



Fresno’s Chaffee Zoo Corporation  
 Board of Directors Meeting  
 Minutes

Thursday, August 22, 2024 @ 5:30 PM  
 894 W. Belmont Avenue, Fresno, CA 93728

DIRECTOR	1/18/2024	3/14/2024	4/11/2024	6/13/2024	8/22/2024
Oliver Baines	X	X	X	X	
Arelis Garcia	X		X	X	X
Wilma Tom Hashimoto	X	X	X	X	X
Babatunde Ilori	X	X		X	X
Kyle Kirkland	X	X	X	X	X
Rion Morgenstern	X	X	X	X	X
Christina Musson-Rendon	X	X	X		X
Ross Parnagian	X	X		X	X
Emilia Reyes	X	X	X	X	X
Ethan Smith		X		X	X
Julie Vance	X	X	X		X

**Advisors Present**

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

**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 5:33 PM. Mr. Gonzales-Warkentin called the roll and established a quorum was present.

**2. Public Comment**

Mr. Kirkland asked if any member of the public wished to provide comment for the Board. 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 had come to their attention after the agenda was posted. None were presented.

**4. Receive Chair Report**

Mr. Kirkland apologized to Ms. Hashimoto for not crediting her as the Audit Committee Chair at the last Board meeting.

**5. Receive CEO Report**

Mr. Dohlin asked General Curator Nicole Presley to provide an update on the elephant calf. He said that the Zoo was working with the City of Fresno to finalize an exclusive negotiating agreement pertaining to the parking structure project. He then asked Chief Advancement Officer Terry Skoda to provide an update on Safari Night.

**6. Approve Minutes**

Mr. Kirkland called the Board’s attention to the draft minutes for the June 13, 2024 Board meeting and asked if any member had proposed additions or revisions. With no revisions offered, Ms. Hashimoto made a motion to approve the minutes as represented; Mr. Morgenstern seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**7. Approve the Finance Committee Report**

Mr. Morgenstern provided an overview of the items the Finance Committee was recommending for approval including:

- Year-to-date financial report through June 2024
- Request to release retention for BMV Construction totaling \$32,820.93 for their work on the Kudu Café shade structure
- Request to release retention for CLR Designs totaling \$10,721.85 for their work on Kingdoms of Asia Phase 2
- Request to release retention for BMV Construction totaling \$649,536.06 for their work on Kingdoms of Asia Phase 2
- Request to pursue Measure Z funding totaling \$658,998.62 for the construction of the event space project
- Request to seek Measure Z funding totaling \$1,146,693.71 for the design of the maintenance facility project
- Request to seek Measure Z funding totaling \$990,687.06 for the construction of the reclaimed water project

Mr. Parnagian asked for the maintenance facility item to be removed from the recommendations for further discussion. After discussion Mr. Dohlin requested that the item be tabled so that the Zoo team could connect with the ~~architect designer~~ and obtain a more detailed description of their scope of work. Mr. Morgenstern then made a motion to approve the Finance Committee Report, minus the maintenance facility item, and Ms. Vance seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**8. Approve LTD Financing Options**



Ms. Crow reviewed the long-term debt financing options and recommended the Zoo move forward with Bank of America for a \$5-million draw to term loan. After discussion Mr. Smith made the recommendation to approve the Zoo move forward with Bank of America, and Ms. Reyes seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**9. Final Comments**

Mr. den Bok provided details on the August 31<sup>st</sup> Coexist with Wildlife event happening and the Delegate Summit happening on September 4<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Kirkland stated that he would reach out to the Compensation Committee to discuss the CEO's annual review. With no further comments, Mr. Kirkland adjourned the meeting at 6:43 PM.