

*STATE COASTAL CONSERVANCY
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
May 05, 2020*

**STATE COASTAL CONSERVANCY
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
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MEMBERS PRESENT:

Douglas Bosco (Public Member), Chair
Ann Notthoff (Public Member), Vice Chair
Marce Gutiérrez-Graudiņš (Public Member)
Bryan Cash (Designated, Department of Natural Resources)
Gayle Miller (Designated, Department of Finance)
Susan Hansch (Designated, Coastal Commission)

OVERSIGHT MEMBERS PRESENT:

Assemblymember Mark Stone (District 29)
Assemblymember Lorena Gonzalez (District 80)
Assemblymember Monique Limón (District 37)
Senator Benjamin Allen (District 26)
Senator Bill Monning (District 17)

OTHERS PRESENT:

Sam Schuchat, Executive Officer
Amy Roach, Chief Counsel

LOCATION:

Teleconference

MEETING START TIME: 10:08 A.M.

1. ROLL CALL

Douglas Bosco (Public Member), Chair
Ann Notthoff (Public Member), Vice Chair
Marce Gutiérrez-Graudiņš (Public Member)
Bryan Cash (Designated, Department of Natural Resources)
Gayle Miller (Designated, Department of Finance)
Susan Hansch (Designated, Coastal Commission)

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2. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES** of the Conservancy’s February 02, 2020 public meeting. Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

3. **CONSENT ITEMS**

Chair Bosco announced that Consent Item 3.H “Codornices Creek Restoration Project” was postponed. Chair Bosco asked the board if any member requested any consent item be removed. Hearing no such request, the following consent items were moved for approval, seconded, and approved unanimously:

A. PISMO RANCH PRESERVE

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of up to one hundred ninety four thousand six hundred and eighty nine dollars (\$194,689) to the Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County (LCSLO) for the construction of cattle grazing fencing and a water distribution system and installation of pedestrian trail crossings at the Pismo Ranch Preserve. Prior to the disbursement of these funds, LCSLO shall submit for the review and approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy (Executive Officer) the following:

1. A detailed work program, schedule, and budget.
2. Names and qualifications of any contractors to be retained in carrying out the project.
3. A plan for acknowledgement of Conservancy funding.
4. A recorded agreement pursuant to Public Resources Code 31116(d) sufficient to protect the public interest in the improvements.”

Findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapter 6 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding coastal resource enhancement.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. The LCSLO is a nonprofit organization existing under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.”

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B. CARDIFF STATE BEACH LIVING SHORELINE

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of up to one hundred seventy seven thousand dollars (\$177,000) to the University of California Los Angeles (“grantee”) to conduct dune restoration performance monitoring for the Cardiff State Beach Living Shoreline Project (“Project”), San Diego County; this authorization augments funding previously authorized by the Conservancy for Project implementation totaling \$2,899,332 of which \$83,289 was designated for performance monitoring.

Prior to the disbursement of funds, the grantee shall submit for the review and written approval of the Conservancy’s Executive Officer a work program, including budget and schedule, and the names and qualifications of any contractors to be employed for these work program tasks.”

Findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapter 3 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code (Section 31113), regarding addressing the impacts of climate change and Chapter 6 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code (Sections 31251-31270) regarding resource enhancement.
2. The project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.”

C. HOBO ALISO RIDGE

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of an amount not to exceed fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) to the Center for Natural Lands Management (“the grantee”) to complete a Property Analysis Record (PAR) for the Hobo Aliso Ridge property in Laguna Beach, Orange County.”

Prior to commencement of the project, the grantee shall submit for the review and written approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy (Executive Officer) the following:

1. A detailed work program, schedule, and budget.
2. Names and qualifications of any contractors to be retained in carrying out the project.”

Findings:

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“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapter 6 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding Coastal Resource Enhancement.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. The Center for Natural Lands Management is a nonprofit organization organized under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.”

