



Fish & Wildlife Commission Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 21, 2021 – 7:00 pm

Commissioners Present	Commissioners Absent	Others Present
Crystal Norris – Chairperson		Michelle Johnson, Sonoma County AWM
David Cook		James Reed, CDFW
Kevin Davis		Wendy Hayes, Sonoma Ecology Center
Todd Derum		Meghan Walla-Murphy, North Bay Bear Collab
Brock Dolman		Steve Kennedy, Canonbal Express
Jeff Holden		
Beth Lamb		
Jim Lynch		
Jake McKee		
Sharon Ponsford		
Dagny Thomas		

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Crystal Norris called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

II. Adoption of October 2020 Minutes

Report: Crystal Norris asked if there are any additions or corrections to the October 2020 minutes.

Action: A motion was made by Brock Dolman to accept minutes as presented; motion seconded by Todd Derum.

Passed with: 10 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent.

III. Correspondence

Fish and Game Commission notices.

IV. Financial Reports for October 2020 – December 2020

Report: As of December 31, 2020, the General Fund balance is \$31,874.56.

Action: A motion was made by Jim Lynch to accept financial reports for October 2020 – December 2020; motion seconded by Jeff Holden.

Passed with: 10 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent.

V. New Business

A. Report: Chairperson Crystal Norris presented the FY 2021-2022 FWC General Fund Budget with a total projected revenue of \$42,500.00 and total budgeted expenses of \$55,430.00.

Action: A motion was made by Jeff Holden to accept the FY 2021-2022 FWC General Fund Budget as presented; motion seconded by Dagny Thomas.

Passed with: 10 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent.

Commissioner Jake McKee joined the meeting at 7:20 pm.

B. Funding for Being with Bears: A Collaborative DNA Study to Determine Population Estimates and Genealogy of the North Bay's Black Bears. Due to a lack of data or research studies about black bears in Sonoma County, Sonoma Ecology Center and North Bay Bear Collaborative have identified a need to develop estimates of black bear abundance and density so appropriate and successful black bear management techniques can be developed, and bear-human conflicts can be avoided or minimized. \$19,868.00. Sonoma Ecology Center with North Bay Bear Collaboration, Wendy Hayes or Meghan Walla-Murphy. *First Reading.*

Report: A presentation about the program, including public messaging and outreach to help residents live with bears, stewardship and tending of public and private landscapes including bear proof infrastructure, research to discover bear populations, dispersal patterns, genetics, and behavior, and inclusion of volunteers and youth to build conservation legacy. Commissioners recommended Wendy Hayes provide various funding options for consideration at Second Reading.

VI. Reports/Comments

A. Public

B. Board

VII. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle Johnson
Commission Secretary