



Fish & Wildlife Commission Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 16, 2021 – 7:00 pm

Commissioners Present	Commissioners Absent	Others Present
Crystal Norris – Chairperson	Todd Derum	Michelle Johnson, Sonoma County AWM
David Cook	Brock Dolman	Ed Morton, CDFW
Kevin Davis	Beth Lamb	Tiffany Wolvek, CDFW
Jeff Holden	Jake McKee	Demitri Esquivel, CDFW
Jim Lynch		Wendy Hayes, Sonoma Ecology Center
Sharon Ponsford		Melissa Kelley, Sonoma County Parks Foundation
Dagny Thomas		Sheila Murphy, Sonoma County Regional Parks

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Crystal Norris called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

II. Adoption of July 2021 Minutes

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

Action: A motion was made by Jeff Holden to accept minutes as presented; motion seconded by Kevin Davis.

Passed with: 7 ayes, 0 nays, 4 absent.

III. Correspondence

Fish and Game Commission notices.

IV. Financial Reports for June and July 2021

Report: As of July 31, 2021, the General Fund balance is \$65,430.00.

V. New Business

A. **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. \$3,500.00. Sonoma Ecology Center with North Bay Bear Collaboration, Wendy Hayes or Meghan Walla-Murphy. *First Reading.*

B. **Funding to Purchase Bear-Proof Garbage/Recycling Receptacles.** Sonoma County Regional Parks has identified installing bear-proof trash and recycling receptacles throughout Regional Parks as a high priority project, with an emphasis on the importance of installing these containers *before* bears

develop a taste for human food. This strategy can help our community prevent dangerous human-bear encounters before they begin to occur. The Parks Foundation is requesting a grant of \$4,400.00 to purchase two BearSaver (or equivalent) trash and recycling receptacles. \$4,400.00. Sonoma County Regional Parks Foundation, Melissa Kelley. *First Reading.*

VI. Reports/Comments

- A. Public
- B. Board

VII. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 7:36 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle Johnson
Commission Secretary