

FRESNO COUNTY ZOO AUTHORITY MEETING

9:00 am, Wednesday, January 30, 2012

Fresno County Employees' Retirement Association

1111 H Street, Fresno, CA 93721

(559) 457-0681

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Election of Acting Chairman
3. Election of 2013 Chairman and Vice Chairman
4. 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. Time will be made available for comments from the public 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.

5. 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

- B. Review and approve payment of County of Fresno invoice for Professional and Specialized Services in the amount of \$16,465.16 for November and December, 2012

- C. Receive Treasurer's Reports for November, and December 2012, and the Quarter ended December 30, 2012.

6. Receive Fresno Chaffee Zoo Director's report

7. Receive Fresno Chaffee Zoo Finance Director's report
8. Approve Fresno Chaffee Zoo request for 2013 Measure Z Operating funds totaling \$3,766,252 for reimbursement of the Animal, Education, Maintenance, Veterinary and Visitor Services Departments Salary and Benefits and Bank Fees to wire reimbursement funds to the Zoo
9. Approve Fresno Chaffee Zoo request for 2013 Measure Z Capital funds totaling \$20,240 for animal acquisitions and transportation, and bank fees for reimbursement of capital claims
10. Approve Fresno Chaffee Zoo request for 2013 Measure Z Capital utility funds totaling \$80,000 to bring a reliable source of water to the zoo
11. Discuss and approve adding a notice for a fixed speaking time of three minutes for members of the public during Public Comments and for each agenda item
12. Receive staff reports
13. Reaffirm next meeting date of Wednesday, March 27, 2013, or set new meeting date.
Reserved meeting dates include:

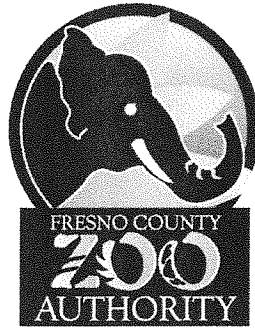
Wednesday, February 27, 2013
Wednesday, April 24, 2013
Wednesday, May 29, 2013

Next adopted meeting date:
14. Chair's comments
15. Board Member comments
16. Adjournment

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.



FRESNO COUNTY ZOO AUTHORITY MEETING

9:00 am, Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Fresno County Employees' Retirement Association

1111 H Street, Fresno, CA 93721

(559) 457-0681

ACTION SUMMARY MINUTES

1. Call to Order by Vice Chairman Ralph Waterhouse

VICE CHAIRMAN RALPH WATERHOUSE CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 9:06 AM. A QUORUM OF MEMBERS JOHN GRAY, GERALD LYLES, KENT STRATFORD, PAUL TOSTE AND RALPH WATERHOUSE WERE PRESENT. MEMBERS PAUL CLARK AND ASHLEY SWEARINGEN WERE ABSENT.

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. Time will be made available for comments from the public 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 - ATTORNEY RICHARD HARRIMAN AND CITIZEN JOANN LEROUX ADDRESSED THE BOARD. MAYOR SWEARINGEN ARRIVED DURING ITEM 2.

3. Receive presentation of Zoo Authority annual audit from Thomas Young, Partner with Brown Armstrong Accountancy Corporation.

RECEIVED - THOMAS YOUNG FROM BROWN ARMSTRONG ACCOUNTANCY CORPORATION PRESENTED THEIR FINDINGS TO THE BOARD. AN UNQUALIFIED OPINION WAS ISSUED. ACCOUNTANT ERIC GONZALEZ WAS ALSO PRESENT.

4. 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 September 26, 2012
- B. Review and approve payment of County of Fresno invoice for Professional and Specialized Services in the amount of \$17,839.14 for September and October 2012
- C. Receive Treasurer's Reports for September and the Quarter ended September 30, 2012, and October 2012

APPROVED - PT/GL – 6 AYES, 0 OPPOSED, PC ABSENT

- 5. Receive Fresno Chaffee Zoo Director's report

RECEIVED - DIRECTOR SCOTT BARTON REPORTED ON AN EXTRAORDINARY YEAR SO FAR. AN ALL-TIME ATTENDANCE RECORD IN 2011 OF 512,000 VISITORS HAS BEEN BROKEN. CURRENTLY THE ATTENDANCE COUNT IS AT 535,000 VISITORS, OR A 12-15% INCREASE. REVENUE IS OVER BUDGET ESTIMATES AND PROJECT COSTS ARE UNDER BUDGET. REGARDING THE NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE COMMISSION; MR. BARTON REPORTED THAT THEY HAVE BEEN MEETING WITH THE ZOO CORPORATION AND EXCHANGING INFORMATION SINCE THE SPRING OF 2012. GROUND BREAKING FOR THE AFRICA EXHIBIT, WHICH IS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR LATE SPRING TO EARLY SUMMER 2013, COULD BE DELAYED FOR UP TO ONE YEAR IN ORDER TO RESOLVE THE ISSUES WITH THE STATE PARKS DEPARTMENT. MEMBER SWEARINGEN INFORMED THE DIRECTOR THAT IN THIS MATTER, THE ZOO CORPORATION HAD THE CITY'S FULL SUPPORT.

MS. LEROUX AND MR. HARRIMAN ALSO ADDRESSED THE BOARD.

- 6. Receive Fresno Chaffee Zoo Finance Director's report

RECEIVED – FRESNO CHAFFEE ZOO DIRECTOR SCOTT BARTON PRESENTED THE FINANCIAL REPORTS ON BEHALF OF FINANCE DIRECTOR BRIAN GOLDMAN. PERSONNEL AND OPERATING EXPENSES ARE UNDER BUDGET, REVENUES ARE 11% AHEAD OF BUDGET, AND SELF-GENERATED REVENUE FIGURES ARE WELL AHEAD OF LAST YEAR.

- 7. Approve request to roll over Measure Z Capital funds totaling \$500,000 from 2010 for continued renovations to the Reptile House, including construction for the Cobra exhibit, Asian enclosures, upgrades to chamber lighting and related electrical work, and upgrades to the service area.

DIRECTOR SCOTT BARTON PRESENTED.

APPROVED - AS/GL – VOTE 6 AYES, 0 OPPOSED, PC ABSENT.

- 8. Approve request for 2012 Measure Z Capital funds totaling \$211,000 for the design and engineering of the utility infrastructure upgrades, including a Storm Drainage System, Network Infrastructure, Photovoltaic Power System, High Voltage Power Feed, Potable and Irrigation Water System, and a Sanitary Sewer System.

DIRECTOR SCOTT BARTON PRESENTED THE REQUEST.

APPROVED - AS/JG – VOTE- 6 AYES, 0 OPPOSED, PC ABSENT.

MEMBERS DISCUSSED THE PROJECTS AND COST SHARING OF THE STORM WATER PROJECT WITH THE CITY OF FRESNO.

MS. LE ROUX AND MR. HARRIMAN ALSO ADDRESSED THE BOARD.

9. Review and approve second draft of Zoo Authority Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2011-12

**COORDINATOR CATHY CROSBY PRESENTED THE DRAFT REPORT.
APPROVED – PT/JG – VOTE 6 AYES, 0 OPPOSED; PC ABSENT.**

10. Receive staff reports

a. Treasurer's report on total cost of Sea Lion Cove exhibit

RECEIVED - TREASURER JEFFERY BLANKS PRESENTED A BREAKDOWN ON THE TOTAL COSTS TO DATE ASSOCIATED WITH THE SEA LION COVE EXHIBIT.

MS. LE ROUX, MR. HARRIMAN, AND CHAFFEE ZOO DOCENT JACK TOLLIDAY ALSO ADDRESSED THE BOARD.

---FROM THIS POINT ON, TECHNICAL PROBLEMS---
---ENDED RECORDING OF THE MEETING.---

11. Meeting calendar for 2013

a. Approve 2013 calendar of reserved meeting dates

APPROVED - JG/PT – VOTE 6 AYES, 0 OPPOSED; PC ABSENT

b. Discuss and approve setting fixed meeting dates for 2013

APPROVED - PT/JG – VOTE 6 AYES, 0 OPPOSED; PC ABSENT

c. Set next meeting date Reserved meeting dates include:
Wednesday, December 26, 2012
Wednesday, January 30, 2013
Wednesday, February 27, 2013
Wednesday, March 27, 2013

APPROVED HOLDING THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING WEDNESDAY JANUARY 30, 2013.

PT/JG, VOTE 6 AYES, 0 OPPOSED, PC ABSENT.

12. Chair's comments

RECEIVED - CHAIR DIRECTED STAFF TO REPORT AT THE NEXT MEETING ON OTHER BOARDS' LIMITS ON TIME ALLOWED FOR COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC, AND TO PREPARE AN AGENDA ITEM FOR THE ADOPTION OF GUIDELINES FOR SAME.

13. Board Member comments

RECEIVED

14. Adjournment

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD, VICE CHAIRMAN RALPH WATERHOUSE ADJOURNED THE MEETING.

