



ACTION SUMMARY MINUTES

9:00 AM, Tuesday February 13, 2018

Fresno County Employees' Retirement Association

NEW LOCATION

7772 N. Palm Ave.

Fresno, CA 93711

(559) 457-0681

1. Call to Order

CHAIRMAN MICHELLE ROMAN CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 9:06 AM. A QUORUM WAS PRESENT, INCLUDING THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS GERALD LYLES, PETER HERZOG, PAUL TOSTE AND RALPH WATERHOUSE. MEMBERS MAYOR BRAND AND STRATFORD WERE ABSENT.

2. Nominations and election of officers for 2018

THE CHAIRMAN CALLED FOR NOMINATIONS FOR 2018 CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN. MEMBER ROMAN WAS NOMINATED FOR CHAIRMAN BY MEMBER TOSTE. WITH A SECOND BY MEMBER WATERHOUSE, THE NOMINATION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY. MEMBERS BRAND AND STRATFORD WERE ABSENT. THE CHAIRMAN THANKED MEMBERS FOR THEIR CONFIDENCE AND SUPPORT.

MEMBER TOSTE WAS NOMINATED FOR VICE CHAIRMAN BY MEMBER LYLES. WITH A SECOND BY MEMBER HERZOG, THE NOMINATION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY. MEMBERS BRAND AND STRATFORD WERE ABSENT.

0:1:39

3. 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.

FRESNO CHAFFEE ZOO DEPUTY DIRECTOR AMOS MORRIS REQUESTED TO HAVE ITEM 12 MOVED UP ON THE AGENDA. CHAIRMAN ROMAN STATED THE ITEM WOULD BE HEARD AFTER ITEM 5.

FRESNO COUNTY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION ADMINISTRATOR DONALD KENDIG WELCOMED AUTHORITY MEMBERS AND GUESTS TO THEIR NEW BUILDING AND BOARDROOM, AND DESCRIBED THE AMENITIES OF THE BUILDING. HE ALSO THANKED THE BOARD FOR ACKNOWLEDGING HIS STAFF IN THE AUTHORITY'S ANNUAL REPORT, AND INVITED MEMBERS TO THEIR OPEN HOUSE ON MARCH 8TH. CHAIRMAN ROMAN THANKED HIM FOR THE USE OF THE BEAUTIFUL FACILITY.

0:08:28

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 the Consent Calendar.

MEMBER LYLES ASKED TO PULL ITEM 4.B FOR DISCUSSION.

MEMBER HERZOG MOVED FOR APPROVAL OF ITEMS 4.A AND 4.C. SECONDED BY MEMBER WATERHOUSE, THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY AND WITHOUT COMMENT. MEMBERS BAINES AND STRATFORD WERE ABSENT.

MEMBER LYLES' ASKED ABOUT THE HIGH NUMBER OF HOURS FOR THE COORDINATOR'S TIME RELATIVE TO THE POSSIBLE HOURS IN THE TWO-MONTH PERIOD OF THE STAFF INVOICE. COORDINATOR CATHY CROSBY RESPONDED THAT HER HOURS APPEARED EXCESSIVE BECAUSE THEY INCLUDED HOURS BETWEEN MID SEPTEMBER AND DECEMBER, DUE TO THE TIMING OF .HER DEPARTMENT'S BILLING.

MAYOR'S ALTERNATE MEMBER OLIVER BAINES ARRIVED DURING ITEM 4.

MEMBER LYLES MOVED FOR APPROVAL OF ITEMS 4.A AND 4.C. SECONDED BY MEMBER WATERHOUSE, THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. MEMBER STRATFORD WAS ABSENT.

- a. Review and approve minutes of November 29, 2017
- b. Review and approve payment of County of Fresno invoice for Professional and Specialized Services in the amount of \$35,779.29 for November and December 2017
- c. Receive Treasurer's Reports for November, December and the quarter ended December 2017

