



AGENDA ITEM 5a

FRESNO COUNTY ZOO AUTHORITY

MEETING AGENDA

9:00 AM, Wednesday, November 20, 2024

Fresno Chaffee Zoo

Tonle Classroom located inside of Kingdoms of Asia

894 West Belmont Avenue, Fresno, CA 93728

(559) 498-5910

1. Call to Order
CHAIRMAN ROMAN CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 9:05AM.
2. Roll Call
A QUORUM WAS PRESENT WITH MEMBERS ROMAN, GARABEDIAN, HERZOG, MARTINA, TOSTE, WATERHOUSE, AND ARIAS IN ATTENDANCE.
3. Approve Agenda
MEMBER ARIAS NOTED THAT ITEM NO. 11 REGARDING A CASH BALANCE POLICY SHOULD BE HEARD PRIOR TO THE FINANCIAL AGENDA ITEMS. MEMBER GARABEDIAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA WITH THE EXECPTION OF MOVING ITEM NO. 11 TO FOLLOW ITEM NO. 5. SECONDED BY MEMBER ARIAS. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
4. Public Comments
This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons desiring to address the board 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. Before beginning comments, please state for the record your name and affiliation, if any
HELD. NONE RECEIVED.
5. Approve Consent Agenda Items
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 September 25, 2024

- b. Review and approve payment of County of Fresno October 2024 invoice for Professional and Specialized Services in the amount of \$15,219.98 for services through September 2024
 - c. Receive Treasurer's Report for Quarter 1 and month ending September 2024
- MEMBER ARIAS MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT ITEMS. SECONDED BY MEMBER GARABEDIAN. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**
6. Receive Fresno Chaffee Zoo Director's report
RECEIVED. CEO JON DOHLIN REPORTED ON THE RECLAIMED WATER PROJECT, WHICH IS GOING WELL. RAN INTO A SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF UTILITIES NOT FOUND BY GROUND RADAR THAT REQUIRED AN ALTERNATIVE POINT OF CONNECTION. MEMBER ARIAS REPORTED ON THE CITY'S ROLE AND RATES. DOHLIN PROVIDED AN UPDATE ON THE EVENT SPACE ACROSS FROM VALLEY FARM.
 7. Approve Fresno's Chaffee Zoo Corporation's request for Measure Z Capital Funds totaling \$930,438.83 for the design of the Maintenance Facility
CEO JON DOHLIN REPORTED ON THE DESIGN, LOCATION, SOLAR, VENDOR SELECTED AND ATTEMPTS TO UTILIZE LOCAL FIRMS, AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT FEE. MEMBER ARIAS MOVED TO APPROVE THE REQUEST FOR CAPITAL FUNDS. SECONDED BY MEMBER HERZOG. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
 8. Receive Fresno Chaffee Zoo Corporation's September 20, 2024 Year-to-Date Financial Report
RECEIVED. CFO NORA CROW REPORTED ON ATTENDANCE, REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND OPERATING DEFICIT. REPORTED ON SAFARI NIGHT AND ZOOBOO. REPORTED ON PER CAPITA SPENDING.
 9. Approve Fresno's Chaffee Zoo Corporation's fiscal year 2025 Measure Z Operating funds totaling \$8,506,102, for reimbursement of Animal Care, Commissary, Veterinary, and Maintenance & Horticulture Salaries and Benefits, Animal Feed, Animal Exhibit Supplies, Veterinary Supplies, Water Quality Supplies, Utilities and Bank Fees to wire reimbursement funds to the Zoo; and approve fiscal year 2025 Measure Z Capital funds totaling \$509,756 for animal acquisitions/shipping and exhibit renovations.
CFO NORA CROW PRESENTED THE BUDGET. ONE ITEM ON THE SUPPLEMENTAL ASK THAT IS DIFFERENT FROM THE INITIAL ASK PRESENTED TO THE BOARD IS THE ADDITION OF AN ANIMAL ACQUISITION/SHIPPING ITEM OF \$98,715. REVIEWED MEASURE Z REVENUE PROJECTIONS. REVIEWED THE SUPPLEMENTAL ASK LIST. MEMBER TOSTE RECOMMENDED CATEGORIZING SEVERAL OF THE ITEMS LISTED ON THE SUPPLEMENTAL ASK THAT ARE \$30,000 OR MORE BE CLASSIFIED AS CAPITAL EXPENDITURES. THE BOARD AGREED. DISCUSSIONS CONTINUED AROUND THE ZOO CORP'S \$3 INCREASE IN ATTENDANCE TICKET PRICE. THE BOARD DID NOT SUPPORT THIS INCREASE. IT WAS NOTED THAT NORA COULD RELAY TO THE ZOO CORP BOARD THAT THEY WOULD SUPPORT A \$2 INCREASE IN GENERAL ADMISSION THIS YEAR WITH THE ADDITIONAL NEED COMING FROM OTHER BUDGET CATEGORIES. THIS ITEM WAS TABLED UNTIL THE DECEMBER 20, 2024 BOARD MEETING.
 10. Approve and authorize the release of remaining appropriations for the African River capital project for fiscal year 2024-2024 in the amount of \$2,830,342.30
MEMBER ARIAS MOVED TO APPROVE THE RELEASE OF APPROPRIATIONS. SECONDED BY MEMBER TOSTED. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
 11. Discuss the draft Operations Cash Balance Policy and provide direction to staff
CFO NORA CROW PRESENTED AN EXAMPLE OF A CASH BALANCE TARGET CALCULATION WHICH INCLUDED TARGETS OF NO LESS THAN THREE MONTHS AND

NO MORE THAN SIX MONTHS OF THE AVERAGE MEASURE Z TAX RECEIPTS FOR A FISCAL YEAR. DISCUSSION ENSUED REGARDING THE POSSIBILITY OF USING SIX TO 12 MONTHS. DISCUSSIONS INCLUDED WHETHER TO HAVE A POLICY, THE ZOO' CONTRIBUTION TO THE SHORTFALL, HOW BAD IS THE SHORTFALL, WHAT IS THE ASK OF THE AUTHORITY, DISCLOSING WHETHER THEY ARE UTILIZING RESERVES, ETC. MOST INFO IS IN THE BUDGET. THE ASK IS TO BRING BACK A POLICY OF SIX TO NINE MONTHS FOR THE NEXT MEETING.

12. Review next meeting dates and revise if necessary:

- Wednesday, December 18, 2024

REVIEWED. NO REVISIONS WERE NECESSARY.

13. Approve and adopt the 2025 Zoo Authority regular board meeting calendar as outlined in Attachment A

MEMBER MARTINA MOVED TO APPROVE AND ADOPT THE 2025 BOARD MEETING CALENDAR. SECONDED BY MEMBER GARABEDIAN. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

14. Receive staff reports

NO ADDITIONAL REPORTS RECEIVED.

15. Chair's comments

THANKED EVERYONE.

16. Board Member comments

NO ADDITIONAL COMMENTS RECEIVED.

17. Adjourn

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIRMAN ROMAN ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 11:30AM.

All supporting documentation is available for public review in the office of the Fresno County Zoo Authority, 2281 Tulare Street, Room 304, Fresno, 93721, during regular business hours.

For further information, please contact Ronald Alexander, Zoo Authority Coordinator, at 600-1710, 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.