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Agenda Item 5b



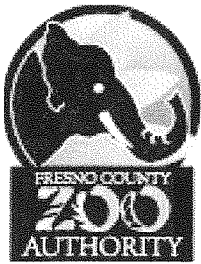
Invoice for Professional Services in Support of the Zoo Authority
Billing Hours and Expenses for November and December 2012

Invoice Number 11-12-ZOO-013013

January 30, 2013

TO: Zoo Authority Board
c/o County of Fresno
2220 Tulare St, 6th Floor MS 214
Fresno, CA 93721

Department / Title	Hours	Rate	Cost	Fiscal Year 12-13
<i>Financial Reporting & Audits</i>				
<i>Divison Chief</i>	7.50	\$79.57	\$596.78	
<i>Supervising Accountant</i>	56.00	\$83.75	\$4,690.01	
<i>Accountant I</i>	42.00	\$59.68	\$2,506.56	
<i>Public Works & Planning</i>				
<i>Analyst III</i>	122.60	\$63.10	\$7,736.06	
<i>Office Assistant</i>	6.00	\$29.51	\$177.06	
<i>County Counsel</i>				
<i>Deputy County Counsel</i>	6.50	\$113.00	\$734.50	
Professional Services Total	240.60		\$16,440.96	\$46,751.04
<hr/>				
<i>Office Expenses</i>				
<i>Postage</i>			24.20	
Office Expense Total			\$24.20	\$147.85
<hr/>				
Invoice Total			\$16,465.16	\$46,898.89



**Fresno County Zoo Authority
Treasurer's Report
Unaudited Cash Basis
For the Month Ended November 30, 2012**

Summary of Measure Z Proceeds

Tax Proceeds Received:		
- Measure Z - Sales Tax Proceeds		\$ 1,056,800.00
Total Proceeds Received:		\$ 1,056,800.00
Tax Proceeds Allocated:		
- Allocation to Zoo Authority Fund (2%)		21,136.00
- Allocation to Trust Fund for Operations and Capital Projects (98%)		1,035,664.00
Total Proceed Allocations		\$ 1,056,800.00

Cash Balance by Fund

Zoo Authority Fund	>> Administrative Fund	2%	
	Beginning Cash Balance		\$ 837,147.61
Receipts:	- Measure Z Sales Tax Proceeds		21,136.00
Disbursements	- PeopleSoft Charges		(46.15)
	Net Increase/(Decrease) to Cash		21,089.85
	Ending Cash Balance - Zoo Authority Administrative Fund		\$ 858,237.46
Trust Fund for FCZC Operations and Capital Projects	98%		
	Beginning Cash Balance		\$ 47,799,401.12
	>> Operations Fund		
	Beginning Cash Balance		4,404,826.25
Receipts:	- Measure Z Sales Tax Proceeds		345,221.33
Disbursements	- FCZC Operations Claim # 2012-10 dated 11/12/2012		(254,178.57)
	- Wire Fees		(20.00)
	Net Increase/(Decrease) to Cash		91,022.76
	Ending Cash Balance - Available for Operations		\$ 4,495,849.01
	>> Capital Facilities Project Fund		
	Beginning Cash Balance		\$ 43,394,574.87
Receipts:	- Measure Z Sales Tax Proceeds		690,442.67
Disbursements	- FCZC Capital Projects Claim #2012-14C dated 10/17/2012		(484,576.30)
	- FCZC Capital Projects Claim #2012-15C dated 11/8/2012		(500,581.05)
	- Wire Fee		(10.00)
	Net Increase/(Decrease) to Cash		(294,724.68)
	Ending Cash Balance - Available for Capital Projects		43,099,850.19
	Ending Balance Available for Operations and Capital Projects		\$ 47,595,699.20
	Total Interest Received During the Month		-

By Staff _____

Date _____

Accepted _____

Date _____

* Interest receipts are recorded in the month received rather than in the month earned, and were calculated on an annual percentage rate of 1.383 as of June 30, 2012.



Fresno County Zoo Authority

SUMMARY OF MEASURE Z SALES TAX PROCEEDS

	PRIOR FISCAL YEARS							CURRENT FISCAL YEAR			
	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013			
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGETED	ACTUAL	BUDGET TO ACTUAL	
	TAX RECEIPTS	TAX RECEIPTS	TAX RECEIPTS	TAX RECEIPTS	TAX RECEIPTS	TAX RECEIPTS	TAX RECEIPTS	TAX RECEIPTS	TAX RECEIPTS	VARIANCE	
July	\$ 700,400	\$ 671,500	\$ 819,900	\$ 813,500	\$ 671,700	\$ 659,300	\$ 719,800	\$ 676,612	\$ 826,000	\$ 149,388	22.08%
August	933,800	895,400	1,093,200	1,084,700	885,300	857,600	921,200	865,928	1,033,100	167,172	19.31%
September	764,524	1,453,498	1,060,279	930,087	810,940	895,691	1,057,603	994,147	1,028,369	34,222	3.44%
October	705,400	679,300	853,500	792,200	678,000	677,000	694,100	652,454	850,500	198,046	30.35%
November	940,500	1,471,000	1,138,000	1,056,300	743,300	879,500	878,500	825,790	1,056,800	231,010	27.97%
December	1,324,459	1,047,118	827,112	872,815	971,061	932,350	1,240,028	-	-		
January	676,000	813,700	831,200	766,900	719,900	710,700	770,100	-	-		
February	901,300	1,081,800	1,108,200	841,000	944,000	919,900	978,600	-	-		
March	1,319,000	905,577	762,907	959,801	628,563	821,858	1,006,649	-	-		
April	678,900	748,000	699,000	652,000	594,300	618,400	716,100	-	-		
May	905,200	997,300	932,000	860,800	847,200	876,500	897,100	-	-		
June	1,113,269	900,178	1,026,580	730,781	821,511	963,040	1,191,688.64	-	-		
Total	\$ 10,962,752	\$ 11,664,371	\$ 11,151,878	\$ 10,360,884	\$ 9,315,775	\$ 9,811,839	\$ 11,071,469	\$ 4,014,931	\$ 4,794,769	\$ 779,838	19.42%

TOTAL MEASURE Z PROCEEDS FROM INCEPTION \$ 79,835,590



**Fresno County Zoo Authority
Treasurer's Report
Unaudited Cash Basis
For the Quarter Ended December 31, 2012**

Summary of Measure Z Proceeds			
Tax Proceeds Received:			
- Measure Z - Sales Tax Proceeds		\$	2,990,321.00
Tax Proceeds Allocated:			
- Allocation to Zoo Authority Fund (2%)			59,806.42
- Allocation to Trust Fund for Operations and Capital Projects (98%)			2,930,514.58
Total Proceed Allocations		\$	2,990,321.00
Cash Balance By Fund			
Zoo Authority Fund	>> Administrative Fund	2%	
	Beginning Balance	\$	855,693.87
Receipts:	- Measure Z Sales Tax Proceeds		59,806.42
	- Interest Received		4,807.77
Disbursements	- Professional Services		(38,200.08)
	- Office Expenses		(151.75)
	- PeopleSoft Charges		(63.73)
	Net Increase/(Decrease) to Cash		26,198.63
	Ending Cash Balance - Zoo Authority Administrative Fund	\$	881,892.50
Trust Fund for Operations and Capital Projects			
	98%		
	Beginning Balance for Operations and Capital Projects	\$	48,358,096.20
	>> Operations Fund		
	Beginning Cash Balance		4,359,579.71
Receipts:	- Measure Z Sales Tax Proceeds		976,838.19
	- Interest Received		25,466.53
Disbursements	- FCZC Operations Claim # 2012-9 dated 10/1/2012		(247,519.39)
	- FCZC Operations Claim # 2012-10 dated 11/12/2012		(254,178.57)
	- Wire Fees		(50.00)
	Net Increase/(Decrease) to Cash		500,556.76
	Ending Cash Balance - Available for Operations	\$	4,860,136.47
	>> Capital Facilities Project Fund		
	Beginning Balance	\$	43,998,516.49
Receipts:	- Measure Z Sales Tax Proceeds		1,953,676.39
	- Interest Received		259,665.60
Disbursements	- FCZC Capital Projects Claim #2012-12C dated 09/25/2012		(315,889.15)
	- FCZC Capital Projects Claim #2012-13C dated 10/03/2012		(997,221.73)
	- FCZC Capital Projects Claim #2012-14C dated 10/17/2012		(484,576.30)
	- FCZC Capital Projects Claim #2012-15C dated 11/8/2012		(500,581.05)
	- FCZC Capital Projects Claim #2012-16C dated 11/21/2012		(278,888.49)
	Wire Fees		(20.00)
	Net Increase/(Decrease) to Cash		(363,834.73)
	Ending Cash Balance - Available for Capital Projects		43,634,681.76
	Ending Balance Available for Operations and Capital Projects	\$	48,494,818.23
	Total Interest Received During the Quarter		289,939.90

By Staff _____ Date _____

Accepted _____ Date _____

* Interest receipts are recorded in the month received rather than in the month earned and were calculated on an annual percentage rate of 1.436 as of June 30, 2011.



**Fresno County Zoo Authority
Treasurer's Report
Unaudited Cash Basis
For the Month Ended December 31, 2012**

Summary of Measure Z Proceeds

Tax Proceeds Received:	
- Measure Z - Sales Tax Proceeds	\$ 1,083,021.00
Total Proceeds Received:	\$ 1,083,021.00
Tax Proceeds Allocated:	
- Allocation to Zoo Authority Fund (2%)	21,660.42
- Allocation to Trust Fund for Operations and Capital Projects (98%)	1,061,360.58
Total Proceed Allocations	\$ 1,083,021.00

Cash Balance by Fund

Zoo Authority Fund >> Administrative Fund 2%	
Beginning Cash Balance	\$ 858,237.46
Receipts:	
- Measure Z Sales Tax Proceeds	21,660.42
- Interest Received	2,003.41
Disbursements	
- PeopleSoft Charges	(8.79)
Net Increase/(Decrease) to Cash	23,655.04
Ending Cash Balance - Zoo Authority Administrative Fund	\$ 881,892.50
Trust Fund for FCZC Operations and Capital Projects 98%	
Beginning Cash Balance	\$ 47,595,699.20
>> Operations Fund	
Beginning Cash Balance	4,495,849.01
Receipts:	
- Measure Z Sales Tax Proceeds	353,786.86
- Interest Received	10,500.60
Net Increase/(Decrease) to Cash	364,287.46
Ending Cash Balance - Available for Operations	\$ 4,860,136.47
>> Capital Facilities Project Fund	
Beginning Cash Balance	\$ 43,099,850.19
Receipts:	
- Measure Z Sales Tax Proceeds	707,573.72
- Interest Received	106,156.34
Disbursements	
- FCZC Capital Projects Claim #2012-16C dated 11/21/2012	(278,888.49)
- Wire Fee	(10.00)
Net Increase/(Decrease) to Cash	534,831.57
Ending Cash Balance - Available for Capital Projects	43,634,681.76
Ending Balance Available for Operations and Capital Projects	\$ 48,494,818.23
Total Interest Received During the Month	118,660.35

By Staff _____

Date _____

Accepted _____

Date _____

* Interest receipts are recorded in the month received rather than in the month earned, and were calculated on an annual percentage rate of 1.383 as of June 30, 2012.



