



Mendocino County Fish & Game Commission
501 Low Gap Road
Ukiah, CA 95482

APPROVED MINUTES

DATE: Tuesday, December 12, 2016
TIME: 6:00 pm
LOCATION: Ukiah Branch of the Mendocino County Library
105 N. Main Street, Ukiah, CA 95482

REGULAR MEETING THE MENDOCINO COUNTY FISH AND GAME COMMISSION

1. Call to Order: Vice President Vann called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Roll Call:

Present: Commissioners Terry Guerrero, Patty Madigan, Charles Morgan, and Randy Vann
Absent: Commissioners Autumn Bremmer and Sean White

2. Public Expression on Non-Agenda Items (No Action)
No one from the audience indicated interest in speaking.

3. Approval of Minutes from August 9, 2016

Commissioner Guerrero motioned to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2016 meeting. Commissioner Vann seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Guerrero, Madigan, Morgan, and Vann
Absent: Commissioners Bremmer and White

4. Reports

• **CA Fish and Wildlife Warden, Steve White**

Lt White reported on his new position as the Supervisor of the Watershed Enforcement Team (WET). He noted the purpose of WET is to react to watershed infractions and the structure of personnel and will be coordinating with other entities in these efforts. The details of permitting, fines, and repairing damage were discussed. Lt White also reported on his previous position as District Lt. Three new wardens are finishing up with training and are expected to start after first of the year. Comments and questions were offered by Commissioners.

Continued...

Mendocino Fish and Game Commissioners

*Autumn
Bremmer*

*Terry
Guerrero*

*Patty
Madigan*

*Charles "Mike"
Morgan*

*Randy
Vann*

*Sean
White*

- **Department of Fish and Wildlife Biologist, Scott Koller**

Mr. Koller reported on deer, bear, and elk in the area.

- **Mendocino Wildlife Association**

Tracy Pellar reported on recent calls received by the Wildlife Association hotline, wildlife rehabilitation procedures, and noted the hotline number is 984-6363, open 7-10PM. Discussion was held regarding bear proofing trash receptacles and a follow up item was requested for the next meeting.

5. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding current and future abalone management.

Commissioner Guerrero reported on the State Fish and Game Commission recent emergency action based on mandates from the Abalone Management Plan of 2005. On December 3, 2016, a meeting was held in Mendocino County to coordinate efforts of local groups and individuals to develop a consensus to close elimination of April and November from the season and reducing the annual individual take to twelve abalone. The emergency action is in place for 6 months and two extensions of 90 days each are expected. The Commission discussed ways the Commission can support the Fisheries Management Plan development in compliance within its mission and By Laws.

Josh Russo, Recreational Abalone Advisory Committee (RACC) and President of the Waterman's Alliance, reviewed the emergency action and its impact. There is work on regulatory action and an updated Abalone Management Plan. He stressed the need for outreach and noted his willingness to attend Mendocino Fish and Game Commission meetings on a regular basis.

Anna Neuman of Reef Check Foundation, reviewed the efforts of the non-profit organization that works to protect reefs through education, research and conservation. On the West Coast, Reef Check runs nine sites to assess ocean ecosystem and health of reefs, train citizen scientists that assist with surveys. She described extended efforts to collect data on abalone measurements to assess their health and plans to extend in near future.

6. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Prosecution of local Fish and Wildlife regulation infractions.

Commissioner Guerrero opened the discussion of the prosecutions of Fish and Wildlife regulations. Lt. White reviewed the process of infraction citations. Josh Russo noted a Fish and Game Special Prosecutor was discussed at RACC meeting and continues to pursue efforts to obtain more funding for enforcement. Lt. White noted there is an environmental Prosecutors available from the Attorney's Association (State) that Mendocino County has declined.

Commissioner Madigan motioned Commissioners Sean White and Patty Madigan draft a letter to the County Board of Supervisors reviewing the lack of resources to prosecute Fish and Wildlife infractions and the need of enforcement of fines to provide disincentive to infractions. Commissioner Morgan seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Guerrero, Madigan, Morgan, and Vann

Absent: Commissioners Bremmer and White

Continued...

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7. Grant Proposal Schedule Update

Secretary Salomone noted the Press Release was distributed, December 31st, 2016 is the submission deadline. An Ad Hoc Committee for ranking proposals is being scheduled for January (Commissioners Madigan, Morgan, and Vann.) A meeting for Proposal Presentations is scheduled for January 17, 2017.

8. 2017 Meeting Schedule and Elections of Officers

Meeting Schedule

Commissioner Vann motioned to approve the following dates for 2017 meetings: January 17, March 14, May 9, July 11, September 12, and November 14. Commissioner Madigan seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Guerrero, Madigan, Morgan, and Vann
Absent: Commissioners Bremmer and White

A Special Meeting will be scheduled for late January, February to make Grant Proposal recommendations to the Board of Supervisors. Secretary will work with County staff to post the meeting schedule on website more clearly than the current layout.

Commission Chair

Commissioner Guerrero motioned to approve Randy Vann as Commission Chair. Commissioner Madigan seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Guerrero, Madigan, Morgan, and Vann
Absent: Commissioners Bremmer and White

Commission Vice Chair

Commissioner Vann motioned to approve Terry Guerrero as Commission Vice Chair. Commissioner Morgan seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Guerrero, Madigan, Morgan, and Vann
Absent: Commissioners Bremmer and White

Commission Treasurer

Commissioner Guerrero motioned to approve Patty Madigan as Commission Treasurer. Commissioner Vann seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Guerrero, Madigan, Morgan, and Vann
Absent: Commissioners Bremmer and White

9. Commissioner Comments, Reports, Announcements

Commissioner Vann opened a discussion regarding the current Commission vacancies.

Commissioner Madigan reported on recent fish counts.

Commissioner Guerrero reported on a fieldtrip he led to Van Arsdale and data collection efforts on lamprey.

Commissioner Vann reported on the Mendocino County Blacktail Association.

10. Adjournment at 7:36pm.

Mendocino Fish and Game Commissioners

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