

**SOLANO COUNTY PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
APPROVED MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD
THURSDAY, September 8, 2011**

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

Members Present: Alvarez, Leong, Riddle, Whited
Members Excused: Hermsmeyer
Staff Present: Sykes, Gilliland

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Whited called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m. A quorum was confirmed.

2. Approval of Minutes from May 12, 2011

The minutes of May 12, 2011 were approved unanimously.

3. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved unanimously.

4. Chair and Commissioner Announcements

There were no Commission comments.

5. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

6. Suisun Marsh Specific Fund (SMSF) Program: Hear Presentations From Grant Applicants (Informational Only)

Commissioner Whited announced that the applicants would have 5 minutes to speak on behalf of their project. The presentations were as follows:

- Mrs. Murphy's Infrastructure Improvements, Dennis Crawford
Grant Scope: Replacement of a failing 36 inch exterior water control structure.

- Pintail Ranch Wetland Restoration, Ken Keeler
Grant Scope: Removal of salt grass that is encroaching on wetland habitat, installation of three swale ditches, restoration and enhancement of upland avian nesting habitat. Create water delivery infrastructure to improve wintering waterfowl habitat.

- Solano Cut Improvements, Terry Connolly
Grant Scope: Improvement to water delivery structure located on Solano Cut by installation of new stub and coupler and construction of bulkhead over existing pipe.

- Sprigsville Ditch Deepening – 2012, Rob Smith and Terry Huffy
Grant Scope: Deepening irrigation ditching to improve water distribution, soil leaching, pumping efficiency and circulation.

- SRCD 2012/2013 Lepidium Control Program, Steve Chappell
Grant Scope: Control of Lepidium (invasive plant) over a total of 18,914 acres in the Suisun Marsh with the use of Telar XP for 2012 and 2013.
- Brood Pond Creation Project, Tim Edmonds,
Grant Scope: Creation of a one acre brood pond to provide summer brood water for waterfowl to increase breeding success in the Suisun Marsh and a habitat for resident wildlife species.
- Grizzly Island Waterfowl Monitoring, Robert Eddings
Grant Scope: Evaluation of nesting waterfowl response to upland restoration on the Grizzly Island Wildlife Area during the 2012 nesting season.
- Pre-Season Waterfowl Banding in the Suisun Marsh, Robert Eddings
Grant Scope: Assist with the CWA-CDFG preseason mallard banding in the Suisun Marsh. Band recoveries provide critical data for population management and determining annual waterfowl hunting regulations of California.
- St. Germain, Robert Eddings
Grant Scope: Grading ponds and excavating swales to enhance approximately 90 acres of managed seasonal wetlands. The project would contribute to a multi-phase project designed to improve the habitat quality on St. Germain through pond grading, contouring and swale excavation.
- Miramonte Gate, Robert Eddings
Grant Scope: Improvement of 100 acres of managed seasonal wetlands on the Miramonte by replacing a failing exterior water control structure. The current structure is leaking and prevents the land managers from properly managing water levels.
- Sprigateal, Robert Eddings
Grant Scope: Improvement of approximately 165 acres of seasonal managed wetlands by replacing a failing exterior water control structure, grading ponds to improve circulation, excavating swales to improve drainage and strengthening the exterior levee. By regaining full control of the water on the property Sprigateal will be able to implement proper seasonal wetland management strategies.
- The Family Club, Robert Eddings
Grant Scope: Replacement of a failing cast iron 36 inch combination gate with a new stainless steel combination gate and construction of a new 7 acre brood pond. The two projects will enhance both fall-winter species and spring-summer species in the Suisun Marsh.

- Grizzly Ranch, Robert Eddings
Grant Scope: Improvement of water delivery and circulation by replacing and retrofitting water control structures in delivery ditch servicing 250 acres of managed wetlands.
- Grizzly Duck Club, Robert Eddings
Grant Scope: Replacement of a failing exterior water control structure to improve circulation and drainage of water on 127 acres of managed seasonal wetlands.
- Ibis Duck Club, Robert Eddings
Grant Scope: Replacement of a failing 24 inch water control structure would allow land managers to access areas near the gate during the summer and eliminate a mosquito habitat for breeding.
- Gibson Horseshoe, Robert Eddings
Grant Scope: Excavation of main water conveyance ditches on 218 acres of managed seasonal wetlands to improve circulation and drainage of water which will provide habitat for wintering birds.
- Franciscan Marshview, Robert Eddings
Grant Scope: Excavation of main water conveyance ditches on 135 acres of managed seasonal wetlands to provide proper water management and habitat for wintering birds. Excavation dirt will be put on perimeter levees to maintain the integrity of the wetland.
- Morrow Island, Robert Eddings
Grant Scope: Replacement of two failing exterior water control structures to improve circulation and water drainage from a large wetland unit.
- Tule Belle, Robert Eddings
Grant Scope: Replace an existing control gate on an existing plastic pipe to improve circulation and drainage of water on approximately 730 acres of managed seasonal wetland habitat.
- Miramonte 3-Strap, Robert Eddings
Grant Scope: Pond grading, swale excavation and upland planting to improve water circulation, drainage and plant growth that will provide improved habitat for water fowl, shore birds and other wetland dependent wildlife on approximately 50 acres of managed seasonal wetlands and 10 acres of upland nesting cover.
- Bent Barrel, Robert Eddings
Grant Scope: Construction of new “toppable” berm and installation of new water control structures to unwanted drain water from neighboring clubs from entering the property.

- Potrero Duck Club, Robert Eddings
Grant Scope: Replacement of two failing exterior water control structures to properly control water throughout the year.
- Reclamation District 1607, Robert Eddings
Grant Scope: Retrofit an existing open plastic pipe with two new control gates to control water flow in one of the main conveyance canals that services the District.
- Whistler Duck Club, Robert Eddings
Grant Scope: Raise and improve exterior levee, stabilize slough bank and grade ponds to avert the threat of a catastrophic levee failure which would result in widespread habitat degradation.

7. Approve Lynch Canyon Success Criteria for years 5, 6 and 7 (Action Item)

Sykes briefly reviewed the Lynch Canyon Success Criteria for years 5, 6 and 7 and announced that he received Solano County Board of Supervisors approval for an extension to the Management Agreement through October 2013. One change he was seeking Commission approval on was approval of this report that covers the remainder the of the management agreement through October 2013, rather than come back to the Commission every year with the same information,

He continued that the goal of the Lynch Canyon Working Group (a joint Solano Land Trust and Solano County group) is to make Lynch Canyon accessible to the public year-round, to the extent possible with available operational funds, and with minimal environmental impact. They will continue to improve public access programs; volunteer support and community participation; public visitation; support for public health by promoting exercise in the outdoors and a marketing program for park events, including on-line networking.

Sykes noted that the attendance was increased from 1,000 to 2,500 people per year last year. So far this year attendance is at 2,400 even though it was a very rainy season. Volunteer hours were increased from 750 hours to 1,000 hours this year. He concluded by stating he was seeking the Commission's approval of the Lynch Canyon Success Criteria for Years 5 6 and 7 (2011 – 2013). On a motion by Commissioner Leong and a second by Commissioner Riddle the Commission unanimously approved the Lynch Canyon Success Criteria for Years 5 6 and 7 (2011 – 2013).

8. Parks and Recreation Division Staff Report (Informational, with Possible Action)

Staff provided a report on park operations and an update on Park Commission actions which is attached to the agenda. The Commission received the report without comment.

9. Confirm date of next regular meeting on November 10, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. and adjourn

The next Commission meeting was confirmed for November 10, 2011, 5:30 p.m. Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.