D. BEACH WHEELCHAIRS AT GAVIOTA COAST

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of an amount not to exceed four thousand two hundred dollars (\$4,200) to the California Department of Parks and Recreation (“the grantee”) to acquire beach wheelchairs for Gaviota, Refugio, and El Capitan State Beaches along the Gaviota Coast of Santa Barbara County.”

Prior to commencement of the project, the grantee shall submit for the review and written approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy (Executive Officer) the following:

1. A work program, including a plan for acknowledgement of Conservancy funding, a plan for maintaining the beach wheelchairs, and a budget.
2. Evidence of any written agreements required to enable the grantee to provide and maintain the beach wheelchairs and associated storage at each applicable beach location, and to conduct any related outreach.”

Findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapter 9 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding the System of Public Accessways.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.”

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E. CARRINGTON COAST RANCH

Resolution:

"The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of an amount not to exceed one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) to Sonoma County Regional Parks ("the grantee") to prepare a master plan addressing resource protection and public use, including a segment of the California Coastal Trail and lower-cost accommodations for the Carrington Coast Ranch property in coastal Sonoma County."

Prior to commencement of the project, the grantee shall submit for the review and written approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy ("Executive Officer") the following:

1. A detailed work program, schedule, and budget.
2. Names and qualifications of any contractors to be retained in carrying out the project.
3. A plan for acknowledgement of the Conservancy.
4. To the extent appropriate, the grantee shall incorporate into the master plan, the guidelines of the Conservancy's 'Standards and Recommendations for Accessway Location and Development' and the requirements of all applicable federal and state laws governing barrier-free access for persons with disabilities."

Findings:

"Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapters 9 and 10 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding public access and lower-cost coastal accommodations, respectively.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines."

F. ANTONELLI POND

Resolution:

"The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of an amount not to exceed one hundred thirty thousand dollars (\$130,000) to The Land Trust of Santa Cruz County ("the grantee") to prepare designs, plans, environmental review analysis, and permit applications for an all-access trail and associated amenities at Antonelli Pond in the City of Santa Cruz."

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Prior to commencement of the project, the grantee shall submit for the review and written approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy (Executive Officer) the following:

1. A detailed work program, schedule, and budget.
2. Names and qualifications of any contractors to be retained in carrying out the project.
3. A plan for acknowledgement of Conservancy funding.

In addition, to the extent appropriate, the Land Trust of Santa Cruz County shall incorporate the guidelines of the Conservancy's 'Standards and Recommendations for Accessway Location and Development' and the requirements of all applicable federal and state laws governing barrier-free access for persons with disabilities into the trail designs for the Antonelli Pond All-Access Trail and Amenities Project."

Findings:

"Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapter 9 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding System of Public Accessways.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. The Land Trust for Santa Cruz County is a nonprofit organization organized under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code."

G. JALAMA BEACH CAMPGROUND

Resolution:

"The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of an amount not to exceed eighty-thousand dollars (\$80,000) to the County of Santa Barbara ("the grantee") to prepare design plans, technical studies, and a County permit pre-application package for the addition of campsites, relocation of campground support facilities, and improvements at Jalama Beach County Park in Santa Barbara County."

Prior to commencement of the project, the grantee shall submit for the review and written approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy ("Executive Officer") the following:

1. A detailed work program, schedule, and budget.
2. Names and qualifications of any contractors to be retained in carrying out the project.
3. A plan for acknowledgement of Conservancy funding."

Findings:

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“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapter 10 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding Lower-cost Coastal Accommodations.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.”

H. ITEM POSTPONED

I. COASTKEEPER BEACH BUNGALOWS

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of an amount not to exceed fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to Orange County Coastkeeper (“the grantee”) to prepare a business plan, evaluate design options, and prepare permit applications for the purchase and installation of ten prefabricated lower-cost bungalows at the Waterfront RV Park in Huntington Beach, Orange County.

