

SOLANO COUNTY PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION

**UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD
THURSDAY, November 18, 2010**

**County Administration Center - First Floor Hearing Room,
675 Texas Street, Fairfield, California**

Commission Members Present: Riddle, Whited, Alvarez, Leong
Commission Member Excused: Hermsmeyer

Staff Present: Sykes, Tanner-Linne

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Vice Chair Whited called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. A quorum was confirmed.

2. Approval of Minutes for September 9, 2010

Motion to approve (Riddle), with second (Alvarez). Approved unanimously.

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve agenda (Leong) with second (Riddle). Approved unanimously.

4. Chair Announcements and Commissioner Comments

There were no comments.

5. Public Comments

Helayna Pera, staff from California Department of Fish and Game, stated a program highlighting the California DFG Game Wardens would premiere on November 28th on the National Geographic Channel.

6. Appoint M. Lewis to ad hoc Evaluation Committee for SMSF Grant Program

Sykes recommended Michael Lewis to replace Laureen Barthman-Thompson on the SMSF Evaluation Committee, who had excused herself due to a potential conflict of interest. Mr. Lewis received a B.S. in Wildlife Biology from UC Davis, has worked with the California Department of Fish and Game and Suisun Resource Conservation District, and was well qualified to evaluate projects in the Suisun Marsh. Sykes presented an e-mail from Chair Hermsmeyer supporting the appointment of Mr. Lewis. Vice-Chair Whited appointed Michael Lewis to the Committee.

7. Consider approval of a letter of intent to execute a Power Purchase Agreement with NexGen LLC for a Wind Turbine Project Development at Sandy Beach Park

Sykes introduced Jason Campbell, Manager of the County Facilities Operation Division. Campbell stated several months ago he gave a presentation to the Commission regarding placing a wind turbine at Sandy Beach Park, and the Commissioners had a site visit to Sandy Beach in February 2010 to discuss potential placement of a wind turbine. Today's action would be for the Commission to recommend that the Board of Supervisors sign the letter of intent for the power purchase agreement at a future Board meeting.

Campbell said the aim of the project was to install a wind turbine at the park with no upfront cost to the County, and save future funds for the County Parks on their electricity bills. Sandy Beach Park lies within a very productive wind resource area. The savings by generating wind-powered electricity at the park could be around \$10,000 per year. He said a power purchase agreement could be made with the NexGen LLC to purchase

electricity for Sandy Beach at a reduced rate in exchange for giving the company permission to install and operate the wind turbine.

Riddle asked if a site had been agreed upon. Campbell identified the North East side of the park near the Boat and RV storage area and Rio Vista's wastewater treatment plant. It would be close to the electrical panel for the park.

Alvarez said he was concerned that the height of the wind turbine would block the views for campers at the park. He suggested it might be more out of sight if placed to the south of the campground. He said he understood the reasoning with being closer to the electrical infrastructure at the park. Alvarez asked if the Facilities had done a comparative analysis of the return on the County purchasing the wind turbine equipment versus just buying back power. When you decided to buy back power, was an RFP put out or was it sole source?

Campbell stated this was a sole source application from NexGen. When the County originally looked at the purchase of the equipment, the payback was slim and took several years. With this current proposal, the County would not front any money for the project.

Alvarez stated he had a concern with the noise and the siting of the wind turbine. He understood the CEQA review will deal with the noise issue, but we are spending a lot of money to update this park, and he is concerned people will not want to see a tower in the park.

Sykes stated these same concerns came up during the Commission site visit. The noise and view are a concern, and this is why the current site was selected. It is located next to the existing wastewater treatment plant, and is not in the viewshed of the river generally visible from the campground (viewshed oriented toward the southeast over the parking lot and picnic area). The suggested location is located further away from the campground than a site on the south side of the campground would be, so there would be less noise heard by campers.

Whited stated that the day the Commission did their site visit, they were talking about a 50' tall wind turbine. Is this proposed turbine as large as the ones at the Fairfield-Suisun Water District, Cordelia Road site that the Commission visited?

Campbell stated it was taller by about 20 feet.

Motion to approve (Riddle), with second (Leong). Alvarez called for a vote.

Riddle: Aye

Alvarez: Nay

Whited: Aye

Leong: Aye

The item was passed 3-1.

8. Receive Presentations from Applicants for FY 2010/2011 Suisun Marsh Specific Fund Grant Program

Below is the list of applicants and with reference as to who gave presentation or not.

