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1450 Halyard Drive, Suite 6
West Sacramento, CA 95691
www.deltaconservancy.ca.gov

MEETING SUMMARY AND ACTION ITEMS
Board Meeting – November 21, 2016
1450 Halyard Dr., Suite 6, West Sacramento

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 9:03 a.m. by Chair Jim Provenza.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken and a quorum was established.

Board Members Present: Jim Provenza, Dolly Sandoval, Mike Eaton, Todd Ferrara, Darla Guenzler, Katherine Miller, Don Nottoli, Dan Taylor
Ex Officio Members Present: None
Liaison Advisors Present: Michelle Banonis, Steve Chappell, Jeff Melby, Erik Vink

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

DISCUSSION AND ACTIONS TAKEN

1. Agenda Item 5 – Consent Calendar (*Action Item*)

MOTION: Board Member Taylor moved, seconded by Board Member Sandoval, to approve the summary of the September 28, 2016 Board meeting. No other issues were included in the consent calendar.

A voice vote was taken with all Board Members present voting to approve the motion.

2. Agenda Item 6 – Executive Officer's Report

The Executive Officer opened his report by welcoming new Deputy Executive Officer, Debra Kustic, and highlighting two new reports on the Delta; *Delta Renewed* by the San Francisco Estuary Institute and *Human Uses of Restored and Naturalized Delta Landscapes* by Bret Milligan and Alejo Kraus-Polk from U.C. Davis. The Executive Officer presented updates on the Proposition 1 Grant Program, Arundo Control and Restoration Project, the Delta Conservation Framework, Cache Slough Regional Planning effort, National Environmental Information Exchange Network Grant, the Delta Mercury Exposure Reduction Program, and the Delta Marketing Project. The Executive Officer also presented the meeting matrix and an overview of correspondence received. Jessica O'Connor presented the expenditure report for the current fiscal year. The Board discussed the Proposition 1 budget on the expenditure report, the Delta Corridor Management meeting highlighted on the meeting matrix, and the letter from the Yocha Dehe Tribe on the Arundo Control and Restoration Project.

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3. Agenda Item 7 – Program and Policy Subcommittee Update

The Executive Officer provided an overview of the October 19, 2016 Program and Policy Subcommittee (PPS) meeting. The Board Chair invited Board Members to attend the upcoming PPS meeting scheduled for December 21, 2016 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Conservancy office. The subcommittee discussed the proposed amendment process for the Proposition 1 Grant Program and the process for updating the Conservancy's strategic plan.

4. Agenda Item 8 – Request for Approval for the Proposition 1 Grant Program Project Amendment Process (*Action Item*)

Laura Jensen presented the amendment process for grant agreements of the Proposition 1 Grant Program. Staff incorporated feedback received from the Program and Policy Subcommittee meeting in October. Grantees will be required to submit all amendment requests to the Conservancy in writing and the Grant Project Manager, Proposition 1 Program Manager, Proposition 1 Grant Manager, and Executive Officer will review all amendment requests. To maintain the integrity of the Delta Conservancy's competitive grant program, requests for significant changes to the scope of work will not be considered.

Staff recommended that changes to term, minor changes to the scope, and/or changes to the budget will be required to follow the following process:

- 1) **Request.** Grantee submits formal, justified amendment request in writing to Project Manager.
- 2) **Review.** Amendment request is reviewed and approved or denied by Grant Project Manager, Proposition 1 Program Manager, Proposition 1 Grant Manager, and Executive Officer.
- 3) **Approval.**
 - a) The Board will consider approval as an agenda item for:
 - i) budget amendments that exceed 10 percent of the total budget or \$50,000
 - b) The Board will consider approval on the consent calendar for:
 - i) any budget amendments that are 10 percent or less of the total budget, not to exceed \$50,000, that are not time sensitive;
 - ii) any amendments to scope that do not significantly change the scope and that are not time sensitive; and
 - iii) any amendments to grant term that are not time sensitive.
 - c) Staff will determine approval for:
 - i) time sensitive budget amendments that are 10 percent or less of the total budget, not to exceed \$50,000;
 - ii) time sensitive amendments that do not significantly change the scope ; and
 - iii) time sensitive amendments to grant term.
- 4) **Execution.** Upon receiving appropriate authorizations, Proposition 1 Grant Manager will draft and route amendment agreement for execution.

