

**OAKLAND COUNTY ZOOLOGICAL AUTHORITY**  
1200 NORTH TELEGRAPH ROAD, PONTIAC, MICHIGAN 48341-0470  
Telephone: (248) 858-0100 FAX: (248) 858-1572

Brandon Kolo, *Chairperson*  
Jennifer M. Grieco, *Secretary*

Alex Cooper  
(Alternate: Tameka Ramsey)

Millie Hall  
John Draper II

November 19, 2020

Chairperson Brandon Kolo called the meeting of the Oakland County Zoological Authority to order at 9:11 a.m. via Videoconference.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Brandon Kolo, Jennifer Grieco, Alex Cooper, Millie Hall, John Draper II

**MEMBERS ABSENT WITH NOTICE:**

None

**APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Grieco moved to approve the minutes of September 17, 2020, as presented. Seconded by Hall.

Motion carried on a roll call vote.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mr. Cooper requested that "Recording Authority Meetings" be added to the agenda under the Other Business section. There were no objections.

Cooper moved approval of the agenda, as amended. Seconded by Grieco.

Motion carried on a roll call vote.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**UPDATE FROM THE DETROIT ZOO**

Ron Kagan, Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer, Detroit Zoological Society (DZS), provided an update on the happenings at the Detroit Zoo, reporting that operations have been adversely impacted by the pandemic and that staff is working on a special campaign to help aid financial recovery efforts. Mr. Kagan indicated that they are working on next year's budget and that a significant deficit is anticipated for 2020 and 2021. Chairperson Kolo indicated that the Authority plans to work with the DZS to brainstorm other creative solutions for additional funding to assist. Mr. Kagan also indicated that the DSZ Board is finalizing the Committee appointments for the Detroit Zoological Society Board members and that the Board continues to mobilize diversity initiatives at the Zoo.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Andy Meisner, County Treasurer, Oakland County Treasurer's Office, gave an overview of the Treasurer's Report for FY 2019-2020, Month 11. The report included the Oakland County Zoological Authority Assets, Liabilities and Fund Equity, Revenues and Expenditures, Non-Expenditure Payments, and Transfers from Tax Collection Payments, ending October 31, 2020. Mr. Meisner also gave a brief update on the previously discussed topic of transferring payments to the Detroit Zoo in accordance with the Zoological Authorities Act (Act 49 of 2008), indicating that payments will be remitted within the required 10-day timeframe. An email

update communication from Treasurer Meisner to Ron Kagan, Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer, Detroit Zoological Society (DZS), is planned for distribution twice per month.

Cooper moved to receive and file the Treasurer's Report. Seconded by Grieco.

Motion carried.

### **UPDATE FROM THE BYLAWS WORKGROUP**

Ms. Grieco provided a brief update regarding the Bylaw's Workgroup indicating that George Butler, Attorney, Dickinson-Wright, plans to provide a draft set of bylaws for the Authority to review and consider prior to the next meeting. Chairperson Kolo indicated that he will be contacting Authority members to get their input related to the creation of a mission statement for the Authority. More information is forthcoming.

### **UPDATE FROM DETROIT ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY AUTHORITY MEMBERS**

Chairperson Kolo provided a brief update on the DSZ Retreat indicating that he and Ms. Grieco are waiting to receive their committee assignments, and that future status update reports will be provided to Authority members. Mr. Kolo also extended his congratulations to Mr. Kagan and the Detroit Zoo staff for their recently received 2020 WAZA Environmental Sustainability Award from the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

- A. Recording Authority Meetings - Discussion was held regarding the recording of Authority meetings. Board of Commissioners (BOC) staff provided an update on the research performed to determine if the recording of meetings was feasible. A memo capturing the research information was provided to Mr. Cooper and Chairperson Kolo. Authority members determined that meetings would not be recorded at this time, as the Authority is currently meeting the minimum requirements of transparency per the Open Meetings Act (OMA). Authority members were informed that, per the amended OMA, Authority members, when meeting remotely, must state their name and location on record.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 17, 2020, at 9:00 a.m.

Grieco moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Hall.

Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Authority, the meeting was adjourned at 10:03 a.m.

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Megan C. Sellers, Staff Assistant  
Oakland County Board of Commissioners

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Jennifer M. Grieco, Secretary  
Oakland County Zoological Authority

**NOTE:** The foregoing minutes are subject to Authority approval.