



Mendocino County Fish & Game Commission

860 North Bush Street, Ukiah, CA 95482

<https://www.mendocinocounty.org/government/planning-building-services/fish-game>

Summary Minutes of the Regular Meeting Approved by the Commission May 8, 2018

DATE: Tuesday, March 13, 2018
TIME: 6:00 pm
LOCATION: Mendocino County Farm Advisor Building/Ukiah UC Davis Extension Building
Conference Room, 890 North Bush Street, Ukiah, CA 95482

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, and Commissioner Appointments

Chair Vann called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Present: Commissioners Norm Brown, Patrick Ford (6:05pm) Patty Madigan, Anna Neumann,
RedHawk Pallesen, and Randy Vann

Absent: Michael Kura

2. Public Expression on Non-Agenda Items (No Action)

There were no comments from the public.

3. Approval of Minutes of January 9, 2018 Regular Meeting and January 17, 2018 Special Meeting

Upon motion by Commissioner Ford, second by Commissioner Neumann, the minutes of January 9, 2018 Regular Meeting and January 17, 2018 Special Meeting were approved by unanimous vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Norm Brown, Patrick Ford, Patty Madigan, Anna Neumann,
RedHawk Pallesen, and Randy Vann

Absent: Michael Kura

4. 2017-18 Fish and Game Grants

Commissioner Pallesen reported on a follow up with Jim Robbins, Community Development Specialist at the City of Willits regarding the Sub-tidal Marine Protected Areas Monitoring proposal submitted and not funded by the Fish and Game Commission. Commissioner Pallesen was able to offer Mr. Robbins more detailed feedback and advice on the project and Mr. Robbins was satisfied with the results.

The Secretary reported on the Board of Supervisor's meeting where the grant funding recommendations were approved and noted grant payments through the County Auditor department are expected to be issued in March.

Continued...

Mendocino Fish and Game Commissioners

Norm Brown

Michael Kura

Patrick Ford

Patty Madigan

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RedHawk Pallesen

Randy Vann

5. Reports

- **Grant Awardees**

Josh Russo, President of the Waterman's Alliance, thanked the Commission for recommending the Urchin Removal Project and provided an update. Chair Vann thanked Mr. Russo for the regular updates.

Commissioner Vann reported the Hammerhorn Lake Improvement project funded through the Fish and Game Commission in fiscal year 2015/16 is experiencing further delays due to road closure issues from natural causes and are asking for a further extension on the final report.

Commissioner Vann also reported the Round Valley Indian Tribes are starting their planting along Mill Creek in their bank stabilization and riparian corridor development project funded by the Commission in fiscal year 2016-17.

- **Fisheries**

Josh Russo, Recreational Abalone Advisory Committee and President of the Waterman's Alliance, provided an update to the Commission on the status of the abalone Fisheries Management Plan (FMP) and urchin removal. He noted the support for a minimal fishery recommendation for the 2019 FMP as well as a range of reduction options as used in the lobster FMP rather than required reductions. The updated FMP is expected on Saturday. Mr. Russo reported on the urchin removal process. He has applied for a scientific research permit to use recreational diver volunteers. The restrictions on recreational urchin removal are changing, allowing for large removal events.

6. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Burn Symposium (Commissioners Vanna and Brown)

Commissioner Brown provided an update on the May 31, 2018 Burn Symposium. The Farm Bureau will begin advertising soon. Commissioner Vann reported he and Commissioner Brown plan to attend the Prescribed Fire Council is having their annual meeting at Mount Shasta.

7. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Lake Mendocino Recreation Areas (Commissioner Pallesen)

Commissioner Pallesen noted the importance of continuing to keep this item on the agenda for Commission support and follow up. Commissioner Ford noted the CalTip signs are going to be posted in the next month or so. Commissioner Ford reported a public meeting was held recently to discuss the plans for Lake Mendocino involving several agencies. He was unable to attend and will provide a report on the results of that meeting. He also noted Pacific Outfitters, Rod and Gun Club, and other volunteers continue to hold regular lake area clean ups. Commissioner Madigan reviewed a comments letter she sent to the US Army Corp of Engineers, as a private citizen, and offered to provide the link to others interested in commenting.

8. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Meeting Schedule Changes (Commissioners Pallesen and Neumann)

The Secretary reported on the loss of use of Fort Bragg Library for the two regular Commission meetings held in Fort Bragg. Discussion was held regarding the proposal of altering the 2018 Meeting Schedule, including locations, times, days, and use of electronics for participation. Commission consensus was to continue with the two meetings each a year in Fort Bragg, Willits, and Ukiah, keeping the time and day of month. Commissioner Madigan will research a new location for Fort Bragg. A discussion was regarding inviting speakers and publicizing the meetings.

Continued...

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Discussion and Possible Action on Commission Administration and Accounting Reports

- **Secretary Report:** Secretary noted calls received. Discussion was held regarding an update memo for the Board of Supervisors. Secretary will review the current By Laws for any needed updates and present as a future agenda item.

Upon motion by Commissioner Pallesen, second by Commissioner Brown, a written summary to the Board of Supervisors on topics as discussed in the Fish and Game Commission meetings prepared by the Secretary and reviewed and approved by Commissioner Madigan was approved by unanimous vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Norm Brown, Patrick Ford, Patty Madigan, Anna Neumann,
RedHawk Pallesen, and Randy Vann

Absent: Michael Kura

- **Coastal-At-Large Seat Expiration, July 2018**

Commissioner Pallesen is interested in reapplying for his current seat.

- **Finances**

Commissioners Pallesen and Neumann reported on the recent meeting with the County of Mendocino regarding the Commission accounts in which revenues, budgets, reserves, etc. were discussed. Discussion was held regarding the funds available for future grant cycles. Currently, the total amount of grant money available is established by estimating revenue from fines in the fiscal year. The Commission discussed the options for transitioning to granting money collected the previous fiscal year, which may include a transition year of low or no funding. Commissioner Madigan introduced an option to hold one grant cycle for high school student proposals only and discussion was held.

9. Commissioner Comments, Reports, Announcements

- *Commissioner Neumann* noted the Pacific States Fisheries lost their grant funding.
- *Commissioner Brown* followed up on research regarding wolf populations in northern California.
- *Commissioner Madigan* introduced outreach work she is developing through Mendocino Resource Conservation District, particularly impacts of drought, fire, and water security in financially challenged communities. She invited input. She is also presenting a series for cannabis growers, providing them information for good land steward practices.
- *Commissioner Ford* reported on the steelhead run and festivals.

10. Adjournment at 7:48pm

NEXT REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULED:

**Tuesday, May 8, 2018
in the Abalone Room at the
The Little River Inn at 7751 CA-1, Little River, California**

Mendocino Fish and Game Commissioners

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