



**FRESNO COUNTY ZOO AUTHORITY**

**SPECIAL MEETING**

**9:00 A.M. Friday, December 6, 2013**

Fresno County Employees' Retirement Association

1111 H Street, Fresno, CA 93721

(559) 457-0681

**ACTION SUMMARY MINUTES**

1. Call to Order

**CHAIRMAN PAUL TOSTE CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 9:00 A.M. A QUORUM OF MEMBERS OLIVER BAINES, JOHN GRAY, PETER HERZOG, KENT STRATFORD AND RALPH WATERHOUSE WAS PRESENT.**

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 - NO PUBLIC COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED.**

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 Consent Calendar.

- A. Review and approve minutes of October 30, 2013
- B. Review and approve payment of County of Fresno invoice for Professional and Specialized Services in the amount of \$16,722.94 for October 2013
- C. Receive Treasurer's Report for October 2013.

**APPROVED -- RW/JG -- 6 AYES, 0 OPPOSED; MEMBER LYLES ABSENT**

**MEMBER LYLES ARRIVED AT 9:06 A.M.**

4. Receive Fresno Chaffee Zoo Director's Report

**RECEIVED – DIRECTOR SCOTT BARTON REPORTED 2013 ATTENDANCE IS PROJECTED TO BE ABOUT 660,000 IF WEATHER IS FAVORABLE-ANOTHER RECORD YEAR. MEMBERSHIP HAS SHOWN A 64% INCREASE SINCE 2009. NEW ADDITIONS INCLUDE A FIVE-WEEK OLD GIRAFFE. THE MAYALSIAN TIGER IS PREGNANT AND DUE AROUND THE BEGINNING OF JANUARY. A RECENT POLL SHOWS SUPPORT FOR MEASURE Z AT 84%. IN 2004, 73% VOTED FOR MEASURE Z.**

**A POWERPOINT PRESENTATION COMPARED THE COST OF THE AFRICA EXHIBIT FUNDING REQUEST TO SIMILAR EXHIBITS AT OTHER ZOOS. MR. BARTON MENTIONED THAT CHANGES HAVE BEEN INCORPORATED INTO THE AFRICA EXHIBIT THAT THE DALLAS ZOO SAID THEY WISHED THEY HAD DONE WITH THEIR EXHIBIT, PARTICULARLY LARGER AREAS TO ACCOMMODATE THE VOLUME OF VISITORS. CALIFORNIA'S ENVIRONMENTAL AND ENERY REQUIRMENTS, AND THE PRESERVATION OF 90% OF HEALTHY TREES HAVE ADDED TO THE COST OF THE PROJECT.**

**MR. BARTON DISCUSSED THE ZOO'S PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CITY OF FRESNO AS LEAD AGENCY FOR THE MASTER PLAN, SHARED COSTS, THE REQUIRED RELOCATION OF THE PALM GROVE AS A MITIGATION MEASURE-A COST INCLUDED IN THE AFRICA FUNDING REQUEST-AND THE CITY'S COMMITMENT TO THE REMOVAL OF THE CORPORATION YARD IN 2014.**

**MR. BARTON'S PRESENTATION ALSO ILLUSTRATED THAT THE REQUEST WAS CONSISTANT WITH THE PROJECT'S PLAN IN PLACE SINCE 2009. WITHOUT EXHAUSTING MEASURE Z FUNDS, ADDITONAL PROJECTS ARE STILL PLANNED OVER THE NEXT TWO YEARS, INCLUDNG CHILDREN'S WATER PLAY AREA, KOMODO DRAGON EXHIBIT, MORE UTILITIES WORK, THE FRONT OF REPTILE BUILDING, PARKING, A NEW CENTER FOR EDUCATION ANIMALS, AND AN ANIMAL NUTRITION CENTER. A COMPUTER-GENERATED ANIMATION OF THE PROJECT WAS SHOWN AND IS AVAILABLE ON YOUTUBE.**

5. Receive Fresno Chaffee Zoo Finance Director's Report

**RECEIVED – DIRECTOR OF FINANCE BRIAN GOLDMAN REPORTED ATTENDANCE IS WELL AHEAD OF PROJECTIONS, THERE IS AN OPERATING SURPLUS OF \$1.3 MILLION, SELF-GENERATED REVENUE IS UP 19%, AND EXPENSES ARE ALL UNDER BUDGETED YEAR-TO-DATE PROJECTIONS.**

**CHAIRMAN TOSTE REQUESTED THAT MR. GOLDMAN INCLUDE AN ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE BALANCE SHEET IN FUTURE REPORTS.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT WAS RECEIVED FROM CITIZEN LISA FLORES.**

6. Approval of Measure Z Funds for African Adventure

- A. Consider the Environmental Impact Report for Roeding Regional Park and Fresno Chaffee Zoo Facility Master Plan (EIR) previously certified by the Fresno City Council,

June 30, 2011 and the EIR Addendum approved by the Fresno City Council on November 7, 2013, and adopt Resolution Adopting CEQA Findings and Statement of Overriding Considerations.

**APPROVED – OB/GL – 7 AYES, 0 OPPOSED**

B. Approve Fresno Chaffee Zoo Corporation's request of Measure Z Capital Funds of \$51,699,682 for the African Adventure project.

