



SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY FISH AND GAME COMMISSION MEETING

Special Districts Department
157 W. Fifth Street, 2nd Floor
San Bernardino, California

MINUTES OF OCTOBER 21, 2014

- Present:** Paul Franklin, Chairman, Third District
Tim Glenner, Vice-Chair, First District
Robert Olin, Commissioner, Second District
John Bishop, Commissioner, Fourth District
Carey A. Stockton, Fifth District
- Jeff Rigney, Director, Special Districts
John Bradford, Special Districts
Mary Mayes, Special Districts
Keith Lee, Director, Regional Parks
Beverly Pickens, Regional Parks
- Lewis Murray, Field Representative, 2nd District, Board of Supervisors
Rick Fischer, State Fish and Wildlife
- Paul Soucier, Papoose Bay Association
Laura Sayre, Marks Management for Papoose Bay Estates
- Absent:** Russ Stringham, Commissioner, First District
- Call to Order:** The October 21, 2014 meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Chairman Franklin.
- Pledge of Allegiance:** Chairman Franklin led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Introductions:** Introductions were made of Commissioners, staff and all in attendance.
- Approval of Minutes:** Motion by Commissioner Bishop seconded by Commissioner Olin to approve the minutes of April 15, 2014. The minutes were unanimously recommended for approval.
- Staff Reports:**
- Financial Report: John Bradford, Special Districts, distributed the financial report; there is \$2,023 in funds currently available pending meeting reimbursement. There was a discussion with the Commissioners and Special Districts staff about the expenditures and administrative fee. Director Rigney explained that the Special Districts Department receives no general fund money and stated this could be discussed further with Regional Parks once they are the liaison agency; Regional Parks may not need to charge the yearly administrative fee.
- Other Reports:**
- None

**California Department
of Fish & Wildlife:**

- Vests for Wardens: Warden Fisher asked the Commission if they would consider buying outer vests for the five local Fish and Game wardens as their department will not pay for them. The vests are from Safari Land and Warden Fischer will find out what the actual cost will be. The basic vest is \$125; however, with the additional amenities, they are approximately \$340. Chair Franklin asked if the Commission would be allowed to approve this request and what would be involved. Mary Mayes, Special Districts, will provide the request form to Warden Fischer. Director Rigney believes this would be an appropriate expenditure; however, he will find out and provide the information to the Commission.
- Citations: Warden Fischer stated that Warden Bellis, the Big Bear Warden, mentioned that the San Bernardino County District Attorney was not prosecuting Fish and Wildlife cases. Commission Olin asked Warden Fischer to have Warden Bellis email the statistics to him.
- Fish Hatchery Issue: Warden Fischer said there have been complaints that fish hatcheries stocking the rivers are not spreading the fish out and are dumping them all in one place. He has talked to the fish hatchery about this.
- Highway 173: Warden Fischer stated there has been issues with various things ever since Highway 173 was closed. He is unable to unlock the gate due to the position of the lock; illegal hunting is going on and he asked if there is anything that can be done to have it reopened. Chair Franklin said it is a state issue as it is a state highway and suggested he contacts County Fire and/or the Forestry and ask them to assist.
- John Bradford stated maps need to be purchased; however, the project for Bruce Kenyan of Quails Unlimited was approved in 2012 and Mr. Kenyan still has not been awarded the money. John recommended maps be purchased first but the Chair stated we would discuss the maps later during the meeting. John would also like to wait on approving the purchase of the vests requested by Warden Fischer since there is not have enough money available. Commissioner Bishop asked if the Commission is allowed to accept donations and John Bradford stated yes. Director Rigney said donations can be accepted; however, if they are over a certain amount, an item would need to go to the Board of Supervisors for approval. The Chair asked if there was a process for obtaining donations and Director Rigney stated he would find out. Discussion was held among Commissioners and staff about funding, purchase of the vests and the Bruce Kenyan project. The Chair asked that approval of purchase of the vests be put on hold for now until they have additional information on funds.