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- 5) **Reporting.** Once executed, the amendment will be presented at the succeeding Board meeting.

The Board discussed how staff will inform the board of budget adjustments and their overall impact on the Proposition 1 Grant Program's budget. Staff will provide a matrix to the Board at each Board Meeting to inform them of the amendments currently being processed and their overall impact to the Proposition 1 Grant Program, and will include updates on amendment requests that have been denied by staff. The Board also discussed the need for a budget reserve for potential amendments and an appeal process for amendment denials. The Board agreed that a budget reserve is not needed at this time and that any grantee with an amendment denial can address the board during public comment.

MOTION: *Board Member Nottoli moved, seconded by Board Member Miller, to approve the amendment process, as described in the staff report, for use in the Proposition 1 Ecosystem and Water Quality Grant Program.*

A roll call vote was taken with all Board Members present voting to approve the motion.

5. Agenda Item 9 – Proposition 1 Grant Program Approved Project Update

Laura Jensen provided an update on the Proposition 1 Grant Program approved projects. The Conservancy has fully executed one grant agreement, the Lower Marsh and Sand Creek Watershed Riparian Restoration Planning Project. In addition:

- Two agreements are being routed for signature;
- Three draft grant agreements are currently under development and will be routed by the end of November;
- One project is before the board for CEQA findings and final approval; and
- Two projects are on track to meet their deadlines for removing conditional approvals.

The Board requested that the funding amount of each grant agreement be provided on the project tracking matrix at each meeting.

6. Agenda Item 10 – Request for Approval for the Three Creeks Parkway Restoration Project Responsible Agency Findings and Final Grant Award (*Action Item*)

Laura Jensen presented the request for approval of the Three Creeks Parkway Restoration Project Responsible Agency Findings and Final Grant Award. On September 27th the Contra Costa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, the lead agency for the CEQA process for the project, made their lead agency findings and confirmed that the CEQA process has been completed. The Board initially approved the reservation of funding for the project pending the CEQA review process.

Staff recommended that the Board adopt and sign the responsible agency findings, release the reserved funds for the project, and authorize the Executive Officer to execute the grant agreement.

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MOTION: *Board Member Eaton moved, seconded by Board Member Miller, to approve Board Resolution #2016-1, release the reserved funds for the Three Creeks Parkway restoration Project, and authorize the Executive Officer to execute the grant agreement.*

A roll call vote was taken with all Board Members present voting to approve the motion.

7. Agenda Item 11 – Request for Approval of Recommended Proposition 1 Grant Program Concept Proposals to Submit Full Proposals (*Action Item*)

Chair Provenza recused himself from the agenda item due to a potential conflict of interest. Vice Chair Sandoval assumed the role of Chair.

Laura Jensen presented the staff recommendations of concept proposals for which to request a full proposal for the 2016/2017 Proposition 1 Grant Program solicitation cycle. Staff received 13 concept proposal applications and is recommending full proposal invitations from nine of the applicants. Two proposals did not score high enough to recommend a full proposal and two proposals were found to be ineligible for funding. The Board went through each of the concept proposal recommendations and scores individually.

The Board discussed the connection of applications to past projects, the standards for easement acquisitions, timing between current projects and projects proposed by applicants, and the need to see the history of project income for some projects.

MOTION: *Board Member Ferrara moved, seconded by Board Member Guenzler, to request full proposals for the Proposition 1 Grant Ecosystem Restoration and Water Quality Grant Program from the nine projects recommended by staff.*

A roll call vote was taken with all Board Members present voting to approve the motion.

Chair Provenza returned to the meeting and resumed his role as Chair.

8. Agenda Item 12 – CA Department of Parks and Recreation, Division of Boating and Waterways Aquatic Weed Control Program Update

Lynn Sadler, with the Division of Boating and Waterways (Division) with the California Department of Parks and Recreation, presented on the Division's Aquatic Weed Control Program. The presentation was focused on the successes, challenges, and lessons learned of the program.

