

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES

Sacramento, CA

April 27, 2016

1:00 to 1:30 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Association of California Water Agencies

Director: Tim Quinn – Absent

Alternate: Dave Bolland – Absent

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Director: Sandra Morey – Present

Alternate: Nancee Murray – Absent

California Farm Bureau Federation

Director: Karen Mills – Present

Alternate: Noelle Cremers – Absent

California Forestry Association

Director: Kirsten Kolpitcke – Absent

Alternate: David Bischel – Absent

California Hydropower Reform Coalition

Director: Richard Roos-Collins – Absent

Alternate: Pete Bell – Present

California Public Utilities Commission

Director: Allison Brown - Present

Alternate: OPEN

California Public Utilities Commission Appointed Public Members

Director: Art Baggett Jr. – Present

Director: David Muraki – Present

Director: Chris Nota - Present

California Natural Resources Agency

Director: John Laird – Absent

Alternate: Todd Ferrara – Present

California Tribal Interests

Director: Larry Myers – Present

Alternate: Ken Tipon – Absent

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

Director: Soapy Mulholland – Present
Alternate: Bob Schneider – Absent

Office of Ratepayer Advocates

Director: Truman Burns – Present
Alternate: Cherie Chan – Absent

Pacific Gas & Electric Company

Director: Mike Schonherr – Present
Alternate: OPEN

Rural County Representatives of California

Director: Lee Adams – Present
Alternate: John Viegas – Absent

State Water Resources Control Board

Director: DeeDee D'Adamo – Present
Alternate: Jeffrey Parks – Present

Trust for Public Land

Director: Dave Sutton – Absent
Alternate: Jessica Daugherty – Present

U.S. Forest Service

Non-Voting Liaison: Jerry Bird - Present

STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL STAFF

Executive Director Allene Zanger
Director of Finance Scott Broberg
Director of Land Conservation Ric Notini
Senior Project Manager Toby Perry
Senior Project Manager Heidi Krolick
Senior Project Manager Chantz Joyce
Land Conservation Program Associate Lauren Faccinto
Executive Assistant Robin Flynn
Office Administrator Pam Mayers

OTHERS

Members of the public were also present.

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS TAKEN BY THE BOARD AT THIS MEETING

- The board adopted the minutes of the March 16, 2016 board of directors meeting. (**Consent calendar item**)
- The board approved the proposed Land Conservation and Conveyance Plan (LCCP) for the lands PG&E intends to sell to the Merced Irrigation District at the Merced River planning unit,

which LCCP describes how the proposed conservation easement transaction conforms to and fulfills the requirements of the 2003 Settlement Agreement and Stipulation; The board approved the proposed conservation easement funding agreement between the Stewardship Council and the Sierra Foothill Conservancy.

- The Board made a finding of No Significant Public Interest Value for a 23.9 acre area along the north side of parcel 748 at the Eel River planning unit

ATTENDANCE AND QUORUM

Stewardship Council board president Art Baggett called the roll, declared a quorum, and called the meeting to order.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES

Mr. Baggett asked if any board members had a conflict of interest with regard to any of the proposed actions. Mr. Baggett disclosed he had a conflict of interest regarding the action item regarding the Merced River Land Conservation and Conveyance Plan.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Baggett noted that there was no members of the public present and the meeting continued.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Mr. Baggett noted that the board agreed in closed session to pull from the consent calendar the request that the board delegate authority to the Fiduciary and Youth Investment committees to approve amendments to the Major Grant Agreement with Youth Outside regarding allowable expenditures for overhead costs. He said that no board action would be taken on that board request for delegation. The board then approved the consent calendar item as noted above in the summary of actions and resolutions taken at board meeting.

WATERSHED PLANNING COMMITTEE

Merced River Planning Unit (*ACTION*)

After Mr. Baggett left the meeting room, Senior Project Manager Toby Perry reviewed the request that the board approve the proposed LCCP for 21 acres of lands PG&E intends to sell to the Merced Irrigation District (MID) at the Merced River planning unit. Mr. Perry said that the Sierra Foothill Conservancy (SFC) and MID negotiated the conservation easement, and that the Stewardship Council would provide funding to SFC for conservation easement monitoring and enforcement in accordance with the proposed conservation easement funding agreement found in the meeting packet.

After an opportunity for board questions and discussion, the board made the following conflict of interest findings:

- The Board confirmed that in good faith it agrees that the Stewardship Council will take the proposed action for its own benefit; that the proposed action is fair and reasonable to the Stewardship Council; and that, after reasonable investigation, the Stewardship Council could not have obtained a more advantageous arrangement with reasonable effort under the circumstances.

Following the conflict of interest findings, the board approved the action as described above in the summary of actions and resolutions taken at board meeting.

Eel River Planning Unit (*ACTION*)

After Mr. Baggett returned to the room, Mr. Perry reviewed the Watershed Planning Committee's recommendation that the board make a finding of No Significant Public Interest Value for a 23.9 acre area along the north side of parcel 748 at the Eel River planning unit. Mr. Perry said:

- The finding is based on a discrepancy concerning the ownership of the 23.9 acre area based on an incorrect property boundary survey that was conducted and recorded with Mendocino County in 1973.
- The discrepancy was discovered in 2015. As a result of this discrepancy, the 23.9 acre area cannot readily be encumbered with a conservation easement.
- Potter Valley Tribe and Mendocino Land Trust are supportive of a finding of No Significant Public Interest Value.

Mr. Perry reported that the Stewardship Council conducted the following due diligence and public outreach on the subject property:

- Based on a review of the California Historical Resources Information System, there are three recorded cultural sites within ¼-mile of the 23.9 acre area, though none located on the area itself.
- The Native American Heritage Commission reported that its inventory of Native American sacred sites contains no specific site information on the 23.9 acre area.
- According to the California Natural Diversity Database, there was one recorded occurrence of a siting of an osprey on or immediately adjacent to the 23.9 acre area.
- The proposed finding was sent to local Native American tribes and water agencies, landowners within a mile of the property, and the Mendocino Board of Supervisors, and was noticed to everyone in the Stewardship Council's contact database on March 22, 2016. No comments from stakeholders or other members of the public have been received.

After an opportunity for board questions and discussion, the board approved the action as described above in the summary of actions and resolutions taken at board meeting.

LAND CONSERVATION PROGRAM UPDATE

Land Conservation Director Ric Notini provided the board with an update on the land conservation program.

FIDUCIARY COMMITTEE

Fiduciary Committee Chair, Truman Burns, provided an overview of the committee's purpose, and then provided the board with a brief financial update. He reported the Stewardship Council is currently \$1.4M below budget through March 2016. Mr. Burns also noted that as part of Stewardship Council's rebalancing of investments, the Stewardship Council will be shifting \$1M from the Vanguard Short Term Bond Fund to the Vanguard Ultra Short Term Bond Fund. In addition, the Stewardship Council will roll over all Treasury Note interest proceeds paid semi-annually into the Vanguard Ultra Short Term Bond Fund.

The board was provided an opportunity for questions and discussion.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Baggett adjourned the meeting at approximately 1:20 p.m.

Mike Schonherr, Assistant Secretary