Unfinished Business:

- Annual Administrative Fee – An administrative fee of \$3000 was charged to the Fish & Game fund for the period of July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014. Director Rigney explained that we are not a general fund department and therefore we have to charge for staff time. Director Rigney will review amount and adjust if necessary due to the number of Fish and Game Commission meetings held over the past year.
- Hunting and Shooting Maps: John Bradford stated more maps need to be printed soon. Chair Franklin asked about having a review process done on the map before they are reprinted. The Chair stated guidelines on the County map are different then the guidelines of other agencies. He said rifles are being used on the backside of San Gorgonio; however, the map states only shotguns can be used. Per John Bradford, any changes would have to be

reviewed by County Counsel, then it would need to go to the Board of Supervisors for approval, as it would require a change to the shooting ordinance, and all the costs would have to be charged to the Fish and Game fund. Commissioner Bishop stated that changing the maps would require the Surveyor to review also. He would also like to see changes made before maps are printed. The Chairman said we would hold off on this for now but would like staff to find out if there is a way to change the legal description and add additional information without having to change the entire map. Director Rigney said he would check with Counsel in regard to this.

- Assembly Bill 2205 – Regarding the use of dogs when hunting bears in state. This Assembly Bill died in the Senate.
- Change of Liaison Agency for Fish & Game Commission from Special Districts to Regional Parks: Director Rigney explained he had asked the County Administrative Office (CAO) for general fund money for the printing of additional hunting and shooting maps. Special Districts Department receives revenue from the districts we administer and everything is charged against the these districts either through fees or taxes. Therefore, when he asked the CAO for general fund money for the maps, they stated it would be a better fit for the Commission's liaison agency to be a general fund department, like Regional Parks. There is no guarantee the Fish and Game Commission will receive general fund money; however, the transition would provide for more possibilities of this happening. Director Lee of Regional Parks stated they spread costs throughout the various parks but any Commission costs would be absorbed by the Department. The Chair asked if there would be any changes once the move is done and Director Lee stated he did not believe there would be any except that future meetings would be held at their office located at 777 E. Rialto, in their conference room. Chair Franklin asked what revisions had been made to the by-laws and when the item would be going to the Board for approval. Mary stated only the name of the department changed and the day of the meeting changed from the second Tuesday of the month in each quarter to the third Tuesday of the month and the item would go to the Board on either November 18 or December 2, 2014. Motion by Commissioner Olin, seconded by Commission Glenner to change the by-laws as presented. The revisions to the by-laws were unanimously recommended for approval. Per Director Rigney, Special Districts' staff will continue to assist as needed with the Fish and Game Commission.

**New Business
(Action Items)**

Correspondence:

- None

**Open
Comment/Discussion:**

Paul Soucier, Representative from the Papoose Bay Association, spoke about the intense lights being used for night fishing in Big Bear Lake. Laura Sayre, Marks Management for Papoose Bay Estates was also in attendance. They would like to have these lights banned as they light up the entire mountainside and are extremely bright. Mr. Soucier would like a revision to Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations and was asking for guidance and/or direction on how to go about this. Chair Franklin explained that the Fish and Game Commission is strictly an advisory board to the Board of Supervisors. Title 14 is a state regulation, so only thing the Commissioners could do to assist would be to make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors and ask them to make a recommendation to the State. Commissioner Bishop asked if they have talked to the people at Big Bear Lake about this and Mr. Soucier stated they had. They have also talked to the Sheriff's and the Sheriff's said all they could do was issue

a nuisance citation. Wardens Bellis and Fischer are both aware of the problem. Warden Fischer said he should attend a State Fish and Wildlife Commission meeting and do a presentation. The meetings are listed on their website and held in various locations throughout the state. Mr. Soucier stated he has also contacted Supervisor Ramos' office but has been unable to get a meeting scheduled. Commissioner Bishop suggested they do it piece-by-piece, go to lake owners first, then go from there. The Chair suggested he goes to Big Bear Lake and get a letter of support. The Chair thanked him for attending.

- No other items

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 2:41 p.m. on motion of Commissioner Bishop seconded by Commissioner Olin.

Next Meeting:

The next Fish and Game Commission Meeting is scheduled for January 20, 2015 at 1:30 p.m. at Regional Parks, located at 777 E. Rialto Avenue, San Bernardino.