

MACOMB COUNTY ZOO AUTHORITY  
MINUTES

At a meeting of the Macomb County Zoo Authority held on Tuesday, August 18, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. via teleconference the following members were present:

Diane Banks  
Tom Kalkofen  
Marilyn Lane  
Jim Sawyer

Others Present:

Ron Kagan, Executive Director/CEO- Detroit Zoological Society  
Victoria Marchione, Executive Secretary, Office of the County Executive

There being quorum of the Authority present the meeting was called to order at 9:39 a.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion by Marilyn Lane, supported by Diane Banks. No additions or corrections.

Roll Call Vote - **Ayes:** Lane, Banks, Kalkofen, Sawyer; **Nays** - 0

**MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 17, 2019

Motion by Marilyn Lane, supported by Diane Banks.

Roll Call Vote - **Ayes:** Lane, Banks, Kalkofen, Sawyer; **Nays** - 0

**MOTION CARRIED**

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Open to the public 9:42 am - no members of the public present; closed at 9:42 am

PRESENTATION BY PLANTE MORAN OF ANNUAL REPORT-Y/E NOVEMBER 30, 2019

Dan Hart gave an overview of end of audit letter and financial statements. No significant findings. No new accounting policies that were adopted by authority in the current year. Pretty much the same as last year. Audit was very smooth and team was great to work with.

RECEIVE AND FILE-MANAGEMENT REPRESENTATION LETTER

Motion by Marilyn Lane, supported by Diane Banks.

Roll Call Vote - **Ayes:** Lane, Banks, Kalkofen, Sawyer; **Nays** - 0

**MOTION CARRIED**

PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 2021

Open to the public at 9:50 am – no members of the public present; closed at 9:50 am

ADOPTION OF PROPOSED BUDGET RESOLUTION 2020

Motion to adopt made by Marilyn Lane, supported by Diane Banks.

Roll Call Vote - **Ayes:** Lane, Banks, Kalkofen, Sawyer; **Nays** - 0

**MOTION CARRIED**

Due to the virtual meeting, Jim Sawyer and Diane Banks will sign copies and forward to Vicki Marchione.

AUTHORIZATION TO SIGN L-4029

Motion to sign L-4029 made by Marilyn Lane, supported by Tom Kalkofen.

Roll Call Vote – **Ayes:** Lane, Banks, Kalkofen, Sawyer; **Nays** - 0

**MOTION CARRIED**

Due to the virtual meeting, Jim Sawyer and Diane Banks will sign copies and forward to Vicki Marchione.

AUTHORIZATION TO APPROVE LEGAL NEWS INVOICE FOR PUBLIC NOTIFICATION SERVICES

Motion made by Marilyn Lane, supported by Tom Kalkofen.

Roll Call Vote – **Ayes:** Lane, Banks, Kalkofen, Sawyer; **Nays** - 0

**MOTION CARRIED**

PRESENTATION BY THE DETROIT ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Ron Kagan gave an update. Many challenges at the Zoo due to COVID-19 situation. The doors to the public needed to close but care to the facility and the many animals within was still needed. Many layoffs occurred, over 100 positions. Some were brought back in June. Finances were severely challenged. The budget the beginning of the year was at \$44 million, closing at \$26 million, 40% reduction. Huge challenge to care for the animals. The Great Lakes Nature Center is put on hold as well as all other project. Launching a major fund raising campaign to fill in lost revenue. Attendance numbers are capped at 30% and they have put in all precautions. Eliminated every touch area. Advanced reservations are being made and are filled. When weather is nice, they are hitting caps, 3500 per day, previously accommodating 10,000/15000. Virtual events are being looked at. Virtual Sunset at the Zoo is scheduled for September 17. Hoping for a generous public support.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Authority is looking to fill the vacancy left by Grace Shore. Deputy County Executive, Vicki Wolber has also been notified of the vacancy and will ask for input from County Executive Mark Hackel. If the Authority has any suggestions please contact Vicki Marchione.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Marilyn Lane, supported by Diane Banks.

Roll Call Vote – **Ayes:** Lane, Banks, Kalkofen, Sawyer; **Nays** - 0

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Next meeting scheduled for December 1, 2020 at 9:30 am**