAT THE ZOO CORPORATION RECEIVED PRESENTATIONS FROM THREE FIRMS AND STUDIO HANSON ROBERTS WAS SELECTED. HE STATED THE DESIGN WAS IN THE CONCEPTUAL PHASE NOW AND WILL SOON MOVE TO SCHEMATIC DESIGN. MR. BARTON RESPONDED TO MEMBERS' CONCERNS ABOUT PROPOSED PROJECTS AND CURRENTLY AVAILABLE FUNDING, QUESTIONS ABOUT THE ARCHITECT SELECTION AND FEE NEGOTIATION PROCESS, THE TIMELINE TO DESIGN AND COMPLETE THE PROJECT, ITS ESTIMATED COST, SOURCES AND OPTIONS OF FUNDING, AND TIMING THE CONSTRUCTION OR DELAY OF VARIOUS EXHIBITS IN RELATION TO ANTICIPATED FUNDING FROM MEASURE Z AND ITS POSSIBLE EXTENSION.

MEMBER LYLES REQUESTED A TIMELINE OF THE ESTIMATED MEASURE Z FUNDS AND EXPECTED CAPITAL PROJECTS, AS WELL AS THEIR PRIORITIZATION. DIRECTOR BARTON STATED THAT COULD BE PROVIDED, AND "THE BIG QUESTION" WAS IF THE PROJECTS WERE TO BE FUNDED AFTER MEASURE Z FUNDS HAD ACCUMULATED, OR BUILT BEFORE WITH A LOAN, OR BY SOME COMBINATION OF THE TWO. TARGET COSTS WILL BE PRESENTED WITH THE MASTER PLAN LATER IN THIS MEETING. MEMBER TOSTE ASKED FOR AN EXPLANATION FOR THE CONTINGENCY LINE ITEM. CFO GOLDMAN RESPONDED THAT CONTINGENCY FUNDS WOULD BE USED, FOR EXAMPLE, TO AVOID DELAYING A PROJECT IF SOIL TESTING WAS NEEDED OR OTHER

UNEXPECTED ISSUES OCCURRED DURING CONSTRUCTION, INSTEAD OF RETURNING TO THE AUTHORITY TO REQUEST MORE MONEY.

MEMBER WATERHOUSE MOVED FOR APPROVAL. SECONDED BY MEMBER HERZOG, THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. MEMBER LEE BRAND AND ALTERNATE MEMBER OLIVER BAINES WERE ABSENT.

7. Approve Fresno's Chaffee Zoo Corporation request for FY 2017 Measure Z Capital funds totaling \$888,955.56 for design of the Animal Nutrition Center
THIS ITEM WAS PULLED AT THE REQUEST OF MR. GOLDMAN, AND WILL RETURN AT A LATER DATE.

0:53:35

8. Approve Fresno's Chaffee Zoo Corporation request for FY 2017 Measure Z Capital funds totaling \$110,066,00 for design of Orangutan Exhibit enhancements
AFTER DISCUSSION AND DIRECTOR BARTON'S EXPLANATION REGARDING ARCHITECT AND ZOO PROJECT MANAGEMENT, MEMBER LYLES MOVED FOR APPROVAL. SECONDED BY MEMBER TOSTE THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. MEMBER LEE BRAND AND ALTERNATE MEMBER OLIVER BAINES WERE ABSENT.

1:02:00

9. Approve Fresno's Chaffee Zoo Corporation request for FY 2017 Measure Z Capital funds totaling \$3,063,804.58 for construction of Water Play Area
AFTER DISCUSSION OF PROJECT COSTS AND DESIGN ELEMENTS, INCLUDING WALKWAY UPGRADES, MEMBER TOSTE ASKED THAT FUTURE REQUESTS INCLUDE A PROPOSED DESIGN, AND MOVED FOR APPROVAL OF THE REQUEST WITH THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS REGARDING THE RETENTION FUNDS:
1) ANY DISPUTE BETWEEN THE CONTRACTOR AND THE FRESNO CHAFFEE ZOO CORPORATION REGARDING RETENTION FUNDS SHALL BE REPORTED TO THE FRESNO COUNTY ZOO AUTHORITY WITHIN 30 DAYS;
2) ANY SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CONTRACTOR AND THE FRESNO CHAFFEE ZOO CORPORATION INVOLVING THE RETENTION FUNDS SHALL BE MADE PUBLIC; AND,
3) ANY RETENTION OF FUNDS RELEASED BY THE CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RETURNED TO THE FRESNO COUNTY ZOO AUTHORITY CAPITAL FUND.
SECONDED BY MEMBER LYLES THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. MEMBER LEE BRAND AND ALTERNATE MEMBER OLIVER BAINES WERE ABSENT. MEMBER LYLES RECALLED THAT THIS PROJECT WAS THE NUMBER ONE PRIORITY OF THE AUTHORITY'S SECOND CHAIRMAN, (BRINA HARWOOD, WHO WAS THEN THE MOTHER OF THREE YOUNG BOYS), AND WE NOW SEE THAT HER DESIRE IS COMING TO FRUITION.