0:11:25

5. Fresno Chaffee Zoo Director's report

DEPUTY ZOO DIRECTOR AMOS MORRIS REPORTED FOR DIRECTOR SCOTT BARTON, WHO WAS AT AN AZA CONFERENCE IN WEST VIRGINIA. HE REPORTED ATTENDANCE FOR 2017 WAS BELOW ESTIMATES, BUT COSTS WERE UNDER BUDGET. JANUARY AND FEBRUARY ARE ABOVE PROJECTIONS; REVENUE FOR ZOOLIGHTS EXCEEDED \$30,000; WILDERNESS FALLS IS EXPECTED TO OPEN IN APRIL, DEPENDING ON WEATHER. ITS SLIDE WAS INSTALLED YESTERDAY AND LANDSCAPING IS PROGRESSING. WARTHOG EXHIBIT DESIGN IS NEARLY COMPLETE AND THEY EXPECT TO REQUEST CONSTRUCTION FUNDING IN APRIL. DESIGN ALSO CONTINUES FOR THE ASIA EXHIBIT, ZOOPLEX, AMBASSADOR ANIMAL BUILDING, CONSERVATION BUILDING, AND BELMONT PARKING.

0:14 28

ITEM 12 WAS HEARD AT THIS TIME.

0:24:50

6. Receive Fresno's Chaffee Zoo Corporation Financial report for November 2017. CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER RICK TREATCH PRESENTED THE REPORT. PERSONNEL AND TOTAL EXPENSES WERE 10.7% AND 9.6% UNDER BUDGET, RESPECTIVELY, AS DEPARTMENTS CUT EXPENSES TO ACCOMMODATE AN ATTENDANCE DECLINE OF 14% FROM PROJECTED. HE RESPONDED TO MEMBERS QUESTIONS REGARDING THE INCOME STATEMENT LINE ITEMS, AND SAID THE REPORT WILL BE REVISED IN 2018 AND SHOW INCOME SOURCES WITH GREATER CLARITY.

0:31:28

7. Approve Fresno's Chaffee Zoo Corporation fiscal year 2018 Measure Z Operating funds totaling \$4,442,222 for reimbursement of Animal and Veterinary salary and benefits, Animal Food, Utilities, and Bank Fees to wire reimbursement funds to the Zoo

MR. TREATCH PRESENTED THE 2018 BUDGET BASED ON 30% OF THE ZOO'S TOTAL OPERATING BUDGET AND A PROJECTED ATTENDANCE OF 850,000, (AN INCREASE FROM 833,000 IN 2017). EVERY OTHER YEAR THE ZOO CORP BOARD MAY CONSIDER AND ADOPT AN ADMISSION PRICE INCREASE, AND THE BUDGET INCORPORATED ONE AS OF JANUARY 2018. FIVE THOUSAND TICKETS HAVE BEEN ALLOCATED FOR UNDERSERVED YOUTH, THROUGH BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS, FOR EXAMPLE. HE SPOKE OF THE "TIGHTROPE" OF KEEPING PRICES AFFORDABLE VERSES THE REQUIREMENT TO MAINTAIN THE ZOO'S SUSTAINABILITY.

AUTHORITY TREASURER MEGAN MARKS REQUESTED THAT MEMBERS APPROVE AN ADDITIONAL \$130 TO COVER WIRE FEES FOR CAPITAL CLAIMS THAT ARE NOT REIMBURSABLE UNDER MEASURE Z CAPITAL EXPENSES.

MEMBERS CONCURRED THAT ADMISSION PRICES WERE A GOOD VALUE RELATIVE TO OTHER ENTERTAINMENT COSTS. HOWEVER, THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBER BAINES POINTED OUT THAT ALL CITIZENS OF FRESNO COUNTY ARE PAYING FOR THE ZOO, YET MANY LOW-INCOME AND RURAL RESIDENTS STILL CANNOT AFFORD TO VISIT, AND ARE FURTHER EXCLUDED BY PRICE INCREASES.

THE CHAIRMAN RECALLED THAT THE LOW ZOO ADMISSION PRICE WAS A MAJOR "SELLING POINT" FOR THE EXTENSION OF MEASURE Z, AND USING MOVIE TICKET PRICES AS A BASIS OF PRICE COMPARISON FAILS TO CONSIDER THAT LOW INCOME CITIZENS CAN'T AFFORD MOVIE TICKETS EITHER, NOR DID RESIDENTS VOTE TO SUPPORT MOVIE THEATERS WITH SALES TAXES.

