

**Minutes of the Board of Directors of  
Restore Hetch Hetchy  
February 15, 2025**

**I. ATTENDANCE**

**Board Members:** Mark Cederborg, Jim Fousekis, Virginia Stock Johannessen, Lance Olson, Mark Palley, Craig Reynolds, Lucho Rivera, Mecia Serafino, Pete Van Kuran, Roger Williams, and Barb Andrews (new board member) (Virginia, Mark C, Craig and Lance on zoom)

**Staff:** Spreck Rosekrans (ED) and Julene Freitas (Administrator)

**II. ADMINISTRATIVE**

**Board Composition:** Kathy Bowler has left the Board

**Minutes.** Roger moves, Mark P seconds, all approve September 14, 2024 minutes

**III. FINANCE**

**2024 Income.** Actual (\$207K) to Budget (\$224K), \$17K below

**2024 Expenses .** Actual (293K) to Budget (\$341K), \$48K below

Current Cash Balance. Around \$220K

**IV. POLITICAL STRATEGY AND IMPROVING PUBLIC ACCESS**

**Yosemite National Park and NPS:** Mecia reports that: Superintendent Cicely Muldoon and Hetch Hetchy liaison Ed Dunlavey are retiring at the end of the month but Chief of Staff Joe Meyer is staying on; there has been some chaos with the D.C. hiring freeze, but emergency and fire crew folks have been assured of renewed employment; the climbing committee had to oppose a federal effort to ban wall trails; the summer reservation system is not in place and employees are unhappy with the prospect of not being able to get to work; and Tuolumne Meadows may not be open depending on weather and staffing.

**Public Access Strategy:** Craig criticizes the strategy of working with the new administration, the McClintock legislation, and pushing for greater public access. Others disagreed, noting greater costs on SF for rent, filtration, and public use, and pressure points on SF, as well as the intrinsic value of increasing public enjoyment of the public's park.

**McClintock Bill:** Spreck had a good meeting with McClintock's chief of staff, Rocky Deal, and Robert Hanna hopes McClintock may be looking for a legacy project. Hanna works for the state Republican caucus and has been seeking a restoration effort within his caucus which the Turlock Irrigation District has so far successfully opposed.

**Interior Department:** Don Hodel is working with Spreck to try to influence the new Secretary of the Interior, Doug Burgum, about studying restoration, perhaps as part of the McClintock bill. Spreck is reaching out to a yet-to-be-confirmed Assistant Secretary.

**New SF Leadership:** Spreck is reaching out to Mayor Lurie's staff for introductions. Lance will reach out to Aaron Peskin, now no longer on the Board but is an influence with the progressive minority on the Board.

**Public Response to Cuts in and around Yosemite:** The sense of the Board is that RHH should take a stand in favor of the reservation system and staffing in terms of public use, cleanliness and protection of Hetch Hetchy.

## V. BUDGET

**Budget Assumptions:** Spreck assumes \$0 bequests and \$0 new money from high end donors but there will be a dinner (some discussion about the relative value of a fall or spring 2026 dinner). Spreck is working with Lisa Domitrovich on some approaches to foundations.

**Dinner Event:** Craig moves and Jim seconds to not have a dinner event in the fall and instead having some event such as a dinner in the spring of 2026, possibly near Hetch Hetchy, at Jim's ranch in Bridgeport, or at Lafayette again. Seven board members approve, Mark C abstains.

**Budget Expense Savings:** RHH now does not have a group health agreement and instead is funding Julene's HSA with significant savings, subject to modest exposure to her underwritten deductible. Spreck has reduced his salary by almost \$30K. Rent reduced by \$1100 per month.

**Budget 2025:** Spreck estimates for 2025, revenue of \$204K (less after removing the dinner), and expenses of \$239K (ditto). Mark P moves, and Jim seconds, all approve. Spreck will revise the budget to reflect removal of the dinner and circulate that revision to the Board for information.

## VI. DEVELOPMENT

**Jim's Proposal:** He offers \$25K, to be matched by board members, and to use

the anticipated \$50K for 50% for a qualified Development Director. The Development Committee will oversee the hiring and Spreck will supervise that person.

**Road Map:** Craig notes that the Development Director would need a plan to follow our 2021 Strategic Plan. Jim agrees, but thinks RHH needs a director to implement that plan. Barb recommends a road map outlining the vision plan for purposes of the job description. Spreck and Jim will draft this road map.

## **VII. IMPROVING PUBLIC ACCESS**

**Access Meeting:** The access committee will meet with the new Yosemite Park leadership on March 5 in or near Hetch Hetchy.

**FOIA:** In response to RHH's public records request, SF provided a list of the users of the cabins, which does not appear to comply with the stipulations in the Raker Act for the use of the cabins. Other FOIA requests are pending.

## **VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Board Composition:** The Board elected Barb to the Board.

## **IX. CALENDAR**

Next Board Meeting is at the Evergreen Lodge on April 26, 2025.