**DIRECTORS BARTON AND GOLDMAN PRESENTED THE REQUEST.**

**APPROVED WITH THE REQUIREMENT THAT REIMBURSEMENTS WILL NOT EXCEED FUNDS AVAILABLE, THAT EXPENDITURES ARE NOTED THOROUGHLY IN QUARTERLY REPORTS FROM THE AUTHORITY'S TREASURER, AND THAT THE BOARD WILL BE NOTIFIED PRIOR TO ANY REQUEST FOR REIMBURSEMENT FROM CONTINGENCY FUNDS. – OB/PH – 7 AYES, 0 OPPOSED**

**PRIOR TO VOTING, MEMBERS OF THE BOARD REQUESTED CLARIFICATION FOR SOME OF THE BUDGET ITEMS. RESPONSES WERE PROVIDED BY DIRECTOR BARTON, FINANCE DIRECTOR GOLDMAN, PROJECT MANAGER JON WHELESS AND ZOO AUTHORITY TREASURER JEFF BLANKS. THE TREASURER RECEIVED THE BOARD'S DIRECTION TO TRACK CASH FLOWS, NOTIFY THE BOARD IF THE CONTINGENCY FUND IS BEING USED, OR HARRIS CONSTRUCTION'S GUARANTEED MAXIMUM PRICE IS EXCEEDED. FRESNO CITY MANAGER BRUCE RUDD STATED HE COULD CONFIRM THAT THE CITY WOULD BE MOVING THE MAJORITY OF ITS MAINTENANCE ACTIVITY TO THE CITY'S CORPORATION YARD WITHIN THE YEAR.**

**COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED FROM CITIZENS LISA FLORES, JOAN LEROUX, RETIRED HIGH SCHOOL GOVERNMENT TEACHER ARTHUR GONOS, TAMMIE MOORE, MS. JAN BOURRET, RETIRED EDISON COMPUTECH HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER AND ZOO DOCENT MR. SANDY SCHMELING, MRS. JEAN CHAFFEE, AND ZOO DOCENT ROBERT TOLLIDAY.**

**FRESNO CHAFFEE ZOO COUNSEL JOHN KINSEY ALSO ADDRESSED THE BOARD REGARDING THE EIR'S TRAFFIC STUDY.**

7. Approve Fresno Chaffee Zoo Corporation request of Measure Z Capital funds of \$290,000 for additional utility infrastructure work.

**DIRECTOR OF FINANCE BRIAN GOLDMAN THANKED THE BOARD FOR APPROVAL OF THE AFRICAN ADVENTURE PROJECT FUNDING AND PRESENTED THE REQUEST.**

**APPROVED – OB/RW – 7 AYES, 0 OPPOSED**

8. Receive staff oral report on cost estimate for Measure Z renewal and 2014 election timeline.

**RECEIVED - COORDINATOR CATHY CROSBY PROVIDED THE BOARD WITH A COUNTY ELECTIONS OFFICE COST ESTIMATE OF \$38-\$45,000 TO PLACE THE RENEWAL OF MEASURE Z ON THE NOVEMBER 2014 BALLOT. THE FRESNO CHAFFEE ZOO**

**CORPORATION WILL DRAFT THE ORDINANCE FOR THE RENEWAL WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE AUTHORITY'S COUNSEL, FOLLOWED BY A REVIEW BY THE**

**STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION. TWO HEARINGS OF THE ORDINANCE BY THE AUTHORITY ARE REQUIRED FOR APPROVAL, AS WELL AS THE ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE FRESNO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PLACE THE RENEWAL ON THE BALLOT. THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WILL NEED TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION ORDERING ITS PLACEMENT BEFORE AUGUST 8, 2014. MS. CROSBY SUGGESTED THAT PROCESS BEGIN IN JANUARY 2014, IN ORDER TO ALLOW AMPLE TIME TO PREPARE.**

9. Meeting Calendar

A. Adopt 2014 meeting calendar

B. Set next meeting date.

**ADOPTED THE 2014 MEETING CALENDAR, AND SET MEETING DATES OF JANUARY 29, FEBRUARY 26, AND MARCH 26, 2014. PH/OB – 7 AYES, 0 OPPOSED**

10. Chair's comments

**CHAIRMAN TOSTE STATED HOW PLEASED HE WAS WITH THE MEETING AND ALL OF THE COMMENTS, INPUT, WORK AND SUPPORT THAT BROUGHT THE AFRICA PROJECT TO THIS POINT, AND HE LOOKS FORWARD TO WHAT'S TO COME.**

11. Board Member comments

**MEMBER WATERHOUSE THANKED THE MANY MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE, AND WAS PLEASED WITH THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO HAD TAKEN AN INTEREST AND PARTICIPATED IN MOVING PROJECTS FORWARD. MEMBER LYLES COMMENTED ON THE DEMOCRACY OF THE OVERALL PROCESS, AND THAT IT WAS TIME TO MOVE ON. MEMBER HERZOG APPLAUDED THE DECADE OF HARD WORK AND DEDICATION THAT EVERYONE PUT INTO THE PROJECTS.**

12. Adjourn

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIRMAN TOSTE ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 10:57 AM.**

All supporting documentation is available for public review in the office of the Fresno County Zoo Authority, 2220 Tulare Street, 6<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:zooauthority@co.fresno.ca.us), or visit [www.zooauthority.org](http://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.