



## Fish & Wildlife Commission Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 18, 2021 – 7:00 pm

Commissioners Present	Commissioners Absent	Others Present
Crystal Norris – Chairperson	Kevin Davis	Michelle Johnson, Sonoma County AWM
David Cook	Jim Lynch	James Reed, CDFW
Todd Derum		Ben Pearl, San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory
Brock Dolman		Steve Kennedy, Cannonball Express
Jeff Holden		
Beth Lamb		
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 February 2021 Minutes

**Report:** Crystal Norris asked if there are any additions or corrections to the February 2021 minutes.

**Action:** A motion was made by Sharon Ponsford to accept minutes as presented; motion seconded by Dagny Thomas.

**Passed with:** 8 ayes, 0 nays, 3 absent.

Commissioner Jeff Holden arrived at 7:07 pm.

III. Correspondence

Fish and Game Commission notices.

IV. Financial Reports for February 2021

**Report:** As of February 28, 2021, the General Fund balance is \$31,574.71. Crystal Norris reported that the grant fund amount has been increased to \$65,000.00.

**Action:** A motion was made by Jeff Holden to accept financial reports for February 2021; motion seconded by Todd Derum.

**Passed with:** 9 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent.

V. Old Business

- A. Funding for Snowy Plover Recovery in the North San Francisco Bay Estuary.** With declining Western Snowy Plover populations, the San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory (SFBBO) is seeking funding to conduct weekly surveys at The Wingo Unit south of the town of Sonoma and adjacent to Sonoma Creek during the Snowy Plover breeding season from March 1 – September 15. Regular breeding surveys will help SFBBO better understand plover use of Wingo, determine breeding success, and ultimately identify habitat enhancements that may increase breeding success and use of habitat in Sonoma County. \$7,821.00. San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory, Ben Pearl. *Second Reading.*

**Report:** Beth Lamb suggests funding grant request in full.

**Action:** A motion was made by Dagny Thomas to fully fund the grant for the amount of \$7,821.00; motion seconded by Sharon Ponsford. Grant #211.

**Passed with:** 9 ayes, 0 nay, 2 absent.

VI. New Business

- A. Funding for *Vegetation Management Video (Student Version)* by The Cannonball Express.** Funding is requested to produce a video introducing students to at least six principles of fish and wildlife conservation in a subtle and memorable way. The conservation education video will use vignettes of neighbors-helping-neighbors, to inspire students in grades 4-8 to enter the training and education pipeline for the jobs of tomorrow, in the public and private sector, that will help citizens of Northern California prepare for, prevent and mitigate deadly and environmentally destructive suburban forest fires. \$5,000.00. The Vegetation Management Video Project Committee, Steve Kennedy, The Cannonball Express. *First Reading.*

**Report:** The Commission asked Mr. Kennedy if he had received any support for this project from Sonoma County Office of Education, to which he replied he had not yet received a response. Mr. Kennedy requested the Commission provide input and content on video script. The Commission informed Mr. Kennedy that the Commission only funds projects and does not provide direction on projects. Due to the lack of support and incomplete project structure, a second reading of this grant request is not needed.

VII. Reports/Comments

**A. Public**

**B. Board**

VIII. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 7:43 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michelle Johnson  
Commission Secretary