Fresno County Zoo Authority

SUMMARY OF MEASURE Z SALES TAX PROCEEDS

	PRIOR FISCAL YEARS							CURRENT FISCAL YEAR			
	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013		BUDGET TO ACTUAL VARIANCE	
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGETED	ACTUAL		
	TAX RECEIPTS	TAX RECEIPTS	TAX RECEIPTS	TAX RECEIPTS	TAX RECEIPTS	TAX RECEIPTS	TAX RECEIPTS	TAX RECEIPTS	TAX RECEIPTS		
July	\$ 700,400	\$ 671,500	\$ 819,900	\$ 813,500	\$ 671,700	\$ 659,300	\$ 719,800	\$ 676,612	\$ 826,000	\$ 149,388	22.08%
August	933,800	895,400	1,093,200	1,084,700	885,300	857,600	921,200	865,928	1,033,100	167,172	19.31%
September	764,524	1,453,498	1,060,279	930,087	810,940	895,691	1,057,603	994,147	1,028,369	34,222	3.44%
October	705,400	679,300	853,500	792,200	678,000	677,000	694,100	652,454	850,500	198,046	30.35%
November	940,500	1,471,000	1,138,000	1,056,300	743,300	879,500	878,500	825,790	1,056,800	231,010	27.97%
December	1,324,459	1,047,118	827,112	872,815	971,061	932,350	1,240,028	1,165,626	1,083,021	(82,605)	-7.09%
January	676,000	813,700	831,200	766,900	719,900	710,700	770,100	-	-		
February	901,300	1,081,800	1,108,200	841,000	944,000	919,900	978,600	-	-		
March	1,319,000	905,577	762,907	959,801	628,563	821,858	1,006,649	-	-		
April	678,900	748,000	699,000	652,000	594,300	618,400	716,100	-	-		
May	905,200	997,300	932,000	860,800	847,200	876,500	897,100	-	-		
June	1,113,269	900,178	1,026,580	730,781	821,511	963,040	1,191,688.64	-	-		
Total	\$ 10,962,752	\$ 11,664,371	\$ 11,151,878	\$ 10,360,884	\$ 9,315,775	\$ 9,811,839	\$ 11,071,469	\$ 5,180,557	\$ 5,877,790	\$ 697,233	13.46%

TOTAL MEASURE Z PROCEEDS FROM INCEPTION \$ 80,918,611



Fresno County Zoo Authority
Receipt of Interest
Unaudited Cash Basis
For the Quarter Ended
December 31, 2012

Summary of Quarter Two Interest Receipts					
Fund	Subclass	Description	1st Alloc. Oct	2nd Alloc Dec	Interest Received
4845	10000	*Zoo Authority	2,804.36	2,003.41	\$ 4,807.77
4850	10000	*FCZC - Operations	14,965.93	10,500.60	25,466.53
4850	42700	*FCZC - CP	153,509.26	106,156.34	259,665.60
Total			\$ 171,279.55	\$ 118,660.35	\$ 289,939.90



Fresno Chaffee Zoo • 894 West Belmont Avenue • Fresno, California 93728
Phone (559) 498-5910 • Fax (559) 264-9226

DATE: January 30, 2013
TO: Fresno County Zoo Authority Board
FROM: Brian Goldman, Chief Financial Officer
Fresno's Chaffee Zoo Corporation
SUBJECT: 2013 Measure Z Operating Request

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve Fresno Chaffee Zoo request for 2013 Measure Z Operating funds totaling \$3,766,252 for reimbursement of the Animal, Education, Maintenance, Veterinary and Visitor Services Departments Salary and Benefits and Bank Fees to wire reimbursement funds to the Zoo.

ALTERNATIVE ACTION(s):

None.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This request is for the 2013 Measure Z Operating Budget of \$3,766,252. All line items are in the Zoo's operating budget.

DISCUSSION:

The 2013 budget was developed by the management team of the Fresno Chaffee Zoo. The 2013 Measure Z Operating request is \$3,766,252.

The Fresno County Zoo Authority's most current projection for 2013 Measure Z revenue is \$3,493,373 (based on actual revenue collected July –December 2012 and projected revenue for January – June 2013).

Fresno Chaffee Zoo's 2013 revenue projection is \$3,736,048 based on January – December 2012 revenue collected with no increase to 2012 revenue.

There is approximately \$4,500,000 in cash available for operating expenses at 12/31/12.

The Fresno's Chaffee Zoo Corporation Board of Directors approved the 2013 budget on January 10, 2013.

REFERENCE MATERIAL:

See 2013 Budget presentation.



FY13 Budget
Fresno County Zoo Authority
January 30, 2013

Planning Assumptions

Attendance

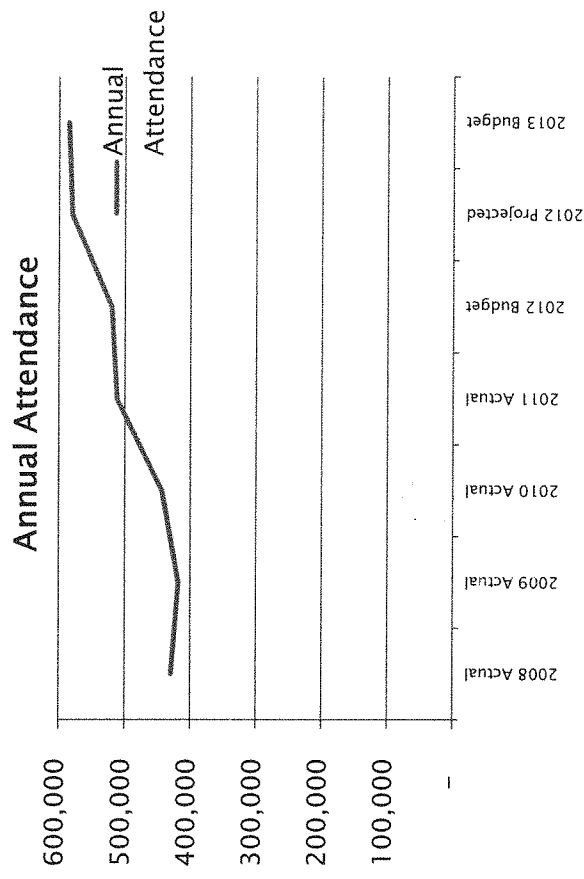
- ▶ 2013 budgeted attendance of 585,000 (12.5% increase over 2012 budget).

- ▶ 2012 budget is 520,000 visitors

- ▶ 2012 projected attendance is 580,000

- Historical attendance figures:

- 2011 – 511,788 + 15%
- 2010 – 443,251 + 6%
- 2009 – 418,285



2013 Attendance Considerations:

- ▶ 1st full year of Sea Lion Cove
- ▶ Otters and Cobra open
- ▶ Extended hours and Wells Fargo Wednesdays continue in 2013.

Revenue Comparison

	2013 Budget	2012 Budget	2012 Projected	2011 Audit
ATTENDANCE	585,000	520,000	580,000	511,788
Admission Revenue Per Cap	\$1,860,300 \$3.18	\$1,721,600 \$3.31	\$1,822,000 \$3.14	\$1,620,127 \$3.17
Food Services Revenue Per Cap	\$234,000 \$0.40	\$234,000 \$0.45	\$230,324 \$0.40	\$174,108 \$0.34
Gift Shop Revenue Per Cap	\$280,800 \$0.48	\$202,800 \$0.39	\$280,569 \$0.48	\$243,722 \$0.48
Giraffe Feeding Revenue Per Cap	\$125,775 \$0.22	\$109,200 \$0.21	\$125,312 \$0.22	\$109,168 \$0.21
Stingray Bay Revenue Per Cap	\$239,850 \$0.41	\$264,290 \$0.51	\$219,513 \$0.38	\$169,100 \$0.33
Membership Revenue	\$684,000	\$604,250	\$671,000	\$573,947

Membership: Assumes 12,368 members at 12/31/12 with 2% growth projected for 2013.

Grants/Fundraising: 2013 includes \$80,000 for Africa. 2012 includes \$200,000 for Sea Lion Cove and Africa.

Expenses

Personnel

- ▶ 2013 Salaries and Benefits is 57.9% of total operating expenses (industry benchmark of 58% – 63%). 2012 budget is 59.2% and projected year-end is 57.6%.
- ▶ 2013 benefits (insurance, retirement, payroll taxes and workers' compensation) is 33.8% of total salaries. 2012 budget was 33.9% and projected year-end is 32.0%.
- ▶ 2013 health insurance premiums increased 10%. The Zoo went to market in 2011 in an attempt to reduce health care costs. A new plan was selected for 2012, and the Zoo has realized the expected savings of 10% (compared to projected increase of 12%) and staff is happy with the new plan.
- ▶ Other benefits, excluding health insurance and workers' comp, are expected to increase slightly over 2012 rates and have very little impact on the budget.

Expenses continued

- ▶ New Positions:
 - 2 Zookeeper Assistants (part-time)
 - 1 Security position (part-time)
 - 1 Administration position (part-time)
 - 2 positions in Education and 1 in Administration converting to full-time
- ▶ Positions on hold (positions in budget with no salary or benefits):
 - Human Resources Manager (currently outsourced, expense in Specialized Services)
 - Director of Development (Fundraising Consultant expense in Specialized Services)
 - I/T Specialist (currently outsourced, expense in Specialized Services)
- ▶ Eliminated Positions:
 - Business Manager (full-time)
 - Horticulture Manager/Acting Director of Maintenance (full-time)

Approximately \$89,000 savings to personnel budget by eliminating 2 positions and converting 3 part-time employees to full-time and adding 4 part-time employees.

