1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Michael Vargas at 11:36 a.m., at WRCOG’s office, 3390 University Avenue, Suite 450, Riverside, CA.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jurisdiction</th>
<th>Attendee</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Arrived</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City of Corona</td>
<td>Jacque Casillas</td>
<td>Present</td>
<td>11:30 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Hemet</td>
<td></td>
<td>Absent</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Lake Elsinore</td>
<td>Tim Sheridan</td>
<td>Present</td>
<td>11:30 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Menifee</td>
<td>Lesa Sobek</td>
<td>Present</td>
<td>11:30 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Moreno Valley</td>
<td>David Marquez</td>
<td>Present</td>
<td>11:30 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Murrieta</td>
<td>Christi White</td>
<td>Present</td>
<td>11:30 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Perris</td>
<td>Michael Vargas</td>
<td>Present</td>
<td>11:30 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Riverside</td>
<td>Mike Gardner</td>
<td>Present</td>
<td>11:45 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Temecula</td>
<td>James Stewart</td>
<td>Present</td>
<td>11:30 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Wildomar</td>
<td>Joseph Morabito</td>
<td>Present</td>
<td>11:30 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County of Riverside</td>
<td></td>
<td>Absent</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RCHCA Director</td>
<td>Rick Bishop</td>
<td>Present</td>
<td>11:30 AM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Board member Tim Sheridan led members and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

5. MINUTES

A. Summary Minutes from the May 16, 2019, Board of Directors Meeting are Available for Consideration.

Action: 1. Approved the Summary Minutes from the May 16, 2019, Board of Directors meeting.

RESULT: APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED
MOVER: City of Murrieta
SECONDER: City of Temecula
AYES: Corona, Lake Elsinore, Menifee, Moreno Valley, Murrieta, Perris, Temecula, Wildomar
ABSENT: Hemet, Riverside, District 5
6. CONSENT AND POLICY CALENDAR

RESULT: APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED
MOVER: City of Murrieta
SECONDER: City of Menifee
AYES: Corona, Lake Elsinore, Menifee, Moreno Valley, Murrieta, Perris, Temecula, Wildomar
ABSENT: Hemet, Riverside, District 5

A. Status of Mitigation Fee Transfers from Member Agencies through June 30, 2019
Action: 1. Received and filed.

B. Financial Report through June 30, 2019
Action: 1. Received and filed.

C. Status Report on the Attendance Roster
Action: 1. Received and filed.

D. Status Report Concerning Reserve Management Committees for the Southwestern Riverside County Multi-Species Reserve and the Lake Mathews Reserve
Action: 1. Received and filed.

E. Status Report Concerning Reserve Managers Coordinating Committee
Action: 1. Received and filed.

F. Single Signature Authority Report
Action: 1. Received and filed.

G. Approval of a Second Amendment to the Professional Services Agreement between RCHCA and Conservation Biology Institute for a Range-Wide Habitat Suitability Model for Stephens’ Kangaroo Rat
Actions: 1. Approved a Second Amendment to the Professional Services Agreement between RCHCA and the Conservation Biology Institute for a Range-Wide Habitat Suitability Model for Stephens’ Kangaroo Rat.
2. Authorized the General Manager to execute and administer the terms of the Agreement.
3. Authorized the General Manager to execute any future amendments to the Agreement, if necessary, so long as such amendments do not result in an overall monetary increase, and as long as such amendments are approved as to form by legal counsel.

H. Approval of a Second Amendment to Agreement Number 130804 between RCHCA and the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California for Lake Mathews Reserve Management
Actions: 1. Approved a Second Amendment to Agreement Number 130804 between RCHCA and the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California for
Regular Meeting Minutes September 19, 2019

Lake Mathews Reserve Management.

2. Authorized the General Manager to execute and administer the terms of the Agreement.

3. Authorized the General Manager to execute any future amendments to the Agreements, if necessary, so long as such amendments do not result in a monetary increase greater than 10% of the total contracted amount per agreement year, and as long as such amendments are approved as to form by legal counsel.

I. U.S. Bureau of Land Management Good Neighbor Authority Program Request for Quote for SKR Habitat Management and Recovery Actions

**Actions:**

1. Authorized the RCHCA General Manager or his designee to execute and administer the grant documents including federal forms needed to receive grant funds and to complete grant activity reports as required.

2. Authorized General Manager to execute and administer Consultant agreements necessary to complete the tasks associated with this project.

3. Authorized the General Manager administer the terms and conditions of the grant award.

7. REPORTS / DISCUSSION

A. Status Update on Stephens Kangaroo Rat Recovery Efforts

Princess Hester, RCHCA Director of Administration, reported that staff continue working with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS) to demonstrate SKR recovery with the goal of reclassifying SKR under the Endangered Species Act.

In May 2018, USFWS informed RCHCA that it was working on a species status review and may recommend SKR to be down listed from Endangered to Threatened. USFWS is working on a draft Proposed Rule to submit to the Federal Register.

Staff are coordinating advocacy meetings in Washington, D.C., for the months of October and November 2019.

**Action:** 1. Received and filed.

B. Activities Update on the Stephens’ Kangaroo Rat Habitat Suitability Model

Dr. Wayne Spencer, Conservation Biology Institute, reported that the old way of monitoring and modeling SKR habitat was very time consuming and cumbersome. The new way utilizes the no-cost European Space Agency’s Remote Sensing Satellite-2 Program, which is updated every five days. Dr. Spencer shared the workflow images of raw data to results.

