



Fresno's Chaffee Zoo Corporation
Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes

894 W. Belmont Ave, Fresno, CA 93728
Thursday, November 16, 2023 at 5:30 PM

MEMBER	1/19/2023	3/23/23	6/27/23	8/10/23	9/26/23	10/24/23	11/16/23
Oliver Baines	A	X	A	X	X	A	A
Ed Gonzalez	X	X	X	X	A	X	X
Wilma Tom Hashimoto	X	X	A	X	X	X	X
Babatunde Ilori	X	X	X	X	X	A	X
Kyle Kirkland	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Rion Morgenstern	X	X	X	X	A	X	A
Ross Parnagian	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Emilia Reyes	X	X	A	X	X	A	X
Ethan Smith	X	X	X	X	X	A	A
Julie Vance	X	A	X	A	X	X	A

Advisors Present

Mr. Jon Forrest Dohlin – Chief Executive Officer
Mr. Doug Larsen – Legal Counsel from Fishman, Larsen, Callister
Ms. Carlene Tinker – Docent President

Guest Speakers Present

Dr. Rory Telemeco – Director of Conservation

Zoo Staff Present

Ms. Nora Crow – Chief Financial Officer
Mr. Sean den Bok – Chief of Education and Engagement
Mr. Steven Gonzales-Warkentin – Chief of Staff
Ms. Lyn Myers – Chief Operations Officer
Ms. Nicole Presley – General Curator
Mr. Terry Skoda – Chief Advancement Officer

1. Call Meeting to Order and Roll Call

Mr. Kirkland called the meeting to order at 5:42 PM. Mr. Gonzales-Warkentin called the roll and confirmed a quorum was present.

2. Public Comment

Mr. Kirkland asked if any members of the public wished to comment. Hearing none, he proceeded with the agenda.



3. Additions to the Agenda

Mr. Kirkland asked if any member of the Board had any business for consideration that came to their attention after the agenda was posted. With no items presented, Mr. Kirkland continued with the agenda as published.

4. Approve Minutes

Mr. Kirkland called the Board's attention to the draft minutes from the October 24, 2023 meeting and asked if any member had additions or revisions. With no revision offered, Ms. Hashimoto made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, and Mr. Parnagian seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Ilori abstained from voting as he was not present for the October meeting.

5. Chair Report

Mr. Kirkland stated that he had nothing to report.

6. CEO Report

Mr. Dohlin reviewed some highlights from 2023 including the opening of Kingdoms of Asia. He updated the Board on the status of current construction projects and the supplemental EIR process to support the proposed master plan.

7. Receive Conservation Presentation

Dr. Rory Telemeco gave a presentation on the various conservation efforts during 2023 including an update on the blunt-nosed leopard lizard project. The Board expressed its appreciation for his presentation and the conservation team's work.

8. Approve Finance Committee Items

Mr. Kirkland stated that the Finance Committee reviewed the financial report in detail at the Finance Committee meeting the previous week and had recommended the Board approve the report. Ms. Crow provided a brief summary of the report. After discussion, Dr. Gonzalez made a motion to approve the year-to-date finance report as presented and Ms. Reyes seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Approve 2024 FCZC Budget

Ms. Crow then presented the 2024 proposed budget stating that Zoo hopes to see increased attendance in 2024 with the opening of Phase 2 of Kingdoms of Asia, the Conservation Action Center and Valley Farms. She said that the Zoo also plans to raise ticket prices, which will be the first general admission price increase in the past four years. She stated that 2024 is projected to be a deficit year, in line with the Zoo's business plan. Mr. Kirkland stated that the Finance Committee discussed the budget at length and recommended approval from the Board. Ms. Hashimoto motioned to approve the 2024 budget as presented and Mr. Parnagian seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

10. Recognition of Dr. Gonzalez

Mr. Kirkland thanked Dr. Gonzalez for his nine years of dedication to the Fresno Chaffee Zoo Corporation Board. Ms. Hashimoto, Mr. Ilori and Mr. Dohlin also commented on Dr. Gonzalez's time on the Board. Afterward, Mr. Kirkland presented Dr. Gonzalez with a plaque of recognition. Mr. Dohlin stated that the



plaque was a mockup of the future “Wall of Honor” that is planned to be part of the new entrance and stated that Dr. Gonzalez would be part of the inaugural group to be recognized.

With no further business to discuss, Mr. Kirkland adjourned the meeting at 7:20 PM.