Prior to commencement of the project, the grantee shall submit for the review and written approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy (Executive Officer) the following:

1. A detailed work program, schedule, and budget.
2. Names and qualifications of any contractors to be retained in carrying out the project.
3. A plan for acknowledgement of Conservancy funding.”

Findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapter 10 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding Lower-Cost Coastal Accommodations.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. The Orange County Coastkeeper is a nonprofit organization organized under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.”

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J. POTRERO CREEK

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of an amount not to exceed one hundred eighty six thousand one hundred twenty four dollars (\$186,024) to Trout Unlimited (“the grantee”) to remove a fish passage barrier on Potrero Creek in the Carmel River Watershed in Monterey County.

Prior to commencement of the project, the grantee shall submit for the review and written approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy (Executive Officer) the following:

1. A detailed work program, schedule, and budget.
2. Names and qualifications of any contractors to be retained in carrying out the project.
3. A plan for acknowledgement of Conservancy funding.
4. Evidence that all permits and approvals required to implement the project have been obtained.
5. Prior to commencing the project, the grantee shall enter into and record an agreement pursuant to Public Resources Code 31116(d) sufficient to enable the grantee to implement, operate, and maintain the project and to protect the public interest in the improvements.”

Findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapter 5.5 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding Integrated Marine and Coastal Resources.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. Trout Unlimited is a nonprofit organization organized under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.
4. The Conservancy has independently reviewed and considered the *Mitigated Negative Declaration for the 2019 Fisheries Restoration Grant Program* adopted by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife on November 18, 2019 pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) and attached to the accompanying staff recommendation as Exhibit 4. The Conservancy finds that the proposed project as designed and mitigated avoids, reduces, or mitigates the potentially significant environmental effects to a less-than-significant level, and that there is no substantial evidence based on the record as a whole that the Project may have a significant effect on the environment, as defined in 14 Cal. Code Regulations Section 15382.

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K. SAN GERONIMO CREEK

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby modifies its authorization of January 18, 2018, to allow disbursement of remaining funds to Marin County Resource Conservation District (“the grantee”) to procure, transport, and store large woody debris for future use on instream coho salmon habitat restoration projects within the greater Lagunitas Creek watershed in Marin County.

Prior to commencement of the project, the grantee shall submit for the review and written approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy (Executive Officer) the following:

1. A detailed work program, schedule, and budget for funds disbursed under this authorization.
2. Names and qualifications of any contractors to be retained in carrying out the project.
3. A plan for acknowledgment of Conservancy funding and Proposition 1 as the source of that funding.”

Findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapter 5.5 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding Integrated Coastal and Marine Resources Protection.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.”

L. BEL MARIN KEYS UNIT V PHASE 1

Passed “A RESOLUTION OF THE CALIFORNIA STATE COASTAL CONSERVANCY ADOPTING AND IMPLEMENTING LABOR COMPLIANCE ON PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACTS” adopting the “Labor Compliance Program Implemented by Contractor Compliance Monitoring, Inc. on behalf of the California State Coastal Conservancy,” both of which are attached to the memorandum of May 5, 2020 to the Coastal Conservancy from Sam Schuchat, Executive Officer and Moira McEnespy, San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program Manager.

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4. EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

- A. Sam Schuchat, Executive Officer, presented the legislative report.
- B. ITEM POSTPONED.

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA

5. THE WATERSHED PROJECT'S DIRT WORLD GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT

Brenda Buxton of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Speaking in favor of the Staff Recommendation: Juliana Gonzalez of The Watershed Project.

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of an amount not to exceed four hundred twenty eight thousand eight hundred seventy five dollars (\$428,875) to The Watershed Project (“the grantee”) to complete final designs and construct green infrastructure and signage to improve water quality, prevent flooding, and increase resilience to climate change impacts, along the Richmond Greenway Trail, along the public right of way on 21st Street, and in Dirt World, a city park for off-road bicycle use, in Richmond, Contra Costa County.