Fresno's Chaffee Zoo Corporation

Income Statement

2013 Budget Request

REVENUE	FY13 Budget	FY12 Budget	FY12 @ 12/30/12	FY11 Audited	2013 Measure Z Operating Request	2013 Measure Z Capital Request
Self Generated Revenue						
Admissions	\$1,860,300	\$1,721,600	\$1,816,896	\$1,620,127	\$0.00	\$0.00
Adopt an Animal	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,040	\$24,753	\$0.00	\$0.00
Board Designated for Endowment	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$31,298	\$63,984	\$0.00	\$0.00
Education	\$220,525	\$174,675	\$198,451	\$175,798	\$0.00	\$0.00
Food Services	\$234,000	\$234,000	\$230,324	\$174,108	\$0.00	\$0.00
Gift Shop	\$280,800	\$202,800	\$280,569	\$243,722	\$0.00	\$0.00
Chaffee Feeding	\$125,775	\$109,200	\$125,312	\$109,168	\$0.00	\$0.00
Grants Fundraising	\$153,500	\$277,920	\$201,436	\$98,643	\$0.00	\$0.00
Group Event Facility Rental	\$150,000	\$110,000	\$196,189	\$98,634	\$0.00	\$0.00
Interest Income	\$275,000	\$220,000	\$259,299	\$256,502	\$0.00	\$0.00
Investment Income	\$0	\$0	\$680,510	(\$395,416)	\$0.00	\$0.00
Membership	\$684,000	\$604,250	\$691,072	\$573,947	\$0.00	\$0.00
Special Events	\$444,000	\$373,400	\$439,918	\$364,790	\$0.00	\$0.00
Stingray Exhibit	\$239,850	\$264,290	\$219,513	\$169,100	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other	\$28,350	\$18,370	\$32,279	\$17,476	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Self Generated Revenue	\$4,771,100	\$4,385,905	\$5,428,116	\$3,595,238	\$0.00	\$0.00
Measure Z-Capital Funds	\$20,240	\$645,120	\$7700,545	\$3,869,778	\$0.00	\$20,240.00
Measure Z Operating Funds	\$3,766,352	\$3,449,880	\$2,892,956	\$2,768,740	\$3,766,352.00	\$0.00
TOTAL REVENUE	\$8,557,592	\$8,480,905	\$16,021,616	\$10,233,856	\$3,766,352.00	\$20,240.00

Fresno's Chaffee Zoo Corporation Income Statement

EXPENSES	FY13 Budget	FY12 Budget	FY12 @ 12/30/12	FY11 Audited	2013 Measure Z Operating Request	2013 Measure Z Capital Request
OPERATING EXPENSES						
Personnel Expenses						
Administration	\$664,803	\$813,767	\$822,589	\$484,553	\$0.00	\$0.00
Animal	\$1,675,445	\$1,596,523	\$1,448,823	\$1,433,576	\$1,675,445.00	\$0.00
Education	\$721,211	\$690,358	\$676,394	\$582,228	\$721,211.00	\$0.00
Maintenance/Horticulture	\$575,509	\$650,015	\$454,682	\$590,862	\$575,509.00	\$0.00
Mam Dev/Marketing	\$404,833	\$376,555	\$375,550	\$356,497	\$0.00	\$0.00
Veterinary	\$216,689	\$206,718	\$186,992	\$155,729	\$216,689.00	\$0.00
Visitor Services	\$576,975	\$512,964	\$516,707	\$468,694	\$576,978.00	\$0.00
Total Personnel Expenses	\$4,735,768	\$4,646,800	\$4,212,017	\$4,104,740	\$3,766,132.00	\$0.00
Other Expenses						
Advertising	\$301,000	\$296,750	\$278,569	\$281,601	\$0.00	\$0.00
Animal Feed	\$271,700	\$244,700	\$263,593	\$237,611	\$0.00	\$0.00
Computer Software	\$48,445	\$34,260	\$35,017	\$36,760	\$0.00	\$0.00
Conservation	\$50,000	\$20,000	\$25,891	\$27,577	\$0.00	\$0.00
Depreciation Expense	\$246,456	\$235,272	\$155,307	\$154,018	\$0.00	\$0.00
Dues	\$35,600	\$33,450	\$25,619	\$23,573	\$0.00	\$0.00
Equipment	\$140,243	\$145,660	\$97,804	\$135,204	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fleet	\$37,000	\$41,250	\$34,977	\$42,266	\$0.00	\$0.00
Food/Catering	\$71,900	\$58,100	\$78,505	\$41,575	\$0.00	\$0.00
Insurance	\$140,000	\$140,000	\$123,894	\$131,407	\$0.00	\$0.00
Miscellaneous Business	\$14,300	\$9,700	\$8,184	\$8,285	\$0.00	\$0.00
Office Supplies	\$28,395	\$33,145	\$31,507	\$34,742	\$0.00	\$0.00
Postage	\$47,360	\$44,045	\$48,649	\$38,639	\$0.00	\$0.00
Printing	\$119,595	\$88,250	\$94,245	\$91,469	\$0.00	\$0.00
Repairs and Replacements	\$197,350	\$215,750	\$165,922	\$200,661	\$0.00	\$0.00
Service Bank Credit Card Fees	\$112,490	\$85,040	\$103,188	\$91,774	\$120.00	\$240.00
Storage	\$27,000	\$13,900	\$40,174	\$26,847	\$0.00	\$0.00
Specialized Services	\$612,475	\$672,110	\$557,125	\$556,027	\$0.00	\$0.00
Staff Development	\$82,550	\$68,250	\$39,169	\$20,127	\$0.00	\$0.00

Fresno's Chaffee Zoo Corporation

Income Statement

	FY13 Budget	FY12 Budget	FY12 @ 12/30/12	FY11 Audited	2013 Measure Z Operating Request	2013 Measure Z Capital Request
Supplies	\$273,855	\$219,350	\$242,493	\$268,726	\$0.00	\$0.00
Telephone	\$54,850	\$42,850	\$34,331	\$40,704	\$0.00	\$0.00
Uniforms	\$33,050	\$30,400	\$33,890	\$27,753	\$0.00	\$0.00
Utilities	\$450,000	\$452,000	\$483,797	\$379,707	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other	\$90,550	\$86,150	\$81,574	\$72,110	\$0.00	\$20,000.00
Total Other Expenses	\$3,443,764	\$3,199,032	\$2,943,333	\$3,011,143	\$120.00	\$20,240.00
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$8,179,532	\$7,845,832	\$7,155,350	\$7,115,884	\$3,766,252.00	\$20,240.00
Expansion, Nonoperating Exp.						
Expansion, Nonoperating Exp.	\$530,000	\$150,000	\$82,010	\$315,682	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Expansion, Nonoperating Exp.	\$330,000	\$150,000	\$82,010	\$315,682	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$8,509,532	\$7,995,832	\$7,237,360	\$7,431,566	\$3,766,252.00	\$20,240.00
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE	\$23,041,041	\$14,256,785	\$14,256,785	\$11,454,495	\$728,340.61	\$13,468,212.45
NET SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	\$48,060	\$485,073	\$8,784,256	\$2,802,290	\$0.00	\$0.00
ENDING FUND BALANCE	\$23,089,101	\$14,741,858	\$23,041,041	\$14,256,785	\$728,340.61	\$13,468,212.45

2013 Measure Z Request

- ▶ 2013 Measure Z Operating Support Request: 2012 request was \$3,449,880

• Personnel Expenses:	
Animal	\$ 1,675,445
Education	\$ 721,211
Maintenance/Horticulture	\$ 575,809
Visitor Services	\$ 576,978
Veterinary	\$ 216,689
• Operating Expenses:	
Bank Fees	\$ 120
Total 2013 Operating Request	\$3,766,252

▶ Measure Z Capital Support:	
Animal Acquisition/Transportation	\$ 20,000
Bank Fees	\$ 240
Total 2013 Capital Request	\$ 20,240

- ▶ Expected 2013 Measure Z Funding (excluding interest):

	2013 FCZ	2012/13 Zoo Authority
Capital	Projected Revenue*	Projected Revenue **
Operating	\$ 7,473,219	\$ 6,987,796
Administration	\$ 3,736,048	\$ 3,493,373
2013 Projected Revenue	\$ 228,761	\$ 213,901
	\$11,438,028	\$ 10,695,070

* Fresno Chaffee Zoo 2013 projected revenue is the same as 2012 actual revenue. Revenue has increased for three consecutive years. 2011 increased 8% and 2012 increased 12%.

** Zoo Authority projection based on Zoo Authority's 2012/13 budget with July - December actual tax revenue and January - June projected revenue. July - December actual revenue is \$697,233 (13.46%) ahead of projection.

