



# The Western Cave Conservancy, Inc.

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## Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Western Cave Conservancy, held Saturday, January 21, 2006

Pursuant to notice duly given to the directors, the annual meeting of the Western Cave Conservancy was held on the above day and date at the Marble Quarry RV Park, Yankee Hill, California. The Board wishes to thank owner Ralph Squire for providing this facility and Matt Bowers for arranging for its use.

### CLOSED SESSION

#### ATTENDEES

Joel Despain, Director  
Donald Dunn, Director  
Robert "Martin" Haye, Director/Treasurer  
Jerry Johnson, Director  
Bruce Rogers, Director  
Marianne Russo, Director/President  
Dan Snyder, Secretary

Pat Helton (guest, assisting with food arrangements)

Absent: Rolf Aalbu, Director/Vice President

President Marianne Russo called the meeting to order at 10:27 a.m.

#### AGENDA

Approved by consensus.

#### COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TOPICS

Seated at 10:30 am.

Rippled Cave: acquisition progress, endowment, sanitation, interim access policy, neighbor relations, old building on site, escrow, fundraising, management plan;

[confidential California property]

Nutty Putty Cave;

Windeler Cave;

Newsletter editor;

Board elections;

Board expansion;

The committee rose at 11:51 p.m.

#### NEW BUSINESS

*RESOLVED, that the Land Acquisition Advisory Committee be instructed to negotiate with the HSUS Wildlife Land Trust to acquire the Ordway Skunk Gulch Ranch in Calaveras County, California; and to offer to accept the property, up to and including, raising \$100,000 for an endowment fund with which to manage the property in exchange for fee title. We would offer to grant back a conservation easement to the Wildlife Land Trust. (B2006-01-01)*

The chair adjourned the closed session at 11:57 a.m.

## **STAFF LUNCHEON**

### **STAFF ATTENDANCE**

Pat Helton  
John Moreno  
Mike White

### **DISCUSSIONS**

Financing and fundraising for the Rippled acquisition;  
Request for the NSS mailing list for the capital campaign/annual appeal.

## **PUBLIC MEETING**

### **ATTENDEES**

Joel Despain, Director  
Donald Dunn, Director  
Robert "Martin" Haye, Director/Treasurer  
Jerry Johnson, Director  
Bruce Rogers, Director  
Marianne Russo, Director/President  
Dan Snyder, Secretary

Absent: Rolf Aalbu, Director/Vice President

### Guests:

Dave Bunnell  
Bill Frantz  
Peri Frantz  
John Gardner  
Dale Hartwig  
Greg Hartwig-Wilson  
Pat Helton  
Tom LaFrank  
John Moreno  
Ralph Squire (host)  
Rich Steffensen  
Roger and Pete Tidball  
Mike White  
Tony Williams

President Marianne Russo called the annual public meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

Marianne thanked Ralph Squire for providing the meeting room.

### **AGENDA**

Agenda approved as written.

## **MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 13, 2005**

Previously provided to directors by email. Approved as written.

### **OFFICER REPORTS**

President  
Vice President  
Treasurer  
Secretary

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Public Relations/Fundraising Advisory  
Land Research Advisory  
Land Acquisitions Advisory  
Property Stewardship Advisory  
Human Resources Development

### **DISCUSSION OF REPORTS**

Bill Frantz asked Martin how insulated the PayPal account is from our other accounts, as he has heard horror stories of misappropriations by PayPal. Martin assured him that we do not store money in the PayPal account or use it for business, nor is it linked to our other accounts. It is simply used to collect online contributions.

### **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

Seated at 1:33 p.m.

Recent development with Rippled Cave;  
Avalanche Ravine;  
Nuttty Putty Cave, Utah;  
Windeler Cave;  
[confidential Arizona cave];  
Recruitment;  
Public Relations, capital campaign, teleconferencing;  
Website status;  
Dinner, and possible WCC auction, at the upcoming Speleo-Ed Seminar;  
Possible "great cave gate debate" at the Speleo-Ed Seminar;  
Elevator statement;  
Monthly giving on a credit card;  
Conservation Easement concept, benefits, and details.

Recess at 2:56 p.m.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

*RESOLVED, that Don Dunn be nominated and appointed to another 3-year term to the Board of Directors of the Western Cave Conservancy. (A2006-01-01)*

*RESOLVED, that Jerry Johnson be nominated and appointed to another 3-year term to the Board of Directors of the Western Cave Conservancy. (A2006-01-02)*

*RESOLVED, that Marianne Russo be nominated and appointed to another 3 -year term to the Board of Directors of the Western Cave Conservancy. (A2006-01-03)*

*RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Western Cave Conservancy be expanded to eight directors. (B2006-01-02)*

*RESOLVED, that Mike White be nominated and elected to a two-year term to the Board of Directors of the Western Cave Conservancy. (A2006-01-04)*

*WHEREAS, Nutty Putty Cave in Utah is threatened with permanent closure; and*

*WHEREAS, lacking insurance, WCC cannot help by leasing the cave due to requirements of the state agency which owns the cave; and*

*WHEREAS, the board wants to help as much as possible to protect this unique cave;*

*RESOLVED, that the WCC heartily supports efforts of the local cavers to responsibly protect and manage Nutty Putty Cave; and further*

*RESOLVED, that WCC will match donations for a secure gate and/or monitoring system, up to a maximum of \$5,000. (B2006-01-03)*

*RESOLVED, that the next quarterly meeting of the board of directors shall be held on Sunday, April 9, 2006 at 1 p.m. at Ash Mountain Headquarters, Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks. (not indexed)*

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Marianne announced that Dale and Sherry Hartwig will be taking over the duties of Volunteer Coordinators, having volunteered during the break.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 3:48 p.m.

#### **EMERGENCY SESSION**

Since an important item of business had been overlooked, an emergency session was called to order at 3:56 p.m.

RESOLVED, that the attached Nexity "Corporate Authorization Resolution," be adopted. (B2006-01-04)

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned 4:03 p.m.

I attest that the above is, to the best of my knowledge, the true and complete record of business conducted at the quarterly meeting of the Board of Directors of the Western Cave Conservancy held on January 21, 2006.



Daniel S. Snyder, Secretary