

# COUNTY OF PLACER FISH & GAME COMMISSION

Ed King Deputy Agricultural Commissioner County Contact

FISH & GAME COMMISSION MEMBERS

DISTRICT 1
Don Gould Mark Fowler
DISTRICT3
DISTRICT 3
Gregg McKenzie Gary Flanagan
DISTRICT 5
Kari Freidig Ron Salter

**DISTRICT 5**Mickey Daniels

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# PLACER COUNTY FISH & GAME COMMISSION Minutes

TIME/DATE: 7:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY, October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2012

LOCATION: PLACER COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION HEARING ROOM

Community Development Resource Agency, DeWitt Center, Auburn 3091 County Center Drive (corner of Bell Road and Richardson Drive),

The Placer County Fish & Game Commission is committed to ensuring that persons with disabilities are provided the resources to participate fully in its public meetings. If you are hearing impaired, we have listening devices available. If you require additional disability-related modifications or accommodations, including auxiliary aids or services, please contact the Recording Secretary at (530) 889-7372. If requested, the agenda shall be provided in appropriate alternative formats to persons with disabilities. All requests must be received at least 72 hours prior to the scheduled meeting for which you are requesting accommodation. Requests received after such time will be accommodated only if time permits.

- I. CALL TO ORDER Gary Flanagan, Chairperson
- II. ROLL CALL Mark Fowler, Don Gould, Mickey Daniels, Gary Flanagan, Ron Salter, Kari Freidig, Gregg McKenzie
- II. Approval of agenda for October 24, 2012 and minutes for September 26, 2012

Commissioner Fowler motioned to accept the agenda.

Commissioner McKenzie seconded the motion.

All commissioners voted to accept the agenda.

Commissioner Fowler motioned to accept the minutes from September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

Commissioner Gould seconded the motion

All voting commissioners voted to accept the minutes.

#### IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Individuals may address the Commission on items under the jurisdiction of the Agricultural Commission not included on this agenda for no longer than three (3) minutes. *No action can be taken on items addressed under Public Comment* 

None.

### V. FINANCIAL REPORT

# A. Budget Update - Ed King

Expenditures for FY 12/13, through September 30, 2012, total \$1,374.51 including, \$570.00 in commissioner's fees, \$300.00 in secretary fees and \$504.51 in mileage reimbursement.

Revenues through September 30, 2012 total \$86.72, including \$39.52 in fine monies and \$47.20 in interest. A total of \$1,200.00 was budgeted for the fiscal year.

Commissioner Freidig asked where the \$2,000 for grant awards came from and why it was down this year from last year's \$5,000.

Ed King indicated that fine revenues were significantly down in FY 11/12 and \$2,000 was the agreed to amount to budget for the grant program.

## VI. AGENCY REPORTS

# A. Commission Updates

Commissioner Gould went to the Calling Back the Salmon Festival in Lincoln. The event did not seem to be well attended, but there were 15 exhibitors with lots of information.

Commissioner Daniels went to the fishery meeting about the reintroduction of cutthroat into Lake Tahoe, the re-introduction of native fish. US Fish and Wildlife are netting the fish from a large boat. They plant sterile rainbows in Lake Tahoe. California does not have facilities to hatch cutthroats. Tahoe does not have good streams for cutthroat to reproduce.

Commissioner Salter reported the Central Sierra Association of Fish & Game Commissioners next meeting is January 8, 2013 in Auburn.

# B. California Department of Fish & Game – Warden Robert Pelzman

Nine hunters during opening of dove season were cited for hunting over bait outside Roseville. Each hunter pled no contest to a misdemeanor charge of illegal taking and paid a fine of \$500 (with penalties and assessments totaling over \$2,000 each).

On the opening day of x-zone hunt Warden Kraft inspected a suspicious parked vehicle near Donner Lake just inside Placer County. He followed a nearby trail and encountered two hunters who did not have x-zone deer tags, were baiting deer and were using trail cameras. Both hunters were issued citations.

The snow has caused the deer to move out of the high country. Wardens counter signed about 30 deer tags and will continue to patrol ensure hunters are following the laws.

# C. Nevada Irrigation District – Sue Sindt

Ended irrigation season with 110% of average in storage. Thirty-one inches of snow at Bowman after recent storm. Six salmon were sighted above the retrofitted gauging station in Auburn Ravine. This is further than normal.

#### **Non-Action Items**

#### VII. None

#### **Action Items**

VIII. Continued discussion and possible vote regarding the lawsuit filed against the US Forest Service by the Pacific Legal Foundation. (Off road closures in the Tahoe National Forest) Tabled from September Meeting

Commissioner Flanagan reported that the USFS could not produce any new materials because they are in litigation. He recommended that the Commission table the issue until the lawsuit matures since it is in its infancy.