Measure Z continued

- 2013* Measure Z Operating Support Request:

2013 request:	\$ 3,766,252
2012 request:	\$ 3,449,880
Increase/(Decrease):	\$ 316,372

- 2012* Measure Z Operating Revenue:

Actual receipts collected in 2012 of \$3,736,385
The Zoo is projecting to submitted claims for \$3,207,926
2012 projected funds available: \$528,459

- 2011* Measure Z Operating:

Actual receipts collected in 2011 of \$3,336,988
The Zoo submitted claims for \$2,768,740
2011 excess funds available: \$568,248

* Based on Zoo's fiscal year (January - December)

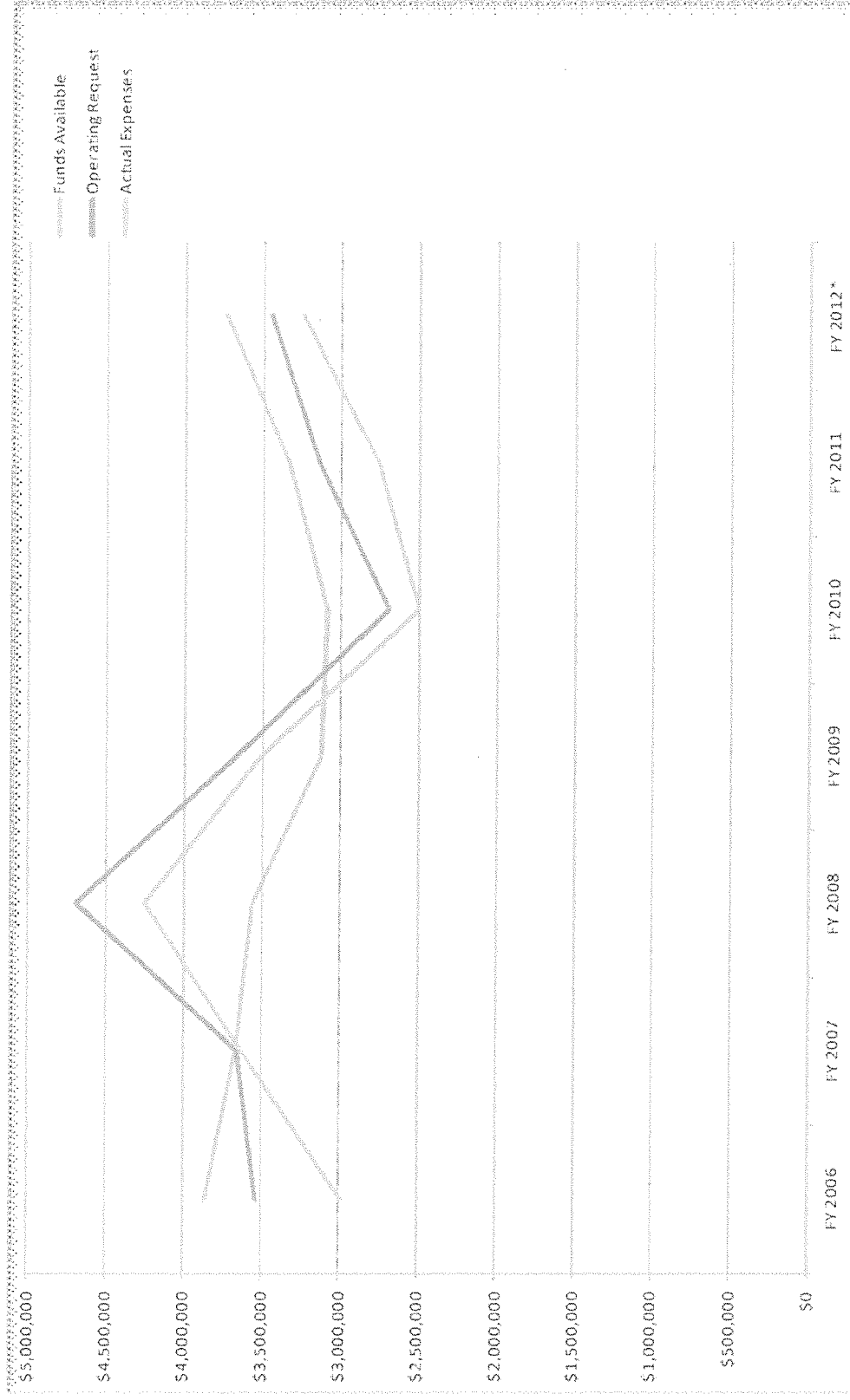
Measure Z Revenue Summary of Tax Proceeds

	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL
	TAX RECEIPTS	TAX RECEIPTS	TAX RECEIPTS	TAX RECEIPTS	TAX RECEIPTS	TAX RECEIPTS	TAX RECEIPTS	TAX RECEIPTS	TAX RECEIPTS
July		700,400	671,500	819,900	813,500	671,700	659,300	719,800	826,000
August		933,800	895,400	1,093,200	1,084,700	885,300	857,600	921,200	1,033,100
September		764,524	1,453,498	1,060,279	930,087	810,940	895,691	1,057,603	1,028,369
October		705,400	679,300	853,500	792,200	678,000	677,000	694,100	850,500
November		940,500	1,471,000	1,138,000	1,056,300	743,300	879,500	878,500	1,056,800
December		1,324,459	1,047,118	827,112	872,815	971,061	932,350	1,240,028	1,083,021
January		676,000	813,700	831,200	766,900	719,900	710,700	770,100	
February		901,300	1,081,800	1,108,200	841,000	944,000	919,900	978,600	
March		1,319,000	905,577	762,907	959,801	628,563	821,868	1,006,649	
April		678,900	748,000	699,000	652,000	594,300	618,400	716,100	
May		905,200	997,300	932,000	860,800	847,200	876,500	897,100	
June	701,853	1,113,269	900,178	1,026,580	730,781	821,511	963,040	1,191,689	
Total	701,853	10,962,752	11,664,370	11,151,879	10,360,883	9,315,775	9,811,839	11,071,469	5,877,790

Total Received from inception

Operating Available	3,580,807.63	3,642,582.71	3,384,216.82	3,042,848.85	3,204,880.38	3,616,318.21
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Measure Z Operating Funds



* 2012 expenses are projected



Fresno Chaffee Zoo • 894 West Belmont Avenue • Fresno, California 93728
Phone (559) 498-5910 • Fax (559) 264-9226

DATE: January 30, 2013
TO: Fresno County Zoo Authority Board
FROM: Brian Goldman, Chief Financial Officer
Fresno's Chaffee Zoo Corporation
SUBJECT: 2013 Measure Z Capital Request

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve Fresno Chaffee Zoo request for 2013 Measure Z Capital funds totaling \$20,240 for animal acquisitions and transportation, and bank fees for reimbursement of capital claims.

ALTERNATIVE ACTION(s):

None.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The request is the FY 2013 Measure Z Capital Budget of \$20,240

DISCUSSION:

At this time, the Zoo is only requesting capital funds for the purchase and transportation of animals, and service fees to wire funds to the Zoo for capital claims that have been processed. Additional capital requests will be brought to the Zoo Authority Board over the next few meetings.



Fresno Chaffee Zoo • 894 West Belmont Avenue • Fresno, California 93728
Phone (559) 498-5910 • Fax (559) 264-9226

DATE: January 30, 2013
TO: Fresno County Zoo Authority Board
FROM: Brian Goldman, Chief Financial Officer
Fresno's Chaffee Zoo Corporation
SUBJECT: 2013 Measure Z Capital Request

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve Fresno Chaffee Zoo request for 2013 Measure Z Capital utility funds totaling \$80,000 to bring a reliable source of water to the zoo.

ALTERNATIVE ACTION(S):

None.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The request will increase the 2013 Measure Z Capital Budget of \$20,240 by \$80,000 to \$100,240. The requested amount includes installation of new water lines into the Zoo, all connection fees, and project management fees.

DISCUSSION:

The Zoo currently receives water from the remaining wells in Roeding Park to irrigate the zoo, wash down exhibits, and to provide service to one restroom. Pressure is often low and water is turned off when the system is down for repair, which is often, and at times very short notice to the zoo. The Zoo cannot close a restroom and properly serve the visitors, wash down exhibits without more pressure, or irrigate the grounds without a reliable water source. Two of the five wells have failed and are beyond repair. The Zoo is requesting \$80,000 of Measure Z capital funds to bring in dedicated water lines to the zoo so there is a reliable source of water for guests, the animals, and for staff.



DATE: January 30, 2012

TO: Fresno County Zoo Authority Board

FROM: Catherine Crosby
Board Coordinator

SUBJECT: **Establishing a Set Time for Public Comment**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Discuss and approve adding a notice for a fixed speaking time of three minutes for members of the public during Public Comments and for each agenda item.

ALTERNATIVE ACTION:

Take no action to limit duration of comments from members of the public.

DISCUSSION:

Since inception of the appointed board, instructions for public comments at meetings have not included a time limit for speakers. During Chairman's Comments at your Board's November 28, 2012 meeting, Vice Chairman Waterhouse directed staff to return with an agenda item to discuss the possibility of adopting a policy to set a limit on the duration of comments received.

Staff has reviewed the Brown Act and Robert's Rules of Order for references to public comments, and each does include language allowing the Board to adopt a regulation, rule or practice to limit a speaker's time.

Your Board's bylaws I.B.4 states:

"The Brown Act (Gov. Code, § 54950 et seq.) shall govern meetings of the Board."

Specifically regarding public speakers, the Brown Act §54954.3(a) in part, states requirements that are currently reflected in the agenda's instructions to the public:

- (a) "Every agenda for regular meetings shall provide an opportunity for members of the public to directly address the legislative body on any item of interest to the public, before or during the legislative body's consideration of the item, that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body, provided that no action shall be taken on any item not appearing on the agenda..."

Regarding a time limit on speakers, the Brown Act §54954.3(b) further states:

- (b) "The legislative body of a local agency may adopt reasonable regulations to ensure that the intent of subdivision (a) is carried out, including, but not limited to, regulations limiting the total amount of time allocated for public testimony on particular issues and for each individual speaker."

Your Board's bylaws I.B.7 states:

"Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the proceedings of the Board in its transaction of business unless otherwise provided herein or by general law. Unless otherwise specified by the Board, Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, 10th Edition, shall be used by the Board."

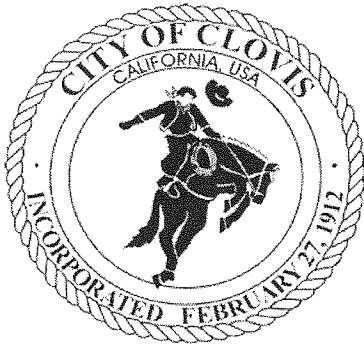
Regarding a time limit on speakers Robert's Rules of Order states in pertinent part, in Chapter IV, §9 Public Session:

"Many public and semipublic bodies are governed by sunshine laws—that is, they must be open to the public. Some bodies, especially public ones, may invite non-members to express their views, but this is done under control of the presiding officer subject to relevant rules adopted by the body and subject to appeal by a member. Often, by rule or practice, time limits are placed on speakers and relevance is closely monitored."

