General Meeting of the Board of Directors
Fresno Chaffee Zoo Education Building
Tuesday, June 21st, 2016 5:30 pm
DRAFT

Board Members Attendance Staff Present Public Present
Cates, Chelsea Present Anderson, Alisha
Dougherty, Colin Present Condoian, Lisa
Gonzalez, Ed Present Myers, Lyn
Levy, Sharon Present Martina, Laura
Nokes, George Absent Goldman, Brian
Price, Ken Absent Nodolf, Shannon
Rainwater, Shari Present Pitts, Sandra
Richards, Tom Present Revis, Jessica
Saladino, Craig Present
Valentino, John Present

Advisory
Scott Barton Present Fresno’s Chaffee Zoo Corp Legal Counsel
Steve MacAlpine Present Doug Larsen – Present

Meeting called to order at 5:30 p.m.: Board Chair, John Valentino called the meeting to order.

Roll Call: Board Directors Cates, Dougherty, Levy, Price, Rainwater, Richards, Saladino and Valentino all present. Board Directors Nokes and Price absent. Advisors CEO Barton and Mr. MacAlpine present. Legal Counsel Mr. Larsen present.

Approval of Minutes: Director Valentino called for review of the minutes from June 21st, 2016 and a motion to approve. Director Dougherty made a motion to approve. Director Rainwater seconded. Directors Cates, Levy, Richards, Saladino, Gonzalez, and Valentino in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

Chair Report: None.

CEO Report: CEO Barton stated the attendance is positive, and 20% over the budgeted amount. He stated that attendance could exceed 1 million for the year. CEO Barton presented a PowerPoint to the Board of the FCZC upcoming projects. The first project presented is the Dino Dig expansion, which would add another dinosaur and extend the shaded area. The next is the African River project, which would be an extension of the African Adventure exhibit. The tiger and sloth bear exhibit will be updated with new renovations. Another project is the program animals building, this will be an expansion of the education department and collection animals. The warthog exhibit will be renovated to add on to African Adventure, and create more space for the animals. There will also be a new commissary, which will expand the fridge and freezer capacity. The last project presented was the kangaroo walk-thru, which will be an in-house project. Director Saladino asked what the current budget for the kangaroo walk-thru. CEO Barton stated it roughly $100,000.

Presentation from Fresno Chaffee Zoo Staff: FCZ Curator Mark Halvorsen presented a PowerPoint presentation to the Board. The presentation discussed the Guam Rail project and the Fresno Chaffee Zoo’s involvement. Guam Rail are small, flightless birds, which nest on the ground. They are only found in Guam and are in danger of becoming extinct. Snakes and loss of natural habitat killed off most of the Guam Rail in the 1980s. These birds have survived with the help of zoo reproductive programs. From the 1990s to the early 2000s, the Guam Rails were reintroduced to Guam and nearby Rota Island but that venture failed due to predators. In 2011, Coco’s Island, which is located off the southern tip of Guam, was chosen for reintroduction after rodents were eradicated. There was finally progress, with signs of wild reproduction being noted in 2012. There are now 11
zoos who currently hold Guam Rails, including the Fresno Chaffee Zoo. The birds are set in pairs to maintain genetic diversity and are then managed through the AZA Guam Rail Species Survival Program (SSP). This allows the birds to breed and lay eggs. Attempts can be made to parent rear but have had a low success rate. The current method is to allow parents to incubate until close to hatching, then pull the eggs and incubate. The FCZ uses hand rearing, with the use of puppets and limited human interaction. Rails are held for 2 months before being sent to the Sedgwick County Zoo for pre-release quarantine, and from there they are off to help expand the wild population.

Review, Discuss and Consider Audit Report: Director Richards presented the 2015 Audit report to Board. Director Richards stated the Audit Committee meet with Kelly Steele from Moore Grider and found that the audit report was successful with no findings or remarks. Director Saladino stated that he does have a separate business relationship with Moore Grider, but not with Kelly Steele. Director Richards invited Ms. Steele to review the FY2015 Audit with the Board. Ms. Steele stated the audit process went very well and CFO Goldman and staff were very cooperative. Ms. Steele stated cash controls were tested and found to be working and documented. Also, that the FCZC staff provided great supporting documentation and showed a clean internal structure with proper separation of duties. Ms. Steele concluded that the audit was clean with no management letter required. Director Saladino made a motion to approve the 2015 audit report. Director Gonzalez seconded. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

