



# North of the River

recreation and park district

**NORTH OF THE RIVER RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REGULAR MEETING  
3825 RIVERLAKES DRIVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312  
MONDAY, JUNE 20, 2022, 5:30 P.M.  
MEETING CONDUCTED VIA WEBEX**

DISCLAIMER: This agenda includes proposed actions and activities with respect to each agenda item, as of the date of posting. As such, it does not preclude the Board from taking other actions on any item on the agenda that is different or in addition to what may have been recommended.

**1. CALL TO ORDER: BOARD MEETING CONVENED BY CHAIRPERSON STEVE RUETTGERS AT 5:31 P.M.**

**2. ROLL CALL: BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

CRYSTAL MADDEN; JAMES NABORS; STEVE RUETTGERS

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

BROOKS DOUGLASS

**STAFF PRESENT**

MIKE EVANS; RACHEAL GARCIA; ESTHER GRIJALVA;

MONYA JAMESON;

**LEGAL COUNSEL**

BETH KUNEY (LEFT AT 6:29P.M.);

JOHN SZEWCZYK (ARRIVED AT 6:29P.M.)

**PUBLIC PRESENT**

LEFT AT 5:44P.M. - MIKE MCCROSSEN; LARRY JENKINS;

DOUG PATTERSON; PEGEEN PATTERSON; MARK GREGORY;

LINDA GREGORY; PATTI BULKELEY; STACI AKERY; PAUL

COSTAMAYAC; JUSTIN LAMBERT;

LEFT AT 6:29 P.M. - JEFF WIEBE; ZACH BERTEY

**3. FLAG SALUTE:** Chairperson Steve Ruetters led the flag salute.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

The North of the River Recreation and Park District Board of Directors may take official action only on items included in the posted agenda. Items addressed during the Public Comment section are generally matters not included on the agenda and, therefore, the Board will not take action at this scheduled meeting. Such items, however, may be added to a future meeting's agenda. Members of the public may address the Board on items included on the agenda in the order that the items appear. Speakers are limited to two minutes. Please state your name before making your presentation. Thank you!

Linda Gregory shared her concern with the high impact/high density project that is proposed on the corner of Hageman and Nord Road. Ms. Jameson responded that

the Developer has requested the proposed zone change, not the District. Ms. Gregory requested she be notified if this item is placed on the agenda in the future.

Mark Gregory inquired why the District was planning a park at this location. He expressed concern about the amount of water it would require and how it may impact their personal wells. Mr. Gregory also shared his concern with the negative elements the park may bring.

Jeff Wiebe shared his frustration with the Greenaces Pickleplex regarding the noise, traffic congestion and lights. Mr. Wiebe notified the Board that the neighbors are not happy. Mr. Wiebe also commented that he spoke with the General Manager and believes that a plan is in place. He also commended Board Member James Nabors for his assistance.

## 5. CONSENT AGENDA

### A. Approval of Secretary Declaration of Posting of Agenda 72 Hours in Advance of Meeting

Declaration by the Clerk of the Board of Directors that the agenda was posted at least 72 hours in advance of meeting. BOARD APPROVED SECRETARY DECLARATION.

**Madden; Nabors: Ayes: Madden; Nabors; Ruetters.**

**Noes: None. Absent: Douglass. Motion carried.**

### B. Approval of Minutes from the Board of Directors' Regular Meeting Held May 16, 2022

Request by Clerk of the Board of Directors to approve the minutes from the May 16, 2022 Regular Board Meeting. BOARD APPROVED MINUTES.

**Madden; Nabors: Ayes: Madden; Nabors; Ruetters.**

**Noes: None. Absent: Douglass. Motion carried.**

### C. Receive and File Bills and Invoice

A monthly voucher list of bills submitted for payment during the previous month was provided to Board Members for review, comment, and filing. BOARD RECEIVED AND FILED BILLS AND INVOICES.

**Madden; Nabors: Ayes: Madden; Nabors; Ruetters.**

**Noes: None. Absent: Douglass. Motion carried.**

### D. Approval to Continue Video Conference Board Meetings, Resolution #13-22

Staff requested adoption of Resolution #13-22, re-ratifying the continued use of remote meetings/teleconferencing for all Board and Board Subcommittee Meetings pursuant to the provisions of Assembly Bill 361. Remote meetings are subject to certain conditions which will be evaluated by staff and placed on the consent agenda to be approved by the Board at each Board of Directors' Regular Meeting. BOARD APPROVED CONTINUED VIDEO CONFERENCING BOARD MEETINGS.

**Madden; Nabors: Ayes: Madden; Nabors; Ruetters.**

**Noes: None. Absent: Douglass. Motion carried.**

**E. Approval of Amendment to Conflict of Interest Code, Policy #2-100, Resolution #14-22**

The District is required to maintain an updated Conflict of Interest Code. Revisions were made to reflect a recent job title deletion and three job title changes that fall under the requirements of the Conflict of Interest Code.

BOARD ADOPTED RESOLUTION #14-22 APPROVING REVISIONS TO THE DISTRICT'S CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE.