Staff also reviewed agendas from seven agencies: two city councils (Clovis and Fresno); two multi-jurisdictional agencies in our region (Fresno Council of Governments and San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District; two state agencies (the State Air Resources Board and the High Speed Rail Authority), and the Fresno Chaffee Zoo Corporation (See Attachment A). Each agency states a limit on public speaking times ranging from 90 seconds (High Speed Rail Authority) to "5 minutes or less" (Clovis). A three-minute limit with some qualifying language is the most common. Therefore, staff recommends the following change to the current Public Comments instructions:

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. ~~Time will be made available for comments from the public for each item 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.



AGENDA

CLOVIS CITY COUNCIL

Council Chamber, 1033 Fifth Street, Clovis, CA 93612 (559-324-2060)
www.cityofclovis.com

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to access the City Council Chamber to participate at this meeting, please contact the City Clerk or General Services Director at (559) 324-2060 (TTY – 711). Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to the Council Chamber.

Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the City Council regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at City Hall, in the City Clerk's office, during normal business hours. In addition, such writings and documents may be posted on the City's website at www.cityofclovis.com.

Councilmember Magsig will be participating in the meeting via teleconference from the Courtyard Vacaville 120 Nut Tree Parkway, Vacaville, CA 95687. A copy of the agenda has been posted at the teleconference location and will be open to the public during the meeting.

December 3, 2012

6:00 PM

Council Chamber

The City Council welcomes participation at Council Meetings. Members of the public may address the Council on any item of interest to the public that is scheduled on the Agenda. In order for everyone to be heard, please limit your comments to 5 minutes or less.

Meeting called to order by Mayor Flores
Flag salute led by Councilmember Whalen

ROLL CALL

PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

- A. Presentation by Genoveva Islas-Hooker, representing the Central California Regional Obesity Prevention Program regarding creating healthier communities.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (This is an opportunity for the members of the public to address the City Council on any matter within the City Council's jurisdiction that is not listed on the Agenda. In order for everyone to be heard, please limit your comments to 5 minutes or less. Anyone wishing to be placed on the Agenda for a specific topic should contact the City Manager's office and submit correspondence at least 10 days before the desired date of appearance.)

City Council Agenda

Council President
Lee Brand

Councilmembers

Oliver L. Baines III
Andreas Borgeas
Clinton J. Olivier - Acting President

Sal Quintero
Larry Westerlund
Blong Xiong

City Manager
Mark Scott

City Clerk
Rebecca E. Klisch, CMC

City Attorney
James C. Sanchez

The meeting room is accessible to the physically disabled, and the services of a translator can be made available. Requests for additional accommodations for the disabled, sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or translators should be made one week prior to the meeting. Please call City Clerk's Office at 621-7650. Please keep the doorways, aisles and wheelchair seating areas open and accessible. If you need assistance with seating because of a disability, please see Security.

The City Council welcomes you to the Council Chambers, located in City Hall, 2nd Floor, 2600 Fresno Street, Fresno CA 93721.

January 5, 2012

9:00 A.M. ROLL CALL

Invocation by Pastor Sonny Martini, New Covenant Community Church

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Election of Council President and Acting Council President

Action Taken: Councilmember Olivier elected Council President; Councilmember Xiong elected Acting Council President

Election of Redevelopment Agency Chair and Vice Chair

Action Taken: Member Baines elected Chair; Larry Westerlund elected Vice Chair

The agenda and related staff reports are available on (www.fresno.gov) as well as in the Office of the City Clerk. The Council meeting can also be heard live at the same web site address, and viewed live on Cable Channel 96 from 8:30 a.m. and re-played beginning at 8:00 p.m.

→ **PROCESS:** For each matter considered by the Council there will first be a staff presentation followed by a presentation from the involved individuals, if present. Testimony from those in attendance will then be taken. All testimony will be limited to three minutes per person. If you would like to speak fill out a Speaker Request Form available from the City Clerk's Office and in the Council Chambers. The three lights on the podium next to the microphone will indicate the amount of time remaining for the speaker. ←

The green light on the podium will be turned on when the speaker begins. The yellow light will come on with one minute remaining. The speaker should be completing the testimony by the time the red light comes on and tones sound, indicating that time has expired. A countdown of time remaining to speak is also displayed on the large screen behind the Council dais.



2035 Tulare St., Ste. 201 tel: 559-233-4148
 Fresno, California 93721 fax: 559-233-9615

www.fresnocog.org

Fresno COG Policy Board

Date: Thursday, November 15, 2012

Time: 5:30 PM

Place: COG Sequoia Conference Room
 2035 Tulare St., Suite 201, Fresno, CA

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Accommodations

The Fresno COG offices and restrooms are ADA accessible. Representatives or individuals with disabilities should contact Fresno COG at (559) 233-4148, at least 3 days in advance, to request auxiliary aids and/or translation services necessary to participate in the public meeting / public hearing. If Fresno COG is unable to accommodate an auxiliary aid or translation request for a public hearing, after receiving proper notice, the hearing will be continued on a specified date when accommodations are available.

AB23 Requirement: In accordance with the Brown Act and AB23 the amount of stipend paid to members for attending this meeting of the Fresno Council of Governments Policy Board is \$100.

PLEASE TURN ON MICROPHONE BEFORE SPEAKING

NOTICE - THIS MONTH: MAYORS CITY SELECTION COMMITTEE (ALL MAYORS) PRIOR TO FRESNO COG POLICY BOARD

MAYORS CITY SELECTION COMMITTEE (ALL MAYORS - DOES NOT INCLUDE COUNTY) -Beginning at 5:30 pm - Prior to Policy Board

FCRTA MEETING PACKAGE - MEETING WILL FOLLOW FRESNO COG POLICY BOARD MEETING

AGENDA AND ANNOTATED AGENDA IN PDF FORMAT FOR PRINTING

Fresno COG Sitting as the Transportation Policy Committee

- I. TRANSPORTATION CONSENT ITEMS
- II. TRANSPORTATION ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

Fresno COG Sitting as the Fresno Council of Governments Policy Board

- III. REAFFIRM ALL ACTIONS TAKEN WHILE SITTING AS THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE
- IV. ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT ITEMS
- V. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS
- VI. OTHER BUSINESS
- VII. PRESENTATIONS

A. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

→ This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the Policy Board on items within its jurisdiction but not on this agenda. **Note: Prior to action by the Policy Board on any item on this agenda, the public may comment on that item. Unscheduled comments may be limited to 3 minutes.** ←

Fresno COG Sitting as the Abandoned Vehicle Abatement Authority

- VIII. Abandoned Vehicle Abatement

GOVERNING BOARD

William O'Brien, Chair
Supervisor, Stanislaus County

Skip Barwick, Vice Chair
Vice Mayor, City of Tulare

Oliver L. Baines III
Councilmember, City of Fresno

Tony Barba
Supervisor, Kings County

Sally Bompreszi
Councilmember, City of Madera

Judith G. Case
Supervisor, Fresno County

Ronn Dominici
Supervisor, Madera County

Henry Jay Forman, Ph.D.
Appointed by Governor

Harold Hanson →
Councilmember, City of Bakersfield

Leroy Ornellas
Supervisor, San Joaquin County

Alexander C. Sherriffs, M.D.
Appointed by Governor

Chris Vierra
Mayor, City of Ceres

Hub Walsh
Supervisor, Merced County

Raymond A. Watson
Supervisor, Kern County

J. Steven Worthley
Supervisor, Tulare County

Seyed Sadredin
Executive Director
Air Pollution Control Officer

Northern Region Office
4800 Enterprise Way
Modesto, CA 95356-8718
(209) 557-6400 • FAX (209) 557-6475

Central Region Office
1990 East Gettysburg Avenue
Fresno, CA 93726-0244
(559) 230-6000 • FAX (559) 230-6061

Southern Region Office
34946 Flyover Court
Bakersfield, CA 93308-9725
(661) 392-5500 • FAX (661) 392-5585

www.valleyair.org

San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District

GOVERNING BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Central Region Office, Governing Board Room
1990 E. Gettysburg Avenue, Fresno, CA

Thursday, January 19, 2012

9:00 a.m.

Meeting held via video teleconference (VTC) system with the Central Region Office (Fresno), the Northern Region Office (Modesto) and the Southern Region Office (Bakersfield).
Governing Board meetings are webcast.

All meeting attendees are advised that all pagers, cellular telephones and any other communication devices should be placed in silent mode in the Governing Board Room or VTC Rooms, to prevent interruptions in our Public Meeting proceedings.

Any member of the public may address the Governing Board during both the public comment period and on any scheduled item on the agenda. Comments are limited to a maximum of three minutes per speaker unless, for good cause, the Chair amends the time limit. ←

- The San Joaquin Valleywide Air Pollution Study Agency Governing Board WILL MEET prior to this meeting.
- Please provide 20 copies of any information intended for use at Governing Board Meetings to the Clerk of the Boards prior to the Meeting.
- To request special accommodations for those persons with disabilities or to request Spanish interpreting services, please contact the Clerk of the Boards at (559) 230-6000 at least 7 days prior to the meeting date.
- The Governing Board relies on the credibility of witnesses and the veracity of testimony on matters brought before this Board for action.
- While we request that you fill in your name on the Sign-in Sheet, filling it out is voluntary.
- The Complete Agenda Packet is available online at www.valleyair.org

 **HEALTHY AIR LIVING****YOUR TIP OF THE MONTH!**

Tiny particles that are caused by combustion can be inhaled deep into the lungs, which can aggravate, or cause, respiratory illnesses. Traditional fireplaces can emit up to 50 grams of particulate matter (PM) per hour, while an EPA Certified wood stove produces only 6 grams of PM per hour. Pellet stoves produce even less, about 1 gram of PM per hour. (Ref: <http://www.valleyair.org>)

Tip: Be sure to *Check Before You Burn* and consider replacing your traditional fireplace with a pellet stove or an EPA certified woodstove to help reduce the amount of PM released into the atmosphere. To learn about our "Burn Cleaner" woodstove change-out grants, visit www.valleyair.org.

