

Mono County Fisheries Commission
Wednesday, February 5, 2014 ~ 10:00 am
June Lake Community Center, June Lake

Minutes

I CALL TO ORDER

Chair Steve Marti called meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

II PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Steve Marti led the pledge of allegiance.

III ROLL CALL

Present were Commissioners; Steve Marti, John Webb, Dan Anthony, Gaye Mueller, Bob Dunn, Jim King, and Gary Jones. Staff present; Nancy Alaniz and Stacie Klemm. Others present; John Fredrichsen, Jim Erdman, Karin Ingram, Bill Daily, and Bartsche Miller.

IV COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC

No Public Comment

V APPROVAL OF MINUTES (1-8-14)

Motion by Dan Anthony to approve the January 8, 2014 minutes. Second by Gaye Mueller.
Motion passes unanimously.

VI STAFF/COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS

Gaye Mueller reported on the catch and release fishing brochures. She provided printing estimates; printing locally 5000 8 ½ x 7 brochures would cost about \$465. 10,000 brochures would cost about \$690. Printing 5000 out of the area is about \$360 and 10,000 would be about \$620. The idea is to have the brochures be 2 pages. A front cover, catch and release fly fishing on one side, catch and keep for bait on the other and the definition of each and include the procedures for each one. On the back cover possibly putting some trout recipes. This will be added to next month's agenda to propose a layout and possible approval.

Dan Anthony proposed writing a letter to Jim Mathews, a wild life writer to inform the change to West Walker opening on March 1st, in attempts to get the information about the new regulations published.

Gaye Mueller spoke about the Mono County Board of Supervisors meeting; she wanted to relay comments from Supervisor Fesko. He was extremely complimentary about the levels of volunteering this commission does. He also commented on the wealth of knowledge within this organization.

VII F&W UPDATE

Jim Erdman provided information and spoke about the fish stocking criteria. There are streams being closed, due to the drought. If there is not sufficient water levels and water temperatures are too high stocking will not be an option. It is required to adhere to stocking criteria, low water levels and high

temperatures is stressful to the fish and they are likely not to survive . However, the Trout Fest will still be taking place on June 28th at Hot Creek hatchery.

Bill Dailey spoke about the outdoor adventure program. Currently, hunter safety education programs are being taught in our local schools, Mammoth Lakes, Lee Vining Coleville, Bishop, Independence, and Big Pine are all participating in this. The outdoor adventure program is currently board of education approved in Texas, and working to pass the education standards in California. School attendance and grades have greatly increased in the schools that this program is currently being used.

VIII PURSUANT TO FINANCE DEPT. 1/30/14

THE F&G FINE FUND balance was reported by the finance department as \$ 18,571.34 (\$7500 encumbered-\$4000 BFEF/\$3500 ESWC)

THE MCFC REGULAR BUDGET IS: \$ 10,586.29 (+\$6494.12 pending BOS approval)

THE CONWAY RANCH FUND was reported as \$ 19,976.98.

IX BUSINESS MATTERS

Discussion & Possible Approval of Pending BFEF Invoices – Marti

Gaye Mueller reported; no one from this foundation was able to attend this meeting to discuss this. The original invoice was submitted for fish food and fish eggs. It was approved to fund for the fish eggs and food. This was re-agendized to discuss reimbursement for the invoice line item on renovation for the fish egg tank. It was agreed upon to remain with original motion of reimbursement of the fish eggs.

Discussion to Determine Guidelines for Fish Distribution by Outside Organizations Receiving Funding - Marti

Currently there are guidelines regarding Funding and Fish Distribution by outside organizations. The commission agreed that they would like to review the policy to determine requirements and revisit at a later date.

Discussion and possible approval of an AG-well on Conway Ranch - Steve Marti/John Webb

John Webb reported that the Board of Supervisors denied the funding for the AG-Well on Conway Ranch. The estimate of costs is about \$30,000 to install in approximately the same vicinity as the test well. It is suggested to present a request to the Board of Supervisors for funding of a percentage of the price, rather than the entire amount. One of the challenges that may come up if there is approval for this well is there will be operational costs associated with it, it can become costly. There has to be approval from the Board of Supervisors to install the well on the property, even if the Fisheries Commission funds the well. It's suggested to obtain approval from the Board of Supervisors to have the well installed on the property, get an entire cost, including installation cost and the cost to run the well. Then proceed to building a plan on funding. Steve Marti suggested getting all information together and present to the Board of Supervisors. Also, possibly bring to the RPAC's in hopes to receive their support.

Discussion & Possible Approval of \$500 for the stocking of the W. Walker River in March to support the Catch and Release Program –Dunn

Bob Dunn reported that on March 1st they will be opening the new season for catch and release. If weather is conducive they will be planting fish in the West Walker River the week before. He is requesting on a one time basis only funding of \$500 from the discretionary money of the commission. Bob Dunn excused himself at 12:23 p.m.

John Webb made motion to provide a onetime \$500 funding to stock fish in West Walker River.

Jim King Second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion of the Mono Basin RPAC concerns ref: Conway Ranch easement/management plan – King

Jim King spoke about concerns regarding the Mono Basin RPAC. Karin Ingram reported; there will be a management plan associated with the conservation easement plan. Mono County is responsible for the land trust and making sure the management plan is consistent with the easement. Steve Marti suggested meeting with the RPAC to discuss the Conway Ranch management plan and receiving their input.

Discussion & Possible Action ref: USFWS Frog/Critical Habitat Listing – King

Jim King suggested that the fisheries commission write a letter commenting on the Critical Habitat and Economic Analysis before 3/11/14. The commission agreed to send a letter.

Discussion and possible recommendation RE: FIM and the Virginia Crk. Ditch - John Webb

John Webb reported that this is an ongoing conversation from the beginning of the year regarding the irrigation from the Parshall flume to the settling pond. Some work was done by the Owens Valley C Corps of cutting out willows and moving rocks out of the ditch. However, they could not dig the ditch any deeper due to the ground being so hard so basically the volume of the ditch is the same. John talked with Jeff Simpson to see if he could go further with this program, and asked if he contacted the Chichester's to get permission to do some work on their property because the ditch is minimal. John stated that Jeff said it was ok, and he went over and cleared out willows but it does not have an effect on the water flows as far as carrying it in those ditches. John stated they are going to continue this project next year possibly if we can get OVCC to do more work. John stated he received a letter from Dan Lyster pursuing a pipe going around the Webb's property with an underground water pipe. NRCS(Natural Resources Conservation Service) has been working on this for some time and said it could be a conceivable project. John explained the pipe structure and discussed the logistics of how they believe it would alleviate the water problems he is having in the garage. At this point in time Economic Development is taking John's recommendation and he assumed that meant leave it status quo and see how much water we can get with the improvements that have made and with more improvements to the south side of that we would have water to irrigate the Conway Ranch. John passed around pictures (last spring) of the flume showing the vertical gauge and the ditch. He then explained that he received assistance in obtaining the equation from DWP through John Frederickson for computing water flow going through the Parshall flume with the measurements of 6cfs.

Meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, anyone who needs special assistance to attend this meeting can contact Stacie Klemm at 760-932-5408 Bridgeport Office or 760-924-1724 Mammoth Office within 48 hours prior to the meeting in order to ensure accessibility (see 42USCS 12132, 28CFR 35.130). Meeting materials may be viewed by contacting Stacie Klemm at 760-932-5408 Bridgeport Office or 760-924-1724 Mammoth Office.