Review, Discuss and Consider Financial Report: CFO Goldman reviewed the 2016 May Financial report with the board. CFO Goldman stated that the current surplus is $1.4 million over budget and total expenses are 9.7% lower than anticipated. The capital Measure Z funds were approximately $15 million at the end of March 2016 and should be close to $17 million for the end of May 2016. CFO Goldman stated per caps continue to exceed the budget. The attendance is 24% ahead of projection for the month, with a total increase of 43% comparatively from 2015. CFO Goldman stated that they have paid off the line of credit. CFO Goldman included a new chart in the financial statement showing the anticipated payment of receivables. He also mentioned that they did receive their first payment of shared cost from the City of Fresno in the amount of $1.5 million. CFO Goldman stated that Stingray Bay admissions are lower than anticipated but believes by reintroducing combo tickets in July 2016, it will begin to increase again. Director Richards made a motion to accept the financial report as presented. Director Saladino seconded. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

Review, Discuss and Consider Capital Budget Increase for Dino Dig Expansion: Director Saladino differed to Director Valentino for submission of Finance Committee contract approvals due to his absence at the previous meeting. Director Valentino submitted a request for the capital budget increase of $195,000 for the expansion of Dino Dig. This would expand the current Dino Dig exhibit by adding a new dinosaur and additional shading. He stated this was a unanimous approval in the committee. Director Saladino made a motion to approve. Director Valentino seconded. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

Review, Discuss and Consider Service Systems Associates Contract Extension: Director Valentino presented the renewal contract for Ross Laird stating there is a $40,000 increase from the previous extension. This increase is due to the addition of shows
and for the minimum wage increase of his employees. Director Saladino stated he would also like to have this sent to legal for review. Director Richards motioned for approval. Director Dougherty seconded. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

**Review, Discuss, and Consider Studio Hansen Roberts Contract:** CFO Goldman presented the Studio Hansen Roberts contract for conceptual design of African River. The budget was previously approved for $100,400. CFO Goldman stated this contract is only for conceptual design and will help streamline the process for further progress. CFO Goldman stated these funds will be presented to the Zoo Tax Authority towards capital funds, therefore causing no impact to the zoo budget. Director Dougherty motioned to approve. Director Rainwater seconded. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

**Review, Discuss, and Consider Investment Policy Statement:** Director Saladino stated that the Finance Committee reviewed the newly revised investment policy for recommendation to the Board for approval. Director Saladino mentioned the Finance Committee would like to add Dr. Chen to the committee. Dr. Chen was recommended by CEO Barton, and has a background in investment. This would benefit the committee by allowing for a better analysis of the FCZC current and future investments. Director Valentino called for a motion to accept the updated investment policy. Director Levy motioned to approve. Directory Dougherty seconded. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

**Review, Discuss, and Consider Old Business:** Director Valentino stated the Board would like an update on the status of the Exit Survey and Parking. Chief Marketing and Development Officer, Alisha Anderson handed out USB drives to the FCZC Board members. CMDO Anderson stated the USB drives that contained the previous survey results, and the questions included on the new Exit Survey. She stated the survey was completed on June 12th, 2016 by 341 guests and then sent to Moore Group to be compiled and analyzed. CMDO Anderson stated the results of the Exit Survey should be ready in the next 3-4 weeks, by the next Board meeting. CEO Barton stated parking development is moving forward. He mentioned that is he enthusiastic about several opportunities that have been presented. CEO Barton stated he would have a more detailed report at a future Board meeting. Director Valentino called to confirm the next Board Meeting, July 20th, 2016. All Board members confirmed availability. Meeting date and time confirmed.

**Closed Session:** Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation; Initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9

**Public Comment.** This time is set-aside for the public to comment on any item within the jurisdiction of the Board, but not appearing on the agenda. Items presented under public comment may not be discussed or acted upon by the Board at this time. For items appearing on the agenda, the public is invited to comment at the time the item is called for consideration by the Board. Any person addressing the Board under public comment will be limited to a 3-minute presentation to insure that all interested parties have an opportunity to speak. Please state your name and address for the record: None.

**Board questions and comments:** Director Dougherty asked if there have been any new births at the zoo. CEO Barton differed to General Curator, Lyn Myers for the update. General Curator Myers stated there are several new births including: peccaries, wolves, lemurs, and warthogs.

**Adjournment:** Closed Session entered into at 6:29 pm, Open Session resumed at 7:30 pm. **No action taken.**

Adjournment 7:30 pm

**Respectfully submitted by:** Jessica Revis, Executive Assistant to the CEO/Zoo Director
Fresno’s Chaffee Zoo Corporation