



SONOMA COUNTY OPEN SPACE FISCAL OVERSIGHT COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS

Mike Sangiacomo (First District)
Todd Mendoza (Second District)
Gary Wysocky (Third District)

Ariel Kelley (Fourth District)
Jorge Inocencio (Fifth District)
Jeff Owen (Alternate)

APPROVED MINUTES

Virtual Meeting Due to Sonoma County's Shelter in Place Order

December 15, 2022 | 3:00 pm

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Ariel Kelly, Mike Sangiacomo, Gary Wysocky, Jeff Owen, Jorge Inocencio

STAFF PRESENT: Misti Arias, General Manager; Lisa Pheatt, County Counsel; Julie Mefferd, Administrative & Fiscal Services Manager; Jennifer Kuszmar, Acquisition Manager; Ceara McKetchnie-Stanley, Administrative Aide; Mariah Robson, Executive Secretary

1. Call to Order

Commissioner Kelly called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

2. Agenda Items to be Held or Taken Out of Order; Off- Agenda Items

3. General Announcements Not Requiring Deliberation or Decision

No general announcements.

4. Public Comment

No public comment.

5. Correspondence/Communications

No correspondence or communications.

6. General Manager's Report

- The Vegetation Management Program Update and Proposed Recommendations for Future PG&E Settlement Expenditures for 2023/24 was postponed from going to the Board on December 13, 2022 to January 10, 2023.
- The Regional Conservation Partnership Program – Vital Streams and Forests grant will go to the Board on January 24, 2023.
- The Sonoma Mountain Vernal Pools conservation easement was approved by the Board on Tuesday, December 13, 2022. This project includes a conservation easement over a 174-acre property adjacent to the southeast corner of Trione-Annadel State Park. Sonoma Land Trust will purchase the property and transfer it to Regional Parks or another park entity. Preservation of the property will protect vernal pools, oak woodlands and tributaries to an important salmonid-bearing stream.
- Ag + Open Space staff from the Stewardship and Community Resources programs recently toured Santa Rosa High School's new agricultural education facility at Alba Lane. The former structures were all destroyed in the Tubbs Fire and the school obtained a grant to develop a new and much-improved facility, modifying the proposed design to fit within the constraints of the Alba Lane Conservation Easement.
- On November 10, 2022, Sonoma Land Trust conducted their first prescribed burn on the Glen Oaks Ranch

property, over which we hold a conservation easement. Stewardship staff had previously reviewed and approved the plans for this burn and were on-site to observe conditions during the first hour of ignitions. The burn took place in open, grassy white-oak woodland, and was intended to reduce thatch buildup in order to support native grasses and forbs.

- Calabazas Creek was transferred to Regional Parks and Ag + Open Space staff recently reviewed and approved a request to identify an alternate trail route to be used in the event of a trail collapse this winter at the location of the failing large culvert. Parks will be implementing the removal of the culvert and restoration of this site in 2023, following initial planning work done by our own Leslie Lew while we still owned the property. The alternate route would be a temporary measure to enable park staff and visitors to safely cross the creek prior to this repair taking place.
- On Tuesday, December 13, 2022, the Board approved our funding recommendations for the two Matching Grant Program projects that came in during the first application cycle and also gave direction to open a second application cycle from December 13, 2022 through March 10, 2023. An email was sent out from Amy Ricard, Community Resources Managers, with more details about the second application cycle, so feel free to forward the email to folks that may be interested in the program. The application, guidelines, an optional Readiness Assessment form, and a link to a recording of the original virtual session can be found on our website at www.SonomaOpenSpace.org/MGP.
- Lauren Alpert, who had been our Community Relations Assistant since June 2019, has been promoted to Community Relations Specialist. In her new role, Ms. Alpert will serve as a lead in the community relations efforts, with a specific focus on media outreach and public relations, marketing and advertising, branding, messaging, collateral development, and creative asset management, among other tasks. She will also help to oversee the work of two Community Relations Assistants.

7. Approval of Commission Minutes

On a motion by Commissioner Owen and second by Commissioner Wysocky, the November 10, 2022 minutes were approved.

8. Financial Report

Julie Mefferd, Administrative & Fiscal Services Manager, reviewed the monthly financial statements for November 2022.

9. Approval of FOC Annual Report

Ms. Mefferd presented the 10th FOC Annual Report. On a motion by Commissioner Own and second by Commissioner Sangiacomo, the FOC Annual Report was approved.

10. Projects in Negotiations

Jennifer Kuszmar, Acquisition Manager, discussed the Projects in Negotiations spreadsheet and said that there will be many more properties going into appraisal phase in early 2023.

11. Suggested Next Meeting

January 5, 2023

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

AGENDAS AND MATERIALS: Agendas and most supporting materials are available on the District's website at sonomaopenspace.org. Due to legal, copyright, privacy or policy considerations, not all materials are posted online. Materials that are not posted are available for public inspection between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, at 747 Mendocino Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA.

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS: Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the Commission/Committee after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection at the District office at 747 Mendocino Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA during normal business hours.

DISABLED ACCOMMODATION: If you have a disability which requires an accommodation, an alternative format, or requires another person to assist you while attending this meeting, please contact Julie Mefferd at 707-565-7368, as soon as possible to ensure arrangements for accommodation.
