

DRAFT

ECOS Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes – February 21, 2007

The Minutes of January 17, 2007 were not available for approval.

A motion was made by Eric Davis and seconded by Karl Stouffer to accept Save Our Sandhill Cranes (SOS Cranes) as an ECOS voting member organization. The vote was unanimous with no abstentions or dissents. Official representatives to the ECOS Board will be Eric Ross, primary, and Tara Hansen, alternate. Welcome SOS Cranes!

A motion was made by Ethan Evans and seconded by Jim Pachl that an ad hoc committee be formed to plan and direct a community action/media event at the March 14th Board of Supervisors meeting protesting the proposal to expand the USB, the UPA and development in the Natomas Basin. Volunteers to serve on the committee were Tara Hansen, Betsy Weiland, Andy Sawyer, Ethan Evans and Melinda Dorin Bradbury.

Tim Washburn, Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency, outlined the details of the Flood Control Assessment District going before the voters in March. Jonas Minton, Citizens for Flood Safety, and Ron Stork, Friends of the River, helped to make a compelling argument for supporting SAFCA's Flood Control Assessment District. The potential for catastrophic environmental damage and potential loss of life outweighed concerns that the Assessment could have been written with more safeguards preventing sprawl development in deep flood plains. A motion was made by Janis Heple that ECOS should endorse the Flood Control Assessment District and seconded by Ethan Evans. The vote was unanimous with no abstentions or dissent.

John Deeter, Treasurer, and Graham Brownstein, presented a proposed final budget for 2007. Members of the Board requested more detailed information and more time to analyze the proposed budget. A final budget was not adopted and will be brought back at the March meeting for approval. ECOS will operate under the current interim budget until the final budget is approved.

Organizational development is still a primary concern. Graham Brownstein called for volunteers to serve on a Development Organizational Committee. Volunteers are V. John White, who also volunteered his office as a meeting place, and Mike Roskey.

Barry Wasserman, in abstentia, recommended that ECOS endorse the City of Sacramento's proposed revision of the Front Yard Landscape Ordinance 17.68.010 with the deletion of Section C. Dave Roberts, Sacramento Citizens for Sustainable Landscapes, was present to talk about why the proposed ordinance should not arbitrarily restrict the growing of fruits and vegetables to 30% of the landscaped setback area and limit the heights to four feet, with the exception of fruit trees. Jude Lamare moved and John Deeter seconded the motion that ECOS endorse the proposed ordinance with the deletion of Section C.

Eric Davis reported that the Transportation and Air Quality Committee is undergoing a reorganization process in response to Ann Kohl's absence. The campaign to fight proposed HOV lanes through downtown Sacramento may require litigation and the Committee may need to begin fundraising.

Jude Lamare reported that Friends of Swainson's Hawks, with the support of Habitat 2020, will begin a campaign to convince SMUD to adopt policies to protect raptors and bats from power line electrocution. She is hoping other member organizations will support this effort.

Tony DiRiggi reported that the proposal by the City of Sacramento to build a new recycling and transfer station in North Natomas is meeting with neighborhood resistance and appears to be somewhat unnecessary. A better solution might be to partner with the County of Sacramento who already operates a facility in the North area and is capable of handling the expected waste.

Sierra Club Scorecard:

On January 30, 2007 the County Board of Supervisors met to consider sending the proposed Updated American River Parkway Plan to environmental review as recommended by planning staff and the Update Citizens Advisory Committee (UCAC).

The Board so voted with one modification.

Ayes: Roger Dickinson, Susan Peters, Roberta MacGlashan, Jimmey Yee

No : Don Nottolli