For more clean air tips, see www.healthyliving.com.



California Environmental Protection Agency

Air Resources Board

[About ARB](#) [Calendars](#) [A-Z Index](#) [Contact Us](#)

December 6, 2012

9:00 a.m.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

The following item(s) on the consent calendar will be voted on by the Board immediately after the start of the public meeting, unless removed from the consent calendar either upon a Board member's request or if someone in the audience wishes to speak on it.

Consent Item #	Agenda Topic
12-9-1	<p>Public Hearing to Consider the Approval of the San Diego 8-Hour Ozone State Implementation Plan Redesignation Request and Maintenance Plan</p> <p>Staff will present to the Board the San Diego Air Pollution Control District's Redesignation Request and Maintenance Plan for the 1997 8-hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard. The District demonstrates that San Diego County now meets the standard and qualifies for redesignation to attainment.</p> <p><u>Proposed Resolution More Information</u></p>

OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE BOARD TO COMMENT ON MATTERS OF INTEREST

Board members may identify matters they would like to have noticed for consideration at future meetings and comment on topics of interest; no formal action on these topics will be taken without further notice.

OPEN SESSION TO PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD ON SUBJECT MATTERS WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE BOARD

Although no formal Board action may be taken, the Board is allowing an opportunity to interested members of the public to address the Board on items of interest that are within the Board's jurisdiction, but that do not specifically appear on the agenda. Each person will be allowed a maximum of three minutes to ensure that everyone has a chance to speak.

TO SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS ON AN AGENDA ITEM IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING GO TO:

<http://www.arb.ca.gov/lispub/comm/bclist/php>

ONLINE SIGN-UP:

You can sign up online in advance to speak at the Board hearing when you submit an electronic Board item comment. For more information go to:

<http://www.arb.ca.gov/board/online-signup.htm>

<http://www.arb.ca.gov/board/online-signup.htm>

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT THE CLERK OF THE BOARD:

1001 I Street, 23rd Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814

(916) 322-5594

ARB Homepage: <http://www.arb.ca.gov>

<http://www.arb.ca.gov/>

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION REQUEST

Special accommodation or language needs can be provided for any of the following:

- An interpreter to be available at the hearing;
- Documents made available in an alternate format or another language;
- A disability-related reasonable accommodation.

To request these special accommodations or language needs, please contact the Clerk of the Board at (916) 322-5594 or by facsimile at (916) 322-3928 as soon as possible, but no later than 7 business days before the scheduled Board hearing. TTY/TDD/Speech to Speech users may dial 711 for the California Relay Service.

SMOKING IS NOT PERMITTED AT MEETINGS OF THE CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD



AMENDED 11-1-12*

**MONTHLY MEETING AGENDA
NOVEMBER 14, 2012**

**California State Capitol
Room 4203
Sacramento, CA 95814
10:00 AM**

PUBLIC COMMENT

An opportunity for public comment will be provided either before or during the consideration of each agenda item.

Those persons, who wish to comment on agenda and non-agenda items, are required to submit their requests to Board Secretary before the start of the meeting by filling in the green cards. Typically public comment will be limited to 90 seconds per person, however the Chair may decide to shorten or lengthen the public comment periods, at his or her discretion.

- | | <u>Responsible Party</u> |
|--|---------------------------------|
| 1. Approval of Minutes from September 11, 2012 Meeting | T. Fellenz |
| 2. Update on National Target Hiring Initiative
<i>The Fresno Works Consortium will provide a progress report on the National Target Hiring Initiative.</i> | R. Padilla/B. Konczal |
| 3. Informational Presentation on Risk Management
<i>Staff will present a brief overview of risk management, discuss procedures currently in place, and detail the long-term plan for the Authority's risk management program.</i> | J. Tapping |
| 4. Informational Presentation on Environmental Mitigation Implementation
<i>Staff will provide information regarding the processes for implementing environmental mitigation commitments contained in the Merced to Fresno Final EIR/EIS.</i> | M. McLoughlin |
| 5. Request for Approval of Agreement with the California Department of Conservation (DOC)
<i>Staff will recommend Board approval of an agreement with DOC for the development and implementation of an agricultural lands mitigation program.</i> | M. McLoughlin |
| 6. Closed Session Pertaining to Litigation
<i>The Authority will meet in closed session pursuant to Government Code section 11126(e)(2)(A) to confer with counsel with regard to the following litigation:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>John Tos; Aaron Fukuda and County of Kings v. California High Speed Rail Authority, Sacramento Superior Court Case No. 34-2001-00113919</i>• <i>City of Chowchilla v. California High-Speed Rail Authority, Sacramento Superior Court No. 34-2012-80001166</i>• <i>County of Madera v. California High-Speed Rail Authority, Sacramento Superior Court No. 34-2012-80001165</i>• <i>Timeless Investments, Inc. v. California, Sacramento Superior Court No. 34-2012-80001168</i>• <i>Town of Atherton v. California High-Speed Rail Authority, Sacramento Superior Court No. 34-2008-80000022</i>• <i>Town of Atherton v. California High-Speed Rail Authority, Sacramento Superior Court No. 34-2010-80000679</i> | T. Fellenz |

770 L Street, Suite 800, Sacramento, CA 95814 / (916) 324-1541, (916) 322-0827 fax
For further information you may visit the California High-Speed Rail Authority Web site at
www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov



FRESNO'S CHAFFEE ZOO CORPORATION

Agenda for Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

Thursday, February 16, 2012 at 5:30 pm

Fresno Chaffee Zoo Education Building

1. Call to order - 5:30 p.m.
2. Roll Call.
3. Discuss and consider December 2011 minutes.
4. Chair Report.
5. CEO Report.
6. Discuss and consider Committee Reports.
7. Discuss, consider and review monthly Financial Report.
8. Discuss and consider Corporation Bylaws.
9. Public Comment.

This time is set-aside for the public to comment on any item within the jurisdiction of the Board, but not appearing on the agenda. Items presented under public comment may not be discussed or acted upon by the Board at this time. For items appearing on the agenda,

the public is invited to comment at the time the item is called for consideration by the Board.

→ Any person addressing the Board under public comment will be limited to a 3-minute presentation to insure that all interested parties have an opportunity to speak. Please state your name.

10. Closed Session: *In pursuant to Government Code 54956.9 (a)*

Pending Litigation

1 case (a) *Friends of Roeding Park vs. City of Fresno*

11. Board questions and comments.

12. Adjournment.

Fresno County Zoo Authority

2013 Adopted and Reserved Meeting Dates

Agenda Item 13

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Fresno County Holidays

January 1	New Year's Day	April 1	César Chávez Day, observed	November 11	Veterans Day
January 21	Martin Luther King Day	May 27	Memorial Day	November 28	Thanksgiving Day
February 18	Presidents' Day	July 4	Independence Day	November 29	County Holiday
March 31	Easter Sunday	September 2	Labor Day	December 25	Christmas Day

Fresno Chaffee Zoo animals get their turkey

Thanksgiving-themed meals served.

By Lewis Griswold - The Fresno Bee Thursday, Nov. 22, 2012 | 10:53 PM

Zookeepers at Fresno Chaffee Zoo brought a taste of Thanksgiving to the animals Thursday in the form of "turkeys" made of fruit, grains and vegetables. Pumpkins served as turkey bodies, kale leaves as wings, carrots as necks, sweet potatoes for the heads and palm fronds as tails. Thursday marked the first time zoo staff came up with the turkey theme for Thanksgiving, director Scott Barton said. Visitors smiled as the animals chowed down on the creations.

"I think it's great that they get their own version of turkey," said Rebecca Musser of Fresno, as warthogs Zara and Bakki nervously attacked the strange new thing in their enclosure.

But the zookeepers' own Thanksgiving meals would have to wait. Whereas Thanksgiving is a day off for many people, zookeepers have to work because "the animals have to be fed every day," Barton said. The reaction of zoo visitors as they watch animals makes it all worth it, he said.

"People are happy when they are here," Barton said.

To make working a holiday shift easier for the staff, the zoo closed at 2 p.m. on Thanksgiving. The only day the zoo isn't open to the public is Christmas. Lead bird keeper Jennifer Wesson said the job satisfaction is so high that no one complains about working on holidays.

"It's not a problem at all," Wesson said. "I'm the lead keeper; I can send the people in my section home early." The Thanksgiving-themed food was amusing to zookeepers and visitors. But the animals know when there is something new in their enclosure like mock turkey, she said: "They'll watch it to make sure it's safe."

It's OK to vary the routine for the animals, zookeepers said. There's even a name for it: "enrichment."

"They are enriching the environment," said Kent Yamaguchi, director of the Santa Ana zoo, who was in Fresno to visit relatives and stopped by Chaffee. "I've never seen the Thanksgiving theme before. Maybe we should steal the idea."

The warthogs were suspicious of their turkey-shaped food because that's their nature, said assistant zoo curator Lyn Myers. But when the hollowed-out pumpkin spilled its contents of fruit and grain, Zara, a female, and Bakki, a male, scarfed it up. Not that there wasn't a hiccup. "A squirrel stole the sweet potato (head), so I had to replace it," said zookeeper Alex Alamar, 23, who feeds the warthogs.

The elephants used their trunks to bat away palm frond tails on their faux fowl. "It was cool," said Samantha Schramm, 9, of Clovis, a regular zoo visitor. "The elephant ripped the pumpkin apart."