Suisun Marsh Specific Fund Grant Application Projects FY 2010/2011

The following applicants gave a presentation on their project.

Project Title or Property (alphabetical)	Applicant	Request Amount	Presenter
1. Arnold Ranch	California Waterfowl Association	18,500	Robert Eddings, California Waterfowl Association
5. Franciscan Marshview	California Waterfowl Association	13,000	Robert Eddings, California Waterfowl Association
6. Goodyear Duck Club Wetland Enhancement	California Waterfowl Association	20,000	Robert Eddings, California Waterfowl Association
7. Grizzly Island Waterfowl Monitoring	California Waterfowl Association	15,000	Robert Eddings, California Waterfowl Association
8. Infrastructure upgrade for Longevity	California Waterfowl Association	28,300	Helayna Pera, California Dept. Fish and Game
10. Miramonte Wetland Enhancement	California Waterfowl Association	20,000	Robert Eddings, California Waterfowl Association
11. Morrow Island Land Company Wetland Enhancement	California Waterfowl Association	17,000	Robert Eddings, California Waterfowl Association
12. Mulberry	California Waterfowl Association	8,800	Robert Eddings, California Waterfowl Association
13. New Water Delivery to Establish Multi-Species Habitat	California Waterfowl Association	44,000	Helayna Pera, California Dept. Fish and Game
16. Sprigateal	California Waterfowl Association	21,000	Robert Eddings, California Waterfowl Association
17. St. Germain	California Waterfowl Association	12,000	Robert Eddings, California Waterfowl Association

18.	Suisun Marsh Waterfowl Banding	California Waterfowl Association	10,000	Robert Eddings, California Waterfowl Association
19.	Walnut Creek Gun Club	California Waterfowl Association	13,600	Robert Eddings, California Waterfowl Association
21.	Water Control Enhancement Project	Suisun Resource Conservation District & Fairfield Suisun Sewer District	14,205	Bruce Wichland Suisun RCD
23.	Wetland Habitat Enhancement & Mosquito Control Program	Suisun Resource Conservation District	30,000	Bruce Wichland Suisun RCD
24.	Worthington Water Circulation Project	Grizzly Hilton Inc.	18,000	Dick Olson Friend of Owner

The applicants below did not give a presentation on their projects.

2.	Cal Farms Wetland Enhancements	California Land & Water Co.	15,600.00	
3.	Corral Ditch Control Project	Reclamation District 2112 (Schafer Pintail)	5,103.75	
4.	Flood Gate Pipe Replacement	Montezuma Gun Club	20,130.00	
9.	Landscape Genetics of the Salt Marsh Harvest Mouse in Suisun Marsh	Regents of the University of California	29,618.00	
14.	Pond A Habitat Restoration	Long Point Land Company	8,550.00	
15.	Salt Marsh Harvest Mouse Telemetry Monitoring	New Mexico State University, Biology Department	10,000.00	
20.	Water Circulation Improvement	Greenhead Inc. (A California Corporation)	14,697.00	
22.	Water Control Structure	Greenhead Inc. (A California Corporation) 5354 Stonehurst Drive, Martinez, CA 94533	13,125.00	

9. Approve Lynch Canyon Public Access Success Criteria for Year 4

Sykes presented the Public Access Success Criteria for Lynch Canyon Open Space for year four.

Motion to approve the criteria (Alvarez), with second (Riddle). Approved unanimously.

10. Approve 2011 Commission Meeting Schedule

Motion to approve the schedule below (Leong), with second (Riddle). Approved unanimously.

- A. January 13, 2011 (all meetings Thursdays, 5:30 pm)
- B. March 10, 2011
- C. May 12, 2011
- D. July 14, 2011
- E. September 8, 2011
- F. November 10, 2011

11. Parks and Recreation Division Staff Report.

Sykes presented the following handouts and asked if there were any questions.

- A. Attendance and Revenue Update
- B. Status of Ongoing FWPF and SMSF Grant Projects
- C. Advisory Board Report for FY 2009/10

Alvarez asked why the attendance records could not use an “E” for excused, instead of “A” for absent. Sykes said this was the format that had been requested by the County Administrator’s Office.

12. The next regular meeting was confirmed for January 13, 2011 (5:30 pm). Meeting was adjourned at 7:36 p.m.