

**SOLANO COUNTY PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF MAY 8, 2014**

**Lynch Canyon Open Space Park  
3100 Lynch Road (at McGary Road), Vallejo, CA  
10:00 a.m.**

<b>Members Present:</b>	<b>Commissioners Riddle, Whited, Leong, Alvarez and Chairman Hermsmeyer</b>
<b>Members Absent:</b>	<b>None</b>
<b>Staff Present:</b>	<b>Dan Sykes and Diane Gilliland</b>

**1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Chairman Hermsmeyer called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. A quorum was confirmed.

**2. Approval of the Minutes**

The minutes of March 13, 2014 were approved as prepared (motion by Commissioner, Riddle second by Commissioner Alvarez).

**3. Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was approved as prepared (motion by Commissioner Riddle, second by Commissioner Leong)

**4. Chair and Commissioner Comments**

Suggested item for July meeting – There was consensus that the Commissioners would like further discussion of which meetings of outside groups would be most relevant for them to attend, based on subject matter on the agendas.

**5. Public Comments**

No public comments.

**6. Parks and Recreation Division Staff Report (Informational)**

Staff provided a table of park attendance and revenue through April 2014. Staff provided a table showing the current status of grant-funded projects of the Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund (FWPF) program. The current project contracts expire May 31, 2014.

**7. State proposal for non-lead hunting ammunition (Informational)**

Staff informed the Commission of a proposed State Fish and Wildlife Department regulation that would phase-out the use of lead hunting ammunition over the next several years. Fish and Wildlife is seeking comments from the Commission by August 2014. After discussion, the Commissioners did not reach a consensus on whether to submit comments on the regulation. Staff had received one phone call seeking clarification about this agenda item from the Suisun Resource Conservation District (SRCD), which works with duck hunting clubs that are landowners in Suisun Marsh. The Commission requested that this item be considered again at the July meeting and that Staff collect any further information received from SRCD or other members of the public, for their information.

**8. Recreational programming and partnerships at Lynch: volunteers, public events, tours, public safety and maintenance (Informational)**

Dan Sykes provided the Commission with an overview of public programs at Lynch Canyon. Events include the Trail Run, Kite Festival and guided public tours that are put on at Lynch each year. These public events are coordinated by volunteers and a Volunteer/Outreach Coordinator, Natalie Dumont who is an employee of SLT, partially supported by County funding. The Solano County Sheriff and Cordelia Fire District provide public safety and emergency response. Park and trail maintenance is shared among Solano County Park Ranger staff and SLT Stewardship and Project Management staff, as per a joint management agreement.

**9. Natural resource programs at Lynch: grazing, habitat improvement, mitigation funding, Citizen Science, wildlife surveys (Informational)**

Solano Land Trust (SLT) Project Manager Sue Wickham and Bernhard Warzecha, SLT's new Stewardship Coordinator introduced the Commission to the grazing operations and volunteer habitat improvement work that takes place at Lynch. SLT staff led a tour of the project area where major earthmoving work would be taking place to relocate the channel of Lynch Creek to return it to its historic course before it was culverted. This is a Caltrans-funded mitigation project. SLT staff and the Commission also visited a native grass restoration project at the site of the 1890 Lynch homestead and discussed preservation actions being taken for this site and Native American sites in the park.

**10. Summer construction and closure periods at Lynch (Informational)**

County and SLT Staff informed the Commission that there would be limitations on the use of the park between June 8 and July 18 due to construction at the Lynch Creek site and heavy trucks moving materials along Lynch Road Trail. To accommodate construction traffic/activities and for public safety, two sections of trail would be kept closed, and the park would be closed altogether on Mondays during the construction period.

**11. Opening of adjacent Newell Open Space (Informational)**

County and SLT Staff informed the Commission that the City of American Canyon was planning on opening the Newell Open Space property, adjacent to Lynch Canyon Open Space Park, sometime in June (originally June 7, but now uncertain). SLT and County Staff were working with American Canyon to address jurisdictional and safety issues that could be involved with park visitors crossing between the two parks. A memorandum of understanding is being drafted that will include American Canyon, SLT, Solano County and the Napa County Land Trust.

**12. Confirm date of next regular meeting, and Adjourn (Action Item)**

The Commissioners agreed by consensus to set a special meeting time of 10:00 a.m. for the July 10, 2014 Commission meeting. The meeting will be held in its regular location at the County Administrative Center, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Hearing Room. Meeting was adjourned at 12:30 pm.