



County of Santa Cruz

Health Services Agency – Environmental Health

Fish and Wildlife Advisory Commission

(831) 454-2022 TDD/TTY - Call 711 <http://www.scceh.org>



Meeting Minutes December 4, 2025

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – 6:30 pm
2. **ROLL CALL**

District	Commissioner	Status	Commissioner	Status
I	Chris Berry	P	Kevin Butler	P
II	Brian Woodward	E	David Somerton	P
III	Liz Alter	P	Jon Jankovitz	P
IV	Brooke Sampson	P	Daniela Suarez	E
V	Jenni Gomez	P	Joanne Brown	P

P = Present R = Remote E = Excused A = Absent

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- o **Motion to Approve Minutes:** Berry, **Second:** Sampson,
- o **All Ayes:** Minutes approved

4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

- o None

5. **SELECT GRANT PROPOSALS FOR FUNDING RECOMMENDATION:** Commissioners discussed funding options and chose to fully fund the top scoring proposals and partially fund the lowest scoring proposal. After submitting individual scores, the average score for each proposal was determined and used to rank the proposals. Using that ranking, funding was recommended as follows:

Mobile Whale Skull Display for Education	\$3,000.00
Ambassador Animal Enrichment	\$3,000.00
Community-Driven River Health Days	\$5,000.00
Resolving Negative Santa Cruz County Human-Wildlife Conflicts	\$7,500.00
WOLF School Salamander Monitoring Project	\$1,500.00

- o **Motion to Recommend Above Funding:** Berry, **Second:** Jankovitz,
- o **All Ayes:** Funding recommendations approved

- 6. CONTINUE DISCUSSION ON THE COUNTY [STRATEGIC PLAN 2032](#):** Commissioners reviewed the “Results Statement” for the Focus Area of “Environment, Climate, and Sustainability” and will propose the following statement:
- “Ecosystems and watersheds are restored and protected to support biodiversity, climate resiliency, equitable public health and outdoor recreation, and overall environmental quality.”*
- In addition, commissioners will suggest the following metrics for measuring success; water quality (Ex. Region 3 “Basin Plan”), water quantity, acreage of land that is sustainably managed as either open space or working lands, metrics described in existing Species Recovery Plans.
- Finally, the commissioners voted to create a sub-committee, consisting of Commissioners Berry, Brown, Butler, and Alter, to continue discussion on this topic, as needed.
- **Motion to create sub-committee:** Alter, **Second:** Berry,
 - **All Ayes:** Sub-committee created
- 7. PRESENTATION ON RECENT CHANGES TO CEQA:** Staff provided an update on changes made to CEQA as part of the California budget process. Commissioners then discussed the changes to CEQA and other environmental laws.
- 8. STAFF AND COMMISSIONER REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:**
- **Staff Reports:**
 - Supervisor De Serpa thanked the Commissioner for the Zone 0 Letter and the supporting documentation from the LA Times.
 - A [Gray Fox was trapped](#) in Glenwood preserve which is under an active investigation by CDFW.
 - **Commissioner Reports:**
 - **Com Berry:** Would like to request a presentation from the Planning Department on their concerns related to Significant Tree Ordinance expansion letter.
 - **Com Berry:** Will continue trying to identify a presenter on Western Pond Turtle listing in the California Endangered Species Act.
 - **Com Sampson:** There will be a community restoration event on Feb 7th, World Wetlands Day, at Struve Slough.
 - **Com Gomez:** Will be meeting with District 5 Supervisor regarding the Significant Tree Ordinance letter.
- 9. ADJOURN. Motion to Adjourn:** Berry, **Second:** Jankovitz

All Aye: meeting adjourned at 8:26 pm