

**Mono County Fisheries Commission**

Regular Meeting

**Monday, July 10, 2013 ~ 10:00 a.m.**

June Lake Community Center

June Lake ~ California

**Minutes of Meeting**

**I CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m.

**II Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**III ROLL CALL**

Present were Commissioners Steve Marti, Gaye Mueller, Bob Dunn, Dan Anthony, Jim King and Gary Jones. Staff present was Dan Lyster and Nancy Alaniz. Supervisor Fesko was also present.

**IV COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Angeles reported that IAG lost over \$8500 in additional fish due to low water flows. IAG has loaned troughs to BFEF for a hatch.

**V APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

June 5, 2013

**Motion by Dunn to accept the June 5, 2013 minutes. Second by Mueller. Passed unanimously.**

**VI STAFF/COMMISSIONERS REPORTS**

Lyster reported that he and County Counsel Rudolph would be having a meeting later in the day with Eastern Sierra Land Trust regarding the draft conservation easement for Conway Ranch.

Dunn stated that he believed the West Walker River regulation change may be listed and discussed at the August Fish and Game Commission meeting which is to be held in San Luis Obispo. Dunn will follow up on this issue and confirm what exactly will be discussed and whether it will be necessary for a MCFC commissioner to attend. A discussion ensued regarding travel reimbursement.

Mueller attended the Inyo Fish and Wildlife Commission meeting. At that meeting Biologist Jim Erdman, CDFW discussed the ongoing Yellow Legged Frog project. The FC asked Alaniz to contact Erdman and request that he give them the same presentation. Mueller also told Frederickson that the Inyo F&W had questions about the difference between IAG and Conway Ranch Foundation. Frederickson agreed to attend their next meeting to provide clarification.

**VII F&W UPDATE**

None

**VIII FUND BALANCES**

The F&G Fine Fund balance was reported by the Finance Department as \$9811.80. The MCFC regular budget is pending approval. The Conway Ranch Fund was reported as \$28,695.60.

**IX BUSINESS MATTERS**

**1. Modify FC Management Plan for BOS - Marti**

Marti had previously presented this plan to the BOS and there were some changes that needed to be made. Marti proposed that the management plan include the entire Conway Ranch, including aquaculture. Marti recommended an independent board to manage the ranch, and that the board could include a BOS member as well as a representative(s) of the FC. Marti wanted to move the management from the BOS to an on-site manager who could efficiently manage the operations of the ranch and make decisions in a timely manner. There was a discussion about whether the manager should be a resident manager. The key areas of concern that he mentioned were the preservation of the historic buildings, the management of agricultural, and the management of the aquaculture program. He also felt that the promotion of education and ranch restoration were important points. He also mentioned the proposal that a new entity should have control over the Conway Ranch Fund, as well the pursuit of grants for funding.

Karen Farrell-Ingram commented that this discussion was timely in regards to the ongoing easement discussions.

Dunn commented that he agreed with the concept, but with the caveat that there are consultant recommendations pending as well as the grantor approvals.

Mueller suggested that the name Conway Ranch Foundation sounds like it benefits the entire ranch, but it does not. Sup. Fesko suggested that maybe it could be modified and expanded to include the entire ranch and other representatives. Alaniz stated that if there are two similar foundations the public could become confused and one foundation may benefit more than the other. Frederickson thought maybe the Conway Ranch could partner with the foundations for Bodie and Bodie Railway.

This item will be discussed further at the next meeting.

**2. Conway Ranch Water Irrigator - Marti**

Lyster stated that Bob Feiner is being considered for the water irrigator position. There has been no offer made at this point. There was a discussion about the requirements for the position. Also discussed was the benefit of aerial maps and status of water conveyances.

**3. Silver Lakes Fly Fishing Academy (Informational) – Andrew Jones**

Andrew Jones gave an overview of the recently formed Silver Lake Fly Fishing Academy. The academy is funded by the Silver Lake Fly Fishing Foundation (501c3) which is funded by donations from the Perrin family. The academy is for the education of youth about fly fishing. The first academy was held two weeks ago. The academy educated the children through instruction and practical experience. Due to the academy's success there will be two classes held next year. They are seeking volunteers to assist with the program.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Meeting adjourned at 11:55 pm.**

The next regular meeting of the MCFC will be held in the June Lake Community Center, June Lake on Wednesday, July 31, 2013 at 10 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy Alaniz, Secretary