



Fresno's Chaffee Zoo Corporation

Board of Directors Meeting

Minutes

Thursday, December 4, 2025 at 5:30 PM

894 W. Belmont Ave, Fresno, CA 93728

DIRECTOR	Jan-16	Mar-13	Apr-24	Jun-12	Aug-14	Oct-9	Nov-6	Dec-4
Arelis Garcia	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Babatunde Ilori	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Christina Musson-Rendon	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Emilia Reyes	A	A	X	X	A	A	X	X
Ethan Smith	X	A	X	A	A	X	X	X
Julie Vance	X	A	X	X	X	A	X	A
Kyle Kirkland	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Oliver Baines	A	X	A	A	A	X	A	A
Rion Morgenstern	X	X	A	X	X	X	X	X
Ross Parnagian	X	A	X	X	A	X	A	X
Wilma Tom Hashimoto	X	X	A	X	A	X	X	A

Advisors Present

Doug Larsen - Legal Counsel from fishman, Larsen & Callister

Zoo Staff Present

Nora Crow – Chief Financial Officer

Jon Forest Dohlin – Chief Executive Officer

Steven Gonzales-Warkentin – Chief of Staff

Kris Grey – Director of Capital Construction

Nicole Presley – General Curator

Terry Skoda – Chief Advancement Officer

Dennis Stagnero – IT Director

1. Call Meeting to Order and Roll Call

Mr. Kirkland called the meeting to order at 5:34 PM. Mr. Gonzales-Warkentin called the roll establishing a quorum of the Board was present.



2. Public Comment

Mr. Kirkland invited members of the public to comment on items not on the published agenda. No comments were offered by the public.

3. Additions to the Agenda

Mr. Kirkland asked any Board members would like to propose items for consideration that came to their attention after the agenda was published. No additions were presented.

4. Chair Report

Mr. Kirkland stated he had no items to report.

5. CEO Report

Mr. Dohlin provided a brief update on current capital projects and mentioned that he would like to add meetings in the upcoming year to consider design and construction approvals.

6. Approve Fresno's Chaffee Zoo Corporation's request for Measure Z Capital Funds totaling \$4,311,019.39 for the completion of design and engineering services for the New Entrance project

Mr. Dohlin stated that the engagement with design firm, EHDD, for pre-design of the New Entrance project was ready for approval. He said the engagement included programing and orientation planning for the entrance building, orientation plaza and parking lot. Mr. Dohlin requested \$4,311,019.39 from Measure Z funds to move forward with the completion of design for the project. Mr. Grey stated that the hope was to open the new entrance in 2028 followed by the opening of the California exhibit in 2029.

Mr. Parnagian asked about the design aesthetic stating that what EHDD has presented differs from the concept originally presented to the Board. Mr. Dohlin said the renderings in the Master Plan were not intended to be final design ideas. That said, those renderings would be presented to the design team for inspiration and consideration. Mr. Kirkland asked if the Zoo team could provide comparables from other zoos that have similar entrance projects to provide a frame of reference. After discussion, Mr. Morgenstern made a motion to approve the Zoo Team with moving forward with requesting \$4,311,019.39 from



Measure Z fund for the design of the New Entrance project and Mr. Parnagian seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Final Comments

Mr. Kirkland asked if any Board Members present had any final comments they wished to add. Hearing none, he adjourned the meeting at 6:17 PM.