Utilizing the new Google Earth Engine to access finer resolution and up-to-date imagery will also aid to reduce costs. SKR ranges can be subdivided into smaller areas to improve model accuracy.

Board member Christi White asked of it was possible to compare and contrast the snapshots.

Mr. Spencer responded that it is.

Board member James Stewart asked how other counties compare regarding conservation efforts.
Mr. Spencer responded that it varies. Not because the focus is not on conservation but different areas have different requirements. For instance, in San Diego County they have conservation plans at the military establishments where they actively manage for threatened and endangered species.

Princess Hester, RCHCA Director of Administration, indicated that these are valuable tools to support demonstration of SKR recovery.

**Action:** 1. Received and filed.

C. Steele Peak Public Access Plan Activities Update

James Powell, Alta Planning + Design, reported that the Steele Peak Reserve area has historically been closed to public access in order to preserve SKR habitat. This Access Plan will examine ways to maintain preservation efforts while providing recreational public access.

Adjacent residents to the Plan area will be engaged in an analysis of existing conditions and uses of the area, trail alignments, and recommendations. The Reserve has the potential for parking areas, trailheads, and additional trail connections along the previously planned regional county trail along Mountain Lane.

Board member Christi White asked about the various site uses and for a copy of the existing conditions memo.

Mr. Powell responded that there will be opportunities for viewing of scenic natural amenities, including wildlife, as the area is home to a diversity of species. The project will aim to be both ecologically sensitive and engaging.

Board member Lesa Sobek indicated that often time bicyclists create their own trails.

Rick Bishop, RCHCA General Manager, indicated that the idea is that creating public access will deter illegal trespassing.

Board member White asked if any other agency has done this.

Mr. Powell responded that yes, there are many examples, such as the Santa Rosa Plateau near the city of Temecula.

Board member Mike Gardner indicated that Sycamore Canyon is an example of an area where conservation and open space recreation provide protection of sensitive species and habitat and is also a great benefit to the community.

Princess Hester, RCHCA Director of Administration, indicated that she attended a MAC meeting last month. The residents were very supportive of this Plan.

Chairman Vargas indicated that this project is exciting and will provide people the opportunity to wander in nature.

Board member Sobek asked if this project is similar to the Santa Ros Plateau.

Mr. Powell responded that it is similar but is not designed to have the large amount of traffic and visitors as the Plateau.
D. Educational Outreach Program Activities Update

Jason Verde, RCHCA Intern, reported that RCHCA will be holding its annual “Celebrating Endangered Species” events at the Lake Skinner Reserve September 24 and 25, 2019, and at the Sycamore Highlands Park October 15 – 17, 2019.

Approximately 1,000 fifth and sixth grade students from the Hemet, Jurupa Valley, Lake Elsinore, Moreno Valley, Menifee, Perris, and Riverside Unified School Districts will be attending.

Additionally, RCHCA is collaborating with the Riverside County Flood Control & Water Conservation District to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of Earth Day.

Board member Tim Sheridan asked how participating schools are selected.

Mr. Verde responded that the schools contact RCHCA to participate.

Action: 1. Received and filed.

E. Stephens' Kangaroo Rat Reserve Management and Monitoring Efforts Activities Update

Brian Shomo, RCHCA Director of Natural Resources, reported that there are four ways to manage the reserve lands: grazing, burning, mowing, and/or limited / targeted areas in which herbicides are applied. This year, 1,200 acres were grazed and approximately 700 acres have been burned; it is anticipated that another 800 acres will be burned. Approximately 200 acres have been mowed, and 3 acres have received an application of herbicide.

The El Sobrante Landfill Habitat Conservation Plan requires that biological surveys be performed every five years. Additionally, the Habitat Management Committee contracted with RCHCA to perform small mammal and herpetological surveys. RCHCA will generate approximately $10,000 in revenues for both surveys.

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) solicited bids for SKR Management and Monitoring Recover Actions through its Good Neighbor Authority. RCHCA responded with a bid of approximately $590,000. If awarded, RCHCA will manage approximately 2,000 acres of habitat, perform a Comprehensive Regional Monitoring Plan, perform genetics research, provide access control recommendations, prepare educational outreach programs, and utilize a drone to survey non-native weeds within SKR habitat.

Action: 1. Received and filed.

8. REPORT FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

Rick Bishop, RCHCA General Manager, reported that WRCOG has a series of COGCast episodes on the various WRCOG and RCHCA programs and activities which can be accessed at http://wrcog.us/283/WRCOGCast, Apple, Spotify, or Google Play. If anyone is interested in being in a podcast, please contact Mr. Bishop.
9. **ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**

There were no items for future agendas.

10. **GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Board member David Marquez announced that Floor and Décor is opening a new location in the city of Moreno Valley and on Saturday, September 21, 2019, the store is giving away $1M. The first 200 people will be provided an opportunity to participate in the drawing.

11. **NEXT MEETING**

The next RCHCA Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 21, 2019, at 11:30 a.m., at WRCOG’s office located at 3390 University Avenue, Suite 450, Riverside.

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 12:41 p.m.