Commissioner Freidig reminded the Commission that they should not forget the public comments from the September meeting in support of the USFS or to take no position on the lawsuit.

Commissioners discussed the litigation and the timeframes.

Marilyn Jasper indicated that Commissioner Daniels was not present at the previous meeting and that she would not like the Commission to get involved.

Commissioner Daniels motioned to table the item.

Commissioner Salter seconded.

All members voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

IX. Grant Requests – Consider annual grant proposals submitted to the Commission and award funding consistent with California Fish and Game Code Section 13103 and the Commission's Operating Procedures. Total awards are not to exceed \$1,000 per recipient.

Applications were distributed to past recipients, individuals and groups on the Commission's email list. The Placer County Public Information Office also put out a press release about the grant program. Six completed applications were received by the October 12<sup>th</sup> deadline:

Organization	Requested Grant Amount
Sierra Watershed Educations	\$1000
Partnerships	
Placer Sportsmen Inc.	\$1000
Wildlife Heritage Foundation	\$1000
Hawks, Honkers & Hoots	\$1000
Placer Nature Center	\$500
Gold Country Wildlife Rescue	\$1000

Ed King indicated he did not receive an application from Fruitvale School.

Commissioner Freidig expressed concern about Hawks, Honkers and Hoots' application. She could not find their tax-exempt id and they reported no income in 2012 as they just formed. They are located in El Dorado County. There are rescue and rehab groups in Placer County that have 25 years of experience.

Commissioner Gould indicated that he too had and issue with Hawks, Honkers and Hoots because they are based outside of Placer County.

Commissioner Freidig indicated that some applicants have large budgets already. For example, Wildlife Heritage Foundation has an executive director that makes more than \$60,000 per year.

Commissioner Freidig suggested that they should eliminate Wildlife Heritage Foundation and then divide the awards between the remaining applicants.

Commissioner Gould motioned not to fund Wildlife Heritage Foundation.

Commissioner Daniels seconded

Commissioners Flanagan and McKenzie opposed.

All other commissioners voted in favor.

Motion passed.

Commissioner Daniels motioned not to fund Hawks, Honkers and Hoots.

Commissioner Freidig seconded.

All commissioners voted in favor.

Motion passed.

Commissioner Gould motioned to grant \$500 to each remaining organization:

Commissioner Daniels seconded. All commissioners voted in favor Motion passed.

2012 approved grant awards:

Organization	Approved Grant Amount
Sierra Watershed Educations	\$500
Partnerships	
Placer Sportsmen Inc.	\$500
Placer Nature Center	\$500
Gold Country Wildlife Rescue	\$500

# X. Discuss the possibility of changing the name of the "Placer County Fish & Game Commission" to "Placer County Fish & Wildlife Commission"

Commissioner Freidig indicated that Governor Brown signed into law, AB 2402, renaming the Department Fish and Game to Department of Fish and Wildlife. She indicated that it would be good to keep in step with the new name. Many other county commissions are already calling themselves fish and wildlife.

Commissioner Daniels asked the question how those commissions receive funds if they are not a fish and game commission.

Commissioner Freidig indicated that some counties do not have a commission.

Commissioner Flanagan indicated this commission can only make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors.

Commissioner Gould read an email from Carol and William Gage who indicated they are against hunting and that hunters need counseling.

Commissioner Gould indicated that the Pitman-Robinson Act is almost 75 years old. About 2 billion dollars has gone to conservation. Only hunters pay this tax. Golfers, hikers, and others that use the outdoors do not pay the tax on their products. It does not discriminate against non-hunters. Both game and nongame animals benefit. They estimate that 75 percent of the people and some localities as high at 90 percent do not hunt. Therefore, the hunters and anglers spend a lot of money, including gas, hotels and other non-hunting items.

Commissioners discussed why they should or should not change the name.

Marilyn Jasper indicated that this is a good idea. Some other people that do not hunt or fish also buy items that get the Pitman-Robinson tax. Stated that the new name indicates that they will have a broader focus. This might result in more people attending commission meetings.

Warden Pelzman indicated that it does not change the mission or mandate of the department. It is strictly a name change.

Commissioner Flanagan indicated that he is concerned this is a paradigm shift for the department. Concerned that this would encourage more non-hunting groups to try to limit hunting and fishing activities.

Commissioner Freidig motioned to recommend that the Board of Supervisors change the Commission's name to Fish and Wildlife Commission. Commissioner Fowler seconded.

Commissioners Fowler and Freidig voted in favor of the motion. All other commissioners voted against the motion

Motion failed.

## X. ADJOURNMENT at 8:05

XI. Next meeting will be Wednesday December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2012