9. Agenda Item 13 – Delta Conservancy Strategic Plan Update

The Executive Officer presented an update of the Conservancy's process for updating the Strategic Plan. The Conservancy held public workshops to gather input on the Delta Conservancy's priorities on October 19th and 26th. Conservancy staff will now work with Kearns & West to begin developing goals and objectives for the updated plan. The January Board meeting will focus on the strategic plan update to begin refining the goals and objectives based on Board input.

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10. Agenda Item 14 – Delta Marketing Project Update

Brandon Chapin presented an update on the Delta Marketing Project. On October 27th, the Delta Marketing Task Force was reconvened to introduce the new contractor and solicit feedback on two potential themes for the website. The Task Force will reconvene in early December and will review a draft of the Delta marketing strategy.

11. Agenda Item 15 – Delta Stewardship Council Delta Plan Update

The Executive Officer provided the update on the Delta Stewardship Council and the Delta Plan. The Science Enterprise Workshop was held on November 1-2 at UC Davis to better understand how collaborative science is being managed and funded in several other high-profile ecosystems around the country. The Bay-Delta Science Conference was held on November 15-17 in order to facilitate new information and discussion amongst the Delta science community. The Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee met before the Conference on November 14th and focused on how to link best-available science and decision-making.

12. Agenda Item 16 – California Water Fix and Eco Restore Updates

B.G. Heiland presented the update on California Water Fix. The draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the project is almost finished and should be completed by December. For the Change in the Point of Diversion component, the protestants will finish giving their presentations at the end of December and the Department of Water Resources rebuttal will occur in January. Part two of the process, focusing on fish and wildlife, will occur in June or July of 2017.

David Okita presented the update on Eco Restore. Ground has been broken at two projects, Tule Red and the Suisan Marsh and Wallace Weir in the Yolo Bypass. Both are expected to be completed in December. More projects are expected soon including the Dutch Slough project (going out to bid in January), McCormack-Williamson Tract (first phase in 2017), Fremont Weir, and Hill Slough. A Request for Proposals (RFP) for tidal wetland projects to meet the Delta Smelt biological opinion will be released in the near future, with projects selected in 2017. The Interagency Adaptive Management Integration Team (IAMIT) has developed a white paper on adaptive management and will be meeting again in January.

13. Agenda Item 17 – Delta Protection Commission Update

Erik Vink provided the update on the Delta Protection Commission. The Commission recently gave a send-off to Chair Mary Piepho who will be leaving her position as Chair when she steps down as County Supervisor. Skip Thomson was elected as Chair and will also have a seat on the Delta Stewardship Council. The next meeting of the Commission will be on December 8th and will discuss the socioeconomic indicators project and the land use and resource management plan.

14. Agenda Item 18 – Potential Agenda Items January 25, 2017

The next Board Meeting will be held on January 25, 2017 at the Delta Conservancy offices in West Sacramento from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The meeting will focus on the goals and objectives of the

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update to the strategic plan. The Board will also receive updates on the Proposition 1 Grant Program and the Delta Marketing Project.

15. Agenda Item 19 – Public Comments

Ella Strain, with Assemblymember Jim Frazier's office, thanked the Board for their hard work and for the projects that are being undertaken within the Assemblymember's district.

BOARD DIRECTIVES TO STAFF

- 1) The Board requested that staff provide a Proposition 1 Grant Program amendment matrix to the Board at each Board Meeting to inform them of amendments currently being processed and their overall impact to the program. **(Agenda Item 8)**

Response: Staff will develop and share an amendment matrix with the Board as soon as an amendment has been requested.

- 2) The Board requested that staff provide the funding amount of each grant agreement on the Proposition 1 Grant Program project tracking matrix at each meeting. **(Agenda Item 9)**

Response: This request has been incorporated into the project tracking matrix and the updated matrix will be shared with the Board at the next meeting.

MEETING ADJOURNED by Chair Provenza at 11:26 a.m.

Respectfully submitted on November 30, 2016
Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy

Contact Person:

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