

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** September 13, 2007  
**MEETING OF:** September 19, 2007  
**TO:** Board of Directors  
**FROM:** General Manager  
**RE:** **ACTION ITEM 5B:** Approve Resolution 2007-17, Expressing Appreciation to the Institute of Canine Forensics and historical human remain detection dogs Rhea, Remie, Maya, Osara, Jack, Annika, Tali, and Shiloh

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### BACKGROUND

On approximately July 3, 2007, remains of an aircraft were discovered while Mountain Cascade, Inc., the Agency's construction contractor, was excavating a trench for the H line of the Agency's Coastal Distribution System Project. Preliminary examination of the aircraft crash site established that it was of a Navy bomber that crashed in 1944. Because this had occurred more than 50 years ago, it became potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and triggered local, state and federal legal provisions pertaining to the unanticipated discovery of cultural resources.

The Agency quickly engaged Pacific Legacy, Inc., which had earlier in 199\_\_ assisted the Agency during the construction of the Harkins Slough project when remains of Native Americans were discovered, to help the Agency determine the historical significant of the remains and to provide the information to permit the Agency to comply with all applicable legal requirements;

During this process, the Institute for Canine Forensics, a non-profit organization based in Woodside, California for the advancement of research and education of Forensic Evidence and Human Remains Detection Dog teams, volunteered their specialized cadaver dog teams to assist in the detection of potential human remains at the aircraft crash site;

The Agency was pleased to allow the following certified handler and dog teams to travel to the crash site on several occasions to participate in the search for potential human remains: James Davidson and **Maya**; Kris Black and **Osara**; Adela Morrris and **Rhea**; and Ann Anderson and **Jack**. Additionally, the following handler and dog teams in training also traveled to the crash site on several occasions to participate in the search for potential human remains: Shirley Hammond and **Remie**; Sal Esposito and **Annika**; John Grebenkember and **Tali**; Tom Pomeroy and **Shiloh**; and Patti O'Neill.

**Rhea, Remie, Maya, Osara, Jack, Annika, Tali and Shiloh**, are only eight of twelve dogs in the world that are especially and uniquely trained in historical human remains detection. During their time at the aircraft crash site, they displayed their amazing skills by alerting their handlers to numerous locations at the aircraft crash site that contained the human remains and other personal effects of the pilot and the gunner. Their biographies and accomplishments are attached as Exhibit A to Resolution 2007-17.

Staff would like to acknowledge the generosity of the Institute for Canine Forensics in volunteering its time and resources and more importantly, pay tribute to the amazing dogs for their devotion and service to human.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

None.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

That the Board approve Resolution 2007-17

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- Resolution 200717 Expressing Appreciation to the Institute of Canine Forensics and Historical human remains detection dogs *Rhea, Remie, Maya, Osara, Jack, Annika, Tali, and Shiloh*
- Biographies and accomplishments of the historical human remain detection dogs