1:15:27

10. Receive staff reports
TREASURER MEGAN MARKS REPORTED THAT CHANGES TO THE COUNTY POLICY FOR THE TIMING FOR FUNDS TRANSFERS, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, WILL AFFECT MEASURE Z REIMBURSEMENT TO THE ZOO CORP. SHE ALSO REPORTED SHE WILL BRING THE FISCAL YEAR 2017-18 ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET FOR APPROVAL AT THE NEXT MEETING. BOARD COORDINATOR CATHY CROSBY REPORTED THAT THE CHANGES TO FUNDS TRANSFERS WILL REQUIRE UPDATES TO THE AUTHORITY'S PROCEDURES FOR APPROVING AND ADMINISTERING MEASURE Z FUNDS, WHERE THE TIMING OF REVIEW

AND REIMBURSEMENT IS DESCRIBED IN DETAIL. STAFF WILL RETURN AT THE NEXT MEETING WITH DRAFT REVISIONS. SHE ALSO REPORTED THAT THE COUNTY RETIREMENT OFFICES RELOCATION HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO SOMETIME IN SEPTEMBER. THE CHAIRMAN ASKED ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF CONTINUING TO MEET AT THE CURRENT LOCATION.

1:21:04

11. Approve next meeting date

Adopted dates include:

Wednesday, May 31, 2017

Wednesday, June 28, 2017

Wednesday, July 26, 2017

AFTER DISCUSSION, MEMBER HERZOG MOVED TO DELETE THE MAY 31 MEETING DATE AND TO HOLD THE NEXT MEETING ON JUNE 28, 2018. SECONDED BY MEMBER WATERHOUSE, THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. MEMBER LEE BRAND AND ALTERNATE MEMBER OLIVER BAINES WERE ABSENT.

1:23:20

12. Fresno Chaffee Zoo Director's report on updated Master Plan

DIRECTOR SCOTT BARTON REVIEWED THE PROJECTS TO DATE FUNDED BY MEASURE Z, AND THOSE EXPECTED IN FUTURE YEARS, WITH VERY GENERAL COST ESTIMATES FOR EACH, ASSUMING APPROXIMATELY \$82M IN MEASURE Z FUNDS, PLUS OTHER SOURCES OF REVENUE. PROJECTS INCLUDE DINO DIG, CHILDREN'S WATER PLAY AREA, PARKING EXPANSION, PROGRAM ANIMAL BUILDING, COMMISSARY, ASIAN FOREST, ADDITIONAL ENTRANCE, AND AFRICAN RIVER. HE ALSO TALKED ABOUT POTENTIAL PROJECTS AFTER 2024 THAT COULD INCLUDE SOUTH AMERICA, AFRICAN FOREST, ENTRY PLAZA, EDUCATION BUILDING, AND LIENBY BANDSTAND AND BIRD SHOW IMPROVEMENTS.

1:45:35

13. Chair's comments

THE CHAIRMAN REPORTED THAT THE PLAQUE FOR FORMER MEMBER SWEARENGIN WAS PRESENTED AT HER OFFICE; AND THAT ON BEHALF OF THE AUTHORITY, THE CHAIRMAN HAD ATTENDED THE RECENT VALLEY CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL GIRAFFE FEEDING STATION PARTNERSHIP EVENT.

1:46:30

14. Board Member comments

MEMBER TOSTE COMPLEMENTED DIRECTOR BARTON ON HIS PRESENTATION AND ASKED FOR A PRINTED COPY OF IT WITH THE COST ESTIMATES. DISCUSSION AND RESPONSES FROM MR. BARTON FOCUSED ON THE AFFECTS OF PARKING, AND PARK AND ZOO ENTRY CONGESTION ON ATTENDANCE, INCLUDING SHORT AND LONG TERM SOLUTIONS, NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE CITY OF FRESNO, AND STAFF AND WINDOWS TO IMPROVE IN-FLOW OR A POSSIBLE SECOND ENTRANCE.

1:54:00

15. Adjourn for tour of Zoo

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE CHAIRMAN ADJOURNED THE MEETING FOR A TOUR OF THE ZOO AT 11:05 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.