



March 22, 2023 Board Meeting Summary and Action Items

Video and audio of the meeting is available here: [March 22, 2023 Board Meeting](#)

AGENDA ITEMS

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 9:04 a.m. by Chair Mashburn.

Agenda Item 2 – Welcome, Roll Call, Pledge of Allegiance, and Introductions

After roll call, agenda items were heard by the Board in the order indicated below.

Board Members Present:

- Mitch Mashburn
- Sandi Matsumoto
- Diane Burgis – teleconference
- Bryan Cash – teleconference
- Steven Ding – teleconference
- Pat Hume – teleconference
- Matt Almy – teleconference
- Oscar Villegas
- Lilliana Udang
- Leo Winternitz

Ex-Officio Members Present:

- None

Liaison Advisors and Counsel Present:

- Marge Kolar – teleconference
- Bruce Blodgett – teleconference
- James Waters – teleconference
- Daniel Welsh – teleconference
- Brooke White
- Steve Chappell
- Nicole Rinke, Counsel

Agenda Item 3 – Public Comment

None

Agenda Item 4 – Consent Calendar

Motion: Supervisor Burgis moved, seconded by Board member Winternitz, that the Board approve the following:

- January 26, 2023 Board Meeting Summary and Action Items

A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed with 8 ayes and 2 abstains.

Agenda Item 5 – Executive Officer’s Report

The Executive Officer briefly highlighted several items on the staff report. He introduced new Senior Environmental Scientist Lauren Damon and reported that we are still recruiting for two staff positions. Inquiries were conducted with the farmers of the Delta Drought Response Pilot Program (DDRPP) about extending the program since the hydrology has changed from extreme drought conditions. Most farmers had made expenditures or could not return to business as usual due to volatility in commodity pricing, and all farmers will realize the water savings they proposed over the growing season. It was decided to run the grant program as designed. The Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee Restoration Subcommittee had its first Delta Restoration Forum at the Conservancy office on February 8, 2023. We welcomed 50 participants in person and 100 online to talk about restoration targets in Chapter 4 of the Delta Plan and restoration opportunities and constraints. Board directives from the January meeting were addressed in agenda item 12, and we are exploring holding the May board meeting off site at Big Break Regional Park.

Agenda Item 6 – Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaption Grant Program Update

Conservancy staff highlighted items from the staff report, which included projects from three funding sources: Proposition 1 Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act (Prop 1); Climate Resilience, Community Access, and Natural Resource Protection (CAR); and Nature Based Solutions: Wetland Restoration (NBS: WR).

Agenda Item 7 – Consideration of Amendment to Budget of Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaption Grant Program Agreement for Marsh Creek Reservoir Restoration and Total Mercury Reduction Planning Project

Conservancy staff noted that the grant was awarded in July of 2022 for \$350,000 to prepare design plans and permitting to restore the Marsh Creek Reservoir. The competitive bids came in higher than anticipated for the project and the awardee is requesting funds to meet the bid amount. Awardee has also increased cost share to meet the increased budget.

Motion: Supervisor Hume moved, seconded by Board member Winternitz, that the Board approve a pre-execution amendment to the grant agreement with Contra Costa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District for Project ID P1-2211 to award an additional \$200,000 in project funding.

A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously with 9 ayes (Supervisor Ding was unable to vote due to technical issues).

Agenda Item 8 – Community Enhancement Grant Programs Update

Conservancy staff highlighted items from the staff report, which included projects from two funding sources: Proposition 68 California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018 (Prop 68) and CAR. Both funding sources accept proposals on an ongoing basis. Since the last Board meeting, Land Acquisition for the Clarksburg Schoolhouse Restoration and Delta Welcome Center (P6802) have completed the property acquisition, and Pittsburg Boat Launch Facility and Central Harbor Park Upgrade (P6804) have completed 90% design plans and submitted a proposal for implementation.

Agenda Item 9 – Consideration of Award of Climate, Access, and Restoration (CAR) Grant Funds for Delta Aquatic Center of Stockton Planning Project

Conservancy staff highlighted items from the staff report for a two-phase approach to the project. Phase one is partial design plans and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) findings, and phase two is completing the design plans. The project has considerable backing from the community. Matt Almy, California Department of Finance, inquired about the possible funding sources for the project and the Board agreed that CAR funding was a good fit due to the community access benefits.

Motion: Board Member Udang moved, seconded by Supervisor Mashburn, to award funding up to \$2,544,725 to the San Joaquin Community Foundation from the Climate, Access, and Resource (CAR) Grant Program for the Delta Aquatic Center of Stockton subject to the two-phased funding approach explained in the staff report and the Board’s approval of responsible agency findings prior to funding for the second phase.

A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed with 9 ayes, 1 abstain.

Agenda Item 10 – Consideration of Amendment to Budget of Community Enhancement Grant Program Agreement for Building of the 1883 Clarksburg Schoolhouse and Creation of a Delta Welcome Center Project

Conservancy staff highlighted in the staff report the request to increase the budget by \$328,206 due to inflationary costs and approve a term extension for one year.

Motion: Supervisor Villegas moved, seconded by Board Member Winternitz, to approve an amendment to the grant agreement P6813 with the Friends of the 1883 Clarksburg Schoolhouse to increase the budget by \$328,206 and extend the grant term to March 15, 2026.

A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously with 10 ayes.

Agenda Item 11 – The 2022 Delta Drought Response Pilot Program Report and Technical Analysis

Conservancy staff along with Lindsay Kammeier, Water Resource Control Engineer with the Office of the Delta Watermaster, presented an overview of the draft final report for the first year of the DDRPP.

Agenda Item 12 – Overview of Resources for Science, Data, and Environmental Compliance and Permitting for Delta Conservancy Projects

Conservancy staff shared a slide presentation overview and summary of key topics for science, data, and environmental compliance and permitting for Delta projects. The slide deck is available [on the Delta Conservancy website](#).

Agenda Item 13 – EcoRestore Update

Charlotte Biggs, Program Manager II at the California Department of Water Resources, presented an update on the EcoRestore Program.

Agenda Item 14 – Delta Stewardship Council Update

Brandon Chapin, Legislative and Policy Advisor for the Delta Stewardship Council, presented a Delta Stewardship Council update, and Viet-Long Nguyen presented an update on the Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee.

Agenda Item 15 – Delta Protection Commission Update

Bruce Blodgett, Executive Director of the Delta Protection Commission, presented an update.

Agenda Item 16 – Delta Conveyance Update

Janet Barbieri, Consultant to the Department of Water Resources managing the communication program for the Delta Conveyance Project, presented an update.

Agenda Item 17 – Potential Agenda Items for the May 24, 2023 Board Meeting

- Potential Project Sites for May 2023 Board Meeting – Big Break Regional Park
- Consideration of Award of Community Enhancement Grant Program Proposal(s)
- Consideration of Amendment Requests to Community Enhancement Grant Program Awards

Agenda Item 13 – Public Comment

None

BOARD DIRECTIVES TO STAFF

- Include visual materials of closed projects during board meetings.

MEETING ADJOURNED by Chair Mashburn at 11:00 a.m.

CONTACT

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