Cute creatures drawing visitors to Fresno Chaffee Zoo

KFSN FRESNO, California - Wednesday, December 05, 2012

It's been a record breaking year for the Fresno Chaffee Zoo. It may be December, but the zoo is busy with families and visitors taking in the sights and sounds of the zoo. That kind of daily activity has made it one for the record books. To date, more than half a million people have visited the zoo to see the animals. New attractions like Sea Lion Cove are also driving people to the zoo. It opened in August.

"Since the end of 2010, we've exceeded over 100,000 increase. So it's amazing," Adrienne Castro said. "This year we budgeted for a number and we're already exceeding that number. "Since it opened we've had 90,000 come through the exhibit," Castro said. It's amazing, it's beautiful. I always say it's not just an animal exhibit, where you're viewing an animal, but it's truly an experience. Between the audio and what you're seeing, the plants. You really do feel like you're at the central coast."

Also new to the zoo this year, the arrival of a new baby kangaroo known as a joey. The little one is still in its mom's pouch, but will soon be bouncing around in the kangaroo enclosure.

"Initially you just kind of see the feet or ears out of the pouch," Castro said. "Recently when the weather's nice, he'll come out."

Events like Zoo Lights is also attracting families as they enjoy the zoo and a night of holiday sightseeing. And if you're still looking for that perfect present, "One of my favorite gifts to give young families is membership," Castro said. "They can anytime, everyday& adopt an animal is a great one if you have a child or anyone who had a favorite animal."

Officials say the zoo couldn't be where it is at today without the community's support. Although 2012 was a great year, zoo officials are already looking forward next year. They'll open two new exhibits with the spotted neck otters and the king cobra exhibits in 2013.

Proposed Fresno zoo exhibit faces questions

By Marc Benjamin - The Fresno Bee - Sunday, Dec. 09, 2012 | 10:19 PM

Fresno Chaffee Zoo officials thought their \$40 million Africa exhibit was on a faster track after state officials told them the project apparently would not cause significant changes to Roeding Park. But now the attorney representing foes of the project says an email from a state parks official indicates otherwise.

Zoo officials say that if the state requires a more detailed environmental impact study, the project could be delayed for years -- and won't be even partly finished by November 2014, when voters will be asked to renew Measure Z, the sales tax measure that is paying for improvements such as Sea Lion Cove and the African Savanna exhibit.

There seem to be conflicting signals coming out of Sacramento on the project. During informal discussions with state officials earlier this year, zoo and Fresno city leaders were told the Africa exhibit did not appear to convert parkland to a different type of use, which would trigger another environmental study. Some of those officials no longer are working for the state, however. But in a Nov. 20 email sent to city and zoo officials and obtained by lawyer Richard Harriman, Parks Department supervisor Richard Rendon said the Africa project would significantly change the use of parkland covered by the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

Between 1980 and 2004, the city received six grants totaling \$483,544 through the fund for projects in the zoo and Roeding Park. The grants give state and federal officials some decision-making power over new projects in the park.

Harriman, whose clients lost a court battle to block the zoo expansion, said he feels vindicated by Rendon's email. His clients, who are Fresno residents, have maintained that the project would constitute a conversion that would need a tougher environmental study. State parks officials previously ruled against Harriman when they said Sea Lion Cove, built within the zoo's existing footprint, made no significant changes to the park. But the African Savanna project would need to absorb 13 acres that are outside Chaffee Zoo's current boundaries in Roeding Park.

Zoo officials may have thought state approval for the Africa project was a done-deal, Harriman said, but state parks officials "made it clear to me that it was a conversion."

Sedrick Mitchell, deputy director of external affairs for California State Parks, said the state won't make a decision until after zoo officials submit an application that will allow the state to evaluate the effects of the Africa exhibit on the park. State officials have several options: determine the project is a conversion or that it's a change in the way public facilities are used. The conversion requires another detailed environmental study while a public facilities change may not require the study.

Mitchell said he was uncertain why Rendon sent the email, because "it's not an official declaration at this point." Rendon did not return phone calls seeking elaboration.

Design meetings are under way for the Africa exhibit, which is expected to take up a bulk of the proposed 21-acre zoo expansion. The start of construction is planned for next year. The city already completed a 2,600-page environmental report that took nearly two years. The report complied with state rules and was a major reason the city came out on the winning side in a lawsuit filed by Harriman's clients.

Small otters coming to Fresno Chaffee Zoo

By Marc Benjamin - The Fresno Bee Saturday, Dec. 15, 2012 | 10:08 PM

Now that Fresno Chaffee Zoo's sea lions are in new upscale digs, zoo officials are renovating their old home for new tenants -- spotted-necked otters. The animals, which are native to rivers in eastern Africa, recently arrived from the San Diego Zoo. Only 21 of them are in eight North America zoos, according to the Association of Zoos and Aquariums.

San Diego Zoo is the only other California zoo housing the miniature fresh water relatives of the sea otter. They are about one-third the size of California sea otters, but as much fun to watch, said Scott Barton, the zoo's director. The otters, Denny and Reema, are living temporarily in the zoo's hospital awaiting the remodel of their new home, which is scheduled to open in February.

The enclosure was sufficient as a habitat for the sea lions -- although zoo officials would have liked it to have been larger -- "but for these otters, it's huge," Barton said. Denny weighs 10 pounds and Reema is 8.

The remodel is funded with \$200,000 from Measure Z, the one-tenth-of-a-cent sales tax measure that pays for zoo upgrades. Their new home will be modeled on a fresh water river setting of east Africa with new trees, grass, a small stream and makeshift log that can double as a slide, Barton said. More windows at otter-eye level also are part of the renovation and will improve face-to-face encounters with the zoo's newest additions.

"The most fun thing to watch is a kid nose-to-nose with these guys like in Sea Lion Cove," Barton said.

River otters also are less discriminating about their diets than their sea otter cousins, whose diet costs about \$40,000 yearly, Barton said. But river otters can subsist on feed similar to dried dog food -- a diet supplemented with vegetables, fish and crayfish. Inside the Fresno Chaffee Zoo hospital, Reema and Denny are trained to follow commands. Denny rolls on his back for a food reward from hospital manager Denise Oberg, while Reema seems a bit more shy.

Spotted-necked otters frequently live past 20 years. Barton said he hopes 16-year-old Denny and Reema, 12, can reproduce again; they have previously had babies together.

And baby otters, she said, are even more fun to watch than adults. Oberg promises quite a show.

"They love diving for their fish," she said. "They are acrobatic under the water."

Spotted-necked otters are naturally curious, said Christina Simmons, public relations manager at the San Diego Zoo, where six of them live.

"They're always very interested in their surroundings and when guests come by you never know what will capture their attention," she said. "It's always interesting to see how much they observe us."

Fresno Chaffee Zoo shatters attendance record in 2012

By Marc Benjamin - The Fresno Bee Saturday, Dec. 29, 2012 | 11:03 PM

Fresno Chaffee Zoo's sea lions sure are flippin' popular. For years, the zoo struggled to draw a stream of new visitors, with yearly attendance holding steady around 350,000. But the past two years it has seen increases, with 2012 closing with a record-shattering 575,000 visitors -- a 12.3% increase from last year.

Zoo officials and visitors say the numbers are the result of improvements in recent years, particularly the opening of the impressive new exhibit, Sea Lion Cove. That exhibit has driven attendance spikes since opening four months ago. In September, the first full month Sea Lion Cove was open, zoo visits were up 90% from last year. The strong end-of-the-year attendance has made a good year even better.

"We were having a very strong year up until Sea Lion Cove opened," Zoo Director Scott Barton said.

This year's attendance was somewhat surprising after 512,000 visitors went through the gates in 2011, which was 15% more than 2010, Barton said. Three months early in the year posted some of the highest visitor counts the zoo has seen in years. Zoo officials may consider revising attendance projections for 2013. They're planning for 575,000 visitors next year.

And expect more changes in 2013. The zoo will open a renovated enclosure for river otters in February and a King Cobra exhibit in the reptile building in the summer, Barton said. In addition, Barton said, the zoo will add a new tiger and hopes to have a breeding pair and cubs in 2013. The zoo also has a breeding pair of otters and expects a baby giraffe in 2013, he said.

In summer, work is expected to start on the new 13-acre, \$40 million Africa Savanna. It is expected to open in late 2014 and could feature African elephants, rhinos, lions, cheetahs and other animals.

Even though more visitors have come with new projects over the past five years -- Sea Lion Cove, Stingray Bay, Dino Dig, the tropical rain forest and reptile house renovations -- Barton credits an emphasis on cleanliness and friendly, outgoing staff for attracting more people.

And frequent visitors say changes they see are not just in the larger projects. Seated outside the concession area, Christina Bedwell, 35, of Fresno, said she has come to the zoo for years and has seen steady improvement. She said she visits once a month with her two young sons. "It just seems a lot cleaner, the animal habitats have improved and the animals seem more engaged with their surroundings," she said.

Hanford resident Steve Miller, 62, brought a handful of relatives from Honduras -- his family's first visit since early summer -- and toured Sea Lion Cove for the first time. "This is beautiful," he said while observing sea lions from one of the large windows that looks out on the coastal setting. "It looks and sounds like you're at the ocean; for our area, this is special."

Lydia Requejo, a single mother of two from Reedley, said she visits every month because the zoo is inexpensive and her children always find it interesting. "It has improved," she said, flanked by 4-year-old son, Ray. "They really love the animals, but when we first started coming the animals looked depressed. Now, it's completely changed."

Thumbs up, thumbs down

The Fresno Bee Editorial - Saturday, Jan. 05, 2013 | 12:00 AM

Thumbs up to Fresno Chaffee Zoo Director Scott Barton and Fresno County voters who passed the Measure Z sales tax in 2004. Thanks to the new Sea Lion Cove exhibit, zoo attendance zoomed to a record 575,000 in 2012 -- an increase of 12.3% from the previous year. More additions are in store this year: a King Cobra exhibit, a new tiger, a renovated enclosure for river otters and possibly the birth of a baby giraffe.