NEW ZOOCORP BOARD MEMBER AND TREASURER KYLE KIRKLAND ASSURED AUTHORITY MEMBERS THAT THE MATTER HAD BEEN EXTENSIVELY DISCUSSED BY ZOOCORP BOARD AND THEIR MEMBERS WERE VERY SENSITIVE TO THE ISSUE. CONSULTING REPORTS AND SOCIAL MEDIA COMMENTS WERE CONSIDERED, AND THEY WANT TO MAKE THE ZOO AVAILABLE TO EVERYONE WHO HAS SUPPORTED THE ZOO. ALSO, WITH WAGE INCREASES, THE ADMISSION INCREASE WAS NOT CONSIDERED UNREASONABLE.

MEMBER HERZOG URGED MR. KIRKLAND TO MAKE KNOWN TO THE PUBLIC THE AVAILABILITY OF FREE OR REDUCED ADMISSION COSTS, AND TO REPORT BACK TO THE AUTHORITY AT THE NEXT MEETING ON THIS OUTREACH EFFORT.

MEMBER LYLES POINTED OUT THAT IF THE APPROXIMATE \$13M EXPECTED THIS YEAR FROM MEASURE Z WERE DIVIDED AMONG THE APPROXIMATE ONE MILLION COUNTY RESIDENTS, EACH PERSON HAS ALREADY PAID \$13 YEARLY FOR THE ZOO BEFORE THEY EVEN ENTER.

MEMBER TOSTE NOTED THAT THE PRICE FOR ADULTS HAD INCREASED 30%, AND THAT SMALLER INCREASES SHOULD BE TAKEN PROPORTIONATE TO THE OVERALL ECONOMY. HE ALSO SUGGESTED THE IDEA OF DISCOUNT TICKET PRICES OR COUPONS DISTRIBUTED

TO LOW INCOME SCHOOLS AND DISTRICTS, AND ASKED FOR A REPORT ON THAT AT THE NEXT MEETING.

MEMBER WATERHOUSE MADE THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE BUDGET AND IT WAS SECONDED BY MEMBER HERZOG. MEMBER TOSTE ASKED ABOUT THE ADDITIONAL \$130 IN BANK FEES EARLIER REQUESTED BY THE TREASURER. THE MOTION WAS AMENDED TO INCLUDE THE BANK FEES AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. MEMBER STRATFORD WAS ABSENT.

1:05:38

8. Approve proposed amendments to Fresno County Zoo Authority Retention Policy
MS. CROSBY PRESENTED THE ITEM. MEMBER TOSTE SPOKE TO THE PURPOSE OF THE CHANGES, AND ASKED ABOUT THE DELETION OF THE REFERENCE TO THE PUBLIC CONTRACT CODE. COUNSEL JANE SMITH EXPLAINED THAT THE CODE MIGHT NOT BE APPLICABLE TO THE ZOOCORP IN SOME CASES; HOWEVER, THE DEFINITION LANGUAGE REMAINS IDENTICAL TO THE CODE'S.

MEMBER WATERHOUSE MADE THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE BUDGET. SECONDED BY MEMBER TOSTE, THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. MEMBER STRATFORD WAS ABSENT.

1:17:15

9. Approve revisions to Authority's Procedures for Approving and Administering Measure Z Funds
MS. CROSBY PRESENTED THE ITEM. AFTER STAFF RESPONDED TO QUESTIONS FROM MEMBER TOSTE REGARDING FUNDING REQUESTS AND REVIEW OF INVOICES, A MOTION TO APPROVE WAS MADE BY MEMBER LYLES. SECONDED BY MEMBER TOSTE, THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. MEMBER STRATFORD WAS ABSENT.

1:33:38

10. Receive staff reports
RECEIVED; MS. CROSBY REMINDED MEMBERS OF THE ANNUAL AFFIDAVIT DOCUMENT AND STATEMENTS OF ECONOMIC INTEREST, AND REPORTED THAT ANNUAL REPORTS HAD BEEN MAILED TO THE COUNCIL MEMBERS OF ALL FRESNO COUNTY CITIES AND TO MEDIA OUTLETS, AND WAS POSTED ON THE COUNTY AND AUTHORITY WEBSITES.

MS. MARKS REPORTED ON HER PROMOTION AND INTRODUCED INCOMING TREASURER JOSE REYNOSO. AS PART OF THE TRANSITION, THERE WILL BE ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE FROM ACCOUNT CLERK STAFF FOR THE REVIEW OF CLAIMS. THE CHAIRMAN CONGRATULATED MS. MARKS AND WELCOMED MR. REYNOSO.