Prior to commencement of the project, the grantee shall submit for the review and written approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy (Executive Officer) the following:

1. A detailed work program, schedule, and budget.
2. Names and qualifications of any contractors to be retained in carrying out the project.
3. A plan for acknowledgement of Conservancy funding and Proposition 1 as the source of that funding.
4. Evidence that all permits and approvals required to implement the project have been obtained.
5. Evidence that the grantee has entered into agreements sufficient to enable the grantee to implement, operate, and maintain the project.
6. Evidence that the City of Richmond has made binding on the grantee those mitigation measures identified in the Urban Greening Master Plan Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration adopted by the City of Richmond in March 2017 and attached to the accompanying staff recommendation as Exhibit 5 that are applicable to the project.”

Findings:

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“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapter 4.5 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding the San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. The Watershed Project is a nonprofit organization organized under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code
4. The Conservancy has independently reviewed and considered the *City of Richmond Urban Greening Master Plan Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration* (MND) adopted by the City of Richmond in March 2017 and attached to the accompanying staff recommendation as Exhibit 5, and has concluded that the proposed project falls within the scope of the MND; that the proposed project as designed and mitigated avoids, reduces, or mitigates the potentially significant environmental effects to a less-than-significant level; and that there is no substantial evidence that the proposed project will have a significant effect on the environment.”

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

6. NOVATO BAYLANDS STEWARD

Moira McEnespy of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Speaking in favor of the Staff Recommendation: Christina McWhorter of Novato Baylands Stewards.

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes disbursement of an amount not to exceed one million four hundred thirteen thousand two hundred dollars (\$1,413,200) to MarinLink (“the grantee”) for the Novato Baylands Stewards (a project sponsored by MarinLink) to restore or enhance approximately 177 acres of wetlands through engaging local communities in Marin County.

Prior to commencement of the project, the grantee shall submit for the review and written approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy (Executive Officer) the following:

1. A detailed work program, schedule, and budget.
2. Names and qualifications of any contractors to be retained in carrying out the project.
3. A plan for acknowledgement of Conservancy.

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4. Evidence that all permits and approvals required to implement the project have been obtained.
5. Evidence that the grantee has entered into agreements sufficient to enable the grantee to implement, operate, and maintain the project.
6. The grantee shall comply with all relevant mitigation measures identified in Bel Marin Keys Wetland Restoration Phase 1 Project Addendum to the Supplemental Environmental Impact Report Environmental Impact Statement for the Bel Marin Keys Unit V Expansion of Hamilton Wetland Restoration Project.”

Findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapter 4.5 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding the San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. MarinLink is a nonprofit organization organized under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.”

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

7. LOWER WALNUT CREEK HABITAT RESTORATION

Avra Heller of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of an amount not to exceed nine hundred seventy thousand dollars (\$970,000) to the Contra Costa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (“the grantee”) to implement the North Reach of the Lower Walnut Creek Habitat Restoration Project, consisting of restoration and enhancement of tidal wetlands and associated upland habitat, and rough grading to support future wildlife-compatible public access trails on Lower Walnut Creek, Contra Costa County.

Prior to commencement of the project, the grantee shall submit for the review and written approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy the following:

1. A detailed work program, schedule, and budget.
2. A plan for acknowledgement of Conservancy funding.
3. Names and qualifications of any contractors to be retained in carrying out the project.

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4. Evidence that all permits and approvals required to implement the project have been obtained.
5. Evidence that the grantee has entered into any agreements that are necessary to implement the project on those portions of the project site that the grantee does not own, and evidence that the grantee has entered into and recorded agreements that the Executive Officer determines are necessary to protect the public interest in the project.”

Findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapter 4.5 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding the San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. The Conservancy has independently reviewed and considered the Lower Walnut Creek Restoration Project Final Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration adopted by Contra Costa County on November 19, 2019 pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) and attached to the accompanying staff recommendation as Exhibit 3. The Conservancy finds that the Lower Walnut Creek Restoration Project as designed and mitigated avoids, reduces, or mitigates the potentially significant environmental effects to a less-than-significant level, and that there is no substantial evidence based on the record as a whole that the Lower Walnut Creek Restoration Project may have a significant effect on the environment, as defined in 14 Cal. Code Regulations Section 15382.”

