

OAKLAND COUNTY ZOOLOGICAL AUTHORITY
1200 NORTH TELEGRAPH ROAD, PONTIAC, MICHIGAN 48341-0470
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Brandon Kolo, Chairperson
Jennifer M. Grieco, Secretary
(Alternate: Gretchen Parks)

Alex Cooper
(Alternate: Tameka Ramsey)
Millie Hall
Elizabeth Howe
(Alternate: Richard Strenger)

September 14, 2022

Acting Chairperson Kolo called the meeting of the Oakland County Zoological Authority to order at 3:10 p.m., at the Detroit Zoo, Ford Education Center Conference Room, 8450 W. Ten Mile Road, Royal Oak, Michigan.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Brandon Kolo, Jennifer M. Grieco, Alex Cooper, Elizabeth Howe, Millie Hall

ALTERNATE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Gretchen Parks

MEMBERS ABSENT WITH NOTICE:

None

OTHERS PRESENT:

Hayley Murphy, Chief Executive Officer; Robert Schumaker, Chief Financial Officer; Robert Wittenberg, Treasurer, Oakland County Treasurer's Office; Megan Sellers, Operations Supervisor, Oakland County Board of Commissioners

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Grieco moved approval of the minutes from August 19, 2021, as presented. Seconded by Cooper.

Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Grieco moved approval of the agenda, as presented. Seconded by Howe.

Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Introductions were given of all attendees.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Nominations were opened for the election of Chairperson.

Moved by Grieco, seconded by Cooper that Brandon Kolo be elected as Chairperson.

There were no further nominations, and nominations were closed.

Motion carried.

A sufficient majority having voted in favor, Brandon Kolo was elected Chairperson.

Nominations were opened for the election of Secretary.

Moved by Cooper, seconded by Howe that Jennifer Grieco be elected as Secretary.

There were no further nominations, and nominations were closed.

Motion carried.

A sufficient majority having voted in favor, Jennifer Grieco was elected Secretary.

UPDATE FROM DETROIT ZOO – DR. HAYLEY MURPHY, DIRECTOR AND CEO

Dr. Hayley Murphy, Chief Executive Officer of the Detroit Zoo, gave some brief highlights on events at the zoo. The pandemic presented challenges, but the zoo is coming back strong. The zoo is currently 80% staffed. The zoo has been offering price breaks for travel exhibits to attract visitors, and the popular Dinosauria attraction was very successful. The Detroit Zoo was 1 out of approximately 230 institutions in the United States and Europe to obtain accreditation by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA).

The Oakland County millage covers approximately 11% of the zoo operating budget. In 2019, Oakland County representation consisted of approximately 33% of visitors, approximately 50% of total zoo memberships and more than 60% of volunteers. The zoo is currently seeking more volunteers to help with guest interaction and to support events.

In the Spring of 2023, groundbreaking on a seven-acre build called KidZone will begin. The exhibit will focus on Michigan agriculture. Some of the features of KidZone will include fully accessible canopy climbers, a tree house, a goat petting area, an anteater feeding area, bush dogs and a large prairie dog habitat with a prairie dog maze that kids can access.

DETROIT ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY FINANCE REPORT - 2021

Robert Schumaker, Chief Financial Officer of the Detroit Zoo, gave a brief overview of the 2021 Detroit Zoological Society Finance Report, which includes statements of the society's financial position, activities and cash flows. The 2021 financial audit reflected no material findings with no opinion issues. Chairman Kolo requested a digital copy be sent to Oakland County Zoological Authority members via email.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Robert Wittenberg gave an overview of the Treasurer's Report for FY 2021-2022, Month 8. On Page 3 of the Treasurer's Report, Expenditures, a statement was made that the reference to Dickinson Wright should be Plante Moran. Mr. Wittenberg confirmed Plante Moran is correct and that future reports will reflect the correction.

Grieco moved to receive and file the Treasurer's Report, as corrected. Seconded by Howe.

Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CONTRACT – OAKLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Megan Sellers, Operations Supervisor, Oakland County Board of Commissioners, gave a brief overview of the contract for Board of Commissioners staff support services and addressed questions posed by the Authority members.

Grieco moved approval of the contract between Oakland County and the Oakland County Zoological Authority. Seconded by Hall.

Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

APPROVAL OF THE FY 2021/2022 BUDGET

Grieco moved approval of the FY 2021/2022 Budget. Seconded by Cooper.

Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

APPROVAL OF THE FY 2022/2023 BUDGET

Howe moved approval of the FY 2022/2023 Budget. Seconded by Hall.

Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

RESOLUTION – LEVY AND COLLECTION OF MILLAGE

Cooper moved approval of the Resolution for the levy and collection of the millage and the accompanying 2022 Tax Rate Request Form (L-4029). Seconded by Grieco.

Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

APPROVAL OF OCZA CY 2023 MEETING CALENDAR

Chairperson Kolo suggested that future meetings be scheduled sometime in April and September of 2023, and that actual dates can be confirmed closer to those timeframes.

Grieco moved that there be two meetings in CY 2023, one being in early April and the other in early September. Seconded by Hall.

Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

Plante Moran – November 30, 2021, Financial Statement Audit

OTHER BUSINESS/ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Cooper indicated that according to the Agreement for Board of Commissioners Services, under Section 3, Public Authority Responsibilities, the Authority shall designate two representatives to act as primary and secondary points of contact with the County.

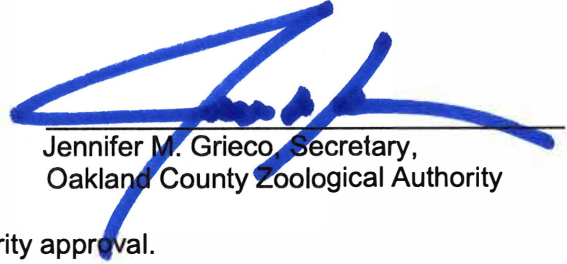
Cooper moved to designate the Chairperson of the Oakland County Zoological Authority as the primary point of contact with the County and to designate the Secretary of the Oakland County Zoological Authority as the secondary point of contact for the duration of the Agreement for Board of Commissioners Services Between Oakland County and the Oakland County Zoological Authority. Seconded by Grieco.

Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.



Pamela L. Worthington, Committee Coordinator
Oakland County Board of Commissioners



Jennifer M. Grieco, Secretary,
Oakland County Zoological Authority

NOTE: The foregoing minutes are subject to Authority approval.