1:36:58

11. Approve next meeting date.

Dates include:

Wednesday, February 28, 2018

Wednesday, March 28, 2018

Wednesday, April 25, 2018

AFTER DISCUSSION, THE CHAIRMAN REQUESTED A MOTION TO CANCEL THE FEBRUARY AND MARCH MEETING DATES. MADE BY MEMBER HERZOG AND SECONDED BY MEMBER WATERHOUSE, THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. MEMBER STRATFORD WAS ABSENT.

0:14:28

12. Approve Fresno's Chaffee Zoo Corporation's request for Measure Z Capital funds totaling \$119,350.00 for the design of the Utilities project.

MR. MORRIS SUMMARIZED THE PROJECT IN THE OLDER AREA OF THE ZOO THAT WILL PROVIDE FIBER-OPTIC AND NEW WATER AND ELECTRICAL SERVICE IN THE ZOO'S MAIN UTILITY "PATHWAY." IN RESPONSE TO MEMBER HERZOG'S QUESTION ABOUT ADDING SOLAR TO PROJECTS, HE SAID THEY HAD BUDGETED FOR SOLAR ON THE ELEPHANT BARN AND IN THE DESIGN OF ZOOPLEX, AND WILL CONSIDER SOLAR FOR EACH FUTURE PROJECT. CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER RICK TREATCH SAID IT WAS ALSO BEING CONSIDERED FOR PARKING IMPROVEMENTS WITHIN ROEDING PARK IN DISCUSSIONS WITH THE CITY OF FRESNO, AND THEY ARE LOOKING AT SOLAR PROJECTS AT OTHER ZOOS.

MS. CROSBY REMINDED MEMBERS THAT THIS ITEM WAS ADDED TO THE AGENDA FOR CONSIDERATION AT THIS SPECIAL MEETING, DESPITE THE LESS THAN 30-DAY REVIEW FOR FUNDING REQUESTS REQUIRED BY THE AUTHORITY'S PROCEDURES. THE CHAIRMAN STATED THAT THE REASON WAS TO ACCOMMODATE THIS REQUEST ALONG WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE ZOO'S OPERATIONS BUDGET, WHICH WAS DELAYED DUE TO THE CANCELLATION OF THE SCHEDULED JANUARY 31, 2018 MEETING, AND TO AVOID THE NEED TO MEET AGAIN IN TWO WEEKS AT THE NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING DATE OF FEBRUARY 28, 2018. COUNSEL JANE SMITH STATED THAT IF MEMBERS WISHED TO CONSIDER THE PROJECT, THE MOTION SHOULD ALSO INCLUDE WAIVING THE 30-DAY REVIEW REQUIREMENT.

MEMBER TOSTE MADE THE MOTION TO WAIVE THE 30-DAY REVIEW REQUIREMENT AND TO APPROVE THE REQUEST FOR MEASURE Z CAPITAL FUNDS TOTALING \$119,350.00 FOR THE DESIGN OF THE UTILITIES PROJECT, AS PROPOSED. SECONDED BY MEMBER LYLES, THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. MEMBER STRATFORD WAS ABSENT.

0:24:50

ITEM 6 WAS HEARD AT THIS TIME.

1:38:30

13. Chair's comments

THE CHAIRMAN THANKED MEMBERS FOR RE-ELECTING HER. SHE REQUESTED THAT, GOING FORWARD, THERE BE AN AGENDA ITEM TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED AT THE START OF THE MEETING, IN ORDER TO PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS AND ACCOMMODATE UNUSUAL MATTERS SUCH AS THE UTILITY PROJECT FUNDING REQUEST TODAY. SHE ALSO REPORTED ON THE PRESENTATION OF THE AUTHORITY'S ANNUAL REPORT TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AND TO KINGSBURG'S CITY COUNCIL, AND SAID SHE HAD RECEIVED POSITIVE COMMENTS FROM OTHER CITIES.

1:40:55:

14. Board Member comments

MEMBER LYLES COMPLEMENTED THE REPORT'S DESIGN AND PRESENTATION OF THE TIMELINE; THE CHAIRMAN ENJOYED THE NUTRITION FACTS, AND PRAISED GRAPHIC ARTIST GINA HILL FOR HER WORK; MEMBER HERZOG CONCURRED. MEMBER TOSTE THANKED THE FRESNO COUNTY EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION FOR HOSTING THE MEETING IN THEIR NEW BUILDING.

1:41:52

15. Adjourn

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE CHAIRMAN ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 10:48 AM.