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

NORTH COAST

8. MATTOLE BEACH CAMPGROUND

Triana Anderson of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of an amount not to exceed ninety-four thousand seven hundred dollars (\$94,700) to the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (“the grantee”) to improve and expand the Mattole Beach Campground for the purpose of increasing access to low cost coastal accommodations in California.

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Prior to commencement of the project, the grantee shall submit for the review and written approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy (Executive Officer) the following:

1. A detailed work program, schedule, and budget.
2. Names and qualifications of any contractors to be retained in carrying out the project.
3. A plan for acknowledgement of Conservancy funding.
4. Evidence that all permits and approvals required to implement the project have been obtained.”

Findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapter 10 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding Lower Cost Coastal Accommodations.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.”

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

9. MILL BEND

Lisa Ames of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of an amount not to exceed one million three hundred thousand dollars (\$1,300,000) to Redwood Coast Land Conservancy (“RCLC”) for the acquisition of the 113-acre Mill Bend property (consisting of Sonoma County Assessor Parcel No. 122-020-004 and Mendocino County Assessor Parcel Nos. 145, 261-08, 145-290-05 and 145-290-08), preparation of an integrated resource management plan for the property, and minor land clean-up actions.

This authorization is subject to the following conditions:

1. Prior to the disbursement of funds for the acquisition, the grantee shall submit for the review and approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy (Executive Officer):
 - a. All relevant acquisition documents for the acquisition including, without limitation, the appraisal, purchase and sale agreement, deed, escrow instructions, environmental or hazardous materials assessment, and title report;
 - b. A baseline conditions report;
 - c. Evidence that sufficient funds are available to complete the acquisition; and

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- d. A plan for acknowledgement of the Conservancy.
2. The grantee shall pay no more than fair market value for the property as established in an appraisal approved by the Executive Officer.
3. The property acquired under this authorization shall be managed and operated for public access and recreation, open space, habitat conservation, and environmental education and research related to conservation and protection of the natural resources of the property. The property shall be permanently dedicated to those purposes by an appropriate instrument approved by the Executive Officer.
4. Prior to commencement of the planning project, the grantee shall submit for the review and written approval of the Executive Officer a detailed work program, schedule, and budget, and names and qualifications of any contractors to be retained in carrying out the project.
5. In addition, to the extent appropriate, the grantee shall incorporate the guidelines of the Conservancy's 'Standards and Recommendations for Accessway Location and Development'."

Findings:

"Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapter 5.5 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding integrated coastal and marine resources protection.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. The Redwood Coast Land Conservancy is a nonprofit organization organized under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code."

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

CENTRAL COAST

10. WATSONVILLE SLOUGH FARMS RESTORATION

Tom Gandesbery of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Resolution:

"The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of an amount not to exceed four hundred forty thousand six hundred twenty dollars (\$440,620) to the Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County ("the grantee") to restore 9.9 acres of wetland and upland habitat at Watsonville Slough Farms in Santa Cruz County.

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Prior to commencement of the project, the grantee shall submit for the review and written approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy (Executive Officer) the following:

1. A detailed work program, schedule, and budget.
2. Names and qualifications of any contractors to be retained in carrying out the project.
3. A plan for acknowledgement of Conservancy funding and Proposition 1 as the source of that funding.
4. Evidence that all permits and approvals required to implement the project have been obtained.
5. Evidence that the grantee has entered into agreements sufficient to enable the grantee to implement, operate, and maintain the project.”

Findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapter 5.5 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding Integrated Coastal and Marine Resource Protection.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. The Conservancy has independently reviewed and considered the “Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Bryant-Habert/Wait Ecological Restoration Project” adopted by the County of Santa Cruz on May 25, 2016 pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) and attached to the accompanying staff recommendation as Exhibit 4. The Conservancy finds that the proposed project as designed and mitigated avoids, reduces, or mitigates the potentially significant environmental effects to a less-than-significant level, and that there is no substantial evidence based on the record as a whole that the Project may have a significant effect on the environment, as defined in 14 Cal. Code Regulations Section 15382.”

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

11. CARMEL RIVER LAGOON PIPELINE

Tom Gandesbery of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of an amount not to exceed seven hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$750,000) to the Carmel Area Wastewater District (“the grantee”) to prepare plans, designs, permit applications and environmental

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review documents for the replacement of a wastewater pipeline in the Carmel River Lagoon.

Prior to commencement of the project, the grantee shall submit for the review and written approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy (Executive Officer) the following:

1. A detailed work program, schedule, and budget.
2. Names and qualifications of all contractors to be retained in carrying out the project.”

Findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapter 5.5 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding integrated marine and coastal resources.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.”

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

SOUTH COAST

12. LIBERTY CANYON WILDLIFE CROSSING

Emely Lopez of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Speaking in favor of the Staff Recommendation: Beth Pratt of the National Wildlife Federation and former California State Senator Frances Pavley.

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of an amount not to exceed one million dollars (\$1,000,000) to the National Wildlife Federation (“the grantee”) to prepare engineering designs and construction specifications for a wildlife crossing that will connect the Santa Monica Mountains to the Sierra Madre Range over US-101 and Agoura Road west of Liberty Canyon Road in the City of Agoura Hills.

This authorization is subject to the following conditions:

Prior to the commencement of the project, the grantee shall submit for the review and written approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy (Executive Officer) the following:

1. A detailed work program, schedule, and budget.
2. Names and qualifications of any contractors to be retained in carrying out the project.

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3. A plan for acknowledgment of Conservancy funding.”

Findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapter 5.5 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding Integrated Coastal and Marine Protection.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. The National Wildlife Federation is a nonprofit organization organized under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.
4. As a responsible agency, the Conservancy has independently reviewed and considered the “Initial Study with Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Liberty Canyon Wildlife Habitat Connectivity Project” (MND) adopted by the California Department of Transportation on April 12, 2018, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The MND is attached to the accompanying staff recommendation as Exhibit 4. The Conservancy finds that based on the record as a whole, there is no substantial evidence that the Liberty Canyon Wildlife Habitat Connectivity Project, as mitigated, will have a significant effect on the environment, as defined in 14 Cal. Code Regulations Section 15382.”

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously

13. MALIBU BLUFFS CAMPGROUND

Rodrigo Garcia of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Speaking in favor of the Staff Recommendation: Mario Sandoval of Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA).

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of an amount not to exceed five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) (“the grantee”) to prepare plans, designs, environmental review documents and a public works plan for a campground and associated amenities at the Malibu Bluffs in the City of Malibu.

Prior to commencement of the project, the grantee shall submit for the review and written approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy (Executive Officer) the following:

1. A detailed work program, schedule, and budget.

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2. Names and qualifications of any contractors to be retained in carrying out the project.
3. A plan for acknowledgement of Conservancy funding.”

Findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapter 10 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding Lower-Cost Coastal Accommodations.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.”

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously

14. CLOSED SESSION

The Conservancy did not hold a closed session.

15. CONSERVANCY MEMBER COMMENTS

Wade Crowfoot, Secretary of Natural Resources, joined at the end of the meeting to address the Conservancy, speaking to the Agency’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

16. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Taylor Samuelson of the Coastal Conservancy read the first paragraph of a written comment submitted for the meeting on May 4, 2020 by Anna Christensen of the Los Cerritos Wetlands Task Force on concerns regarding the Los Cerritos Wetlands and the Los Cerritos Wetlands Restoration and Oil Consolidation Project. Chair Bosco requested that the full written comment be mailed to all Board and Oversight members after the meeting and included in the public record.

17. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 11:36 A.M.