**Madden; Nabors: Ayes: Madden; Nabors; Ruetters.**

**Noes: None. Absent: Douglass. Motion carried.**

**6. BOARD BUSINESS**

**A. Approval of an Agreement for Funds Under Title III-C Nutrition Services, Resolution #15-22**

Staff requested approval of an agreement with the County of Kern Aging and Adult Services to provide FY 2022-2023 nutrition services for elderly persons. BOARD ADOPTED RESOLUTION #15-22 APPROVING THE TITLE III-C NUTRITION SERVICES AGREEMENT.

**Madden; Nabors: Ayes: Madden; Nabors; Ruetters.**

**Noes: None. Absent: Douglass. Motion carried.**

**B. Adoption of FY 2022-2023 Preliminary Appropriation Limit and Setting the Date for Public Hearing and Adoption of Final Appropriation Limit, Resolution #16-22**

Staff requested approval of Resolution #16-22 approving the FY 2022-2023 Preliminary Appropriation Limit and setting the date for the adoption of the Final Appropriation Limit. BOARD ADOPTED RESOLUTION #16-22 APPROVING THE FY 2022-2023 PRELIMINARY APPROPRIATION LIMIT AND SETTING THE PUBLIC HEARING DATE FOR JULY 18, 2022.

**Madden; Nabors: Ayes: Madden; Nabors; Ruetters.**

**Noes: None. Absent: Douglass. Motion carried.**

**C. Adoption of FY 2022-2023 Preliminary Operating Budget and Setting the Date for Public Hearing and Adoption of Final Operating Budget, Resolution #17-22**

Referencing the FY 2022-2023 Preliminary Operating Budget document provided to the Board, General Manager Monya Jameson presented an overview of the FY 2022-2023 Preliminary Operating Budget. The prepared budget takes into consideration a managed resumption of program and rental activity during the year, assessed valuation of residential and commercial properties projected to increase by approximately 4.0 percent, and mineral assessed valuation projected to increase by approximately 15.0 percent. Due to rising cost of living, the salaries and wages budget includes a proposed 5.0 percent COLA increase for all regular full-time and part-time employees. Staff also reviewed the difference in the recreation budget due to the District no longer providing the Consolidated Transportation Services Agency Program. AFTER DISCUSSION, BOARD ADOPTED RESOLUTION #17-22 APPROVING THE FY 2022-2023 PRELIMINARY OPERATING BUDGET AND SETTING OF DATE FOR THE PUBLIC HEARING ON JULY 18, 2022.

**Madden; Nabors: Ayes: Madden; Nabors; Ruetters.**

**Noes: None. Absent: Douglass. Motion carried.**

**D. Adoption of FY 2022-2023 Preliminary Capital Improvement Budget and Setting the Date for Public Hearing and Adoption of Final Capital Improvement Budget, Resolution #18-22**

Board Members were provided with the FY 2021-2022 Preliminary Capital Improvement Budget which includes construction, renovation, and planning at Standard Park, Polo Community Park, Stockdale River Ranch Park, and NOR Master Plan and Maintenance Plan. AFTER DISCUSSION, BOARD ADOPTED RESOLUTION #18-22 APPROVING THE PRELIMINARY CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BUDGET AND SETTING THE DATE FOR THE PUBLIC HEARING ON JULY 18, 2022.

**Madden; Nabors: Ayes: Madden; Nabors; Ruetters.**

**Noes: None. Absent: Douglass. Motion carried.**

**E. Discussion and Determination**

**1. Discussion and Determination Regarding Extending the General Manager's Commitment to Kern High School District to Provide Riverlakes Ranch Community Center and Park for the Safe Evacuation and Reunification of Centennial High School Students for the 2022-2023 School Year.**

**2. Discussion and Determination Regarding Request for Use of Riverlakes Property for Halloween Event.**

General Manager Monya Jameson informed the Board that staff met with Centennial High School regarding extending the agreement to use Riverlakes Ranch Community Center and Park for the safe evacuation and reunification site. Centennial High School has provided the required insurance and the agreement does not expose the District to additional costs. The District received a letter from Mike Ross requesting use of the Riverlakes property for a Halloween event. Due to the existing agreement with Centennial High School, Ms. Jameson intended to decline Mike Ross' request to use the Riverlakes property. AFTER DISCUSSION, THE BOARD PROVIDED DIRECTION TO HONOR THE AGREEMENT WITH CENTENNIAL HIGH SCHOOL AND DENY THE AGREEMENT WITH MIKE ROSS.

**F. Discussion and Determination Regarding the Need for Board Approval for Any Agreements that Affect Potential District Revenue and Agreements that Increase District Liability**

General Manager Monya Jameson introduced Beth Kuney from Clifford and Brown to discuss this item. Ms. Kuney informed the Board that while special districts and the Boards which oversee them have enumerated responsibilities that are in the Public Resources Code, the General Manager's authority is governed by the NOR's Policy Handbook and not by statutes. The NOR's Policy Handbook specifies the Board's duties in Section 3-100, one of which is to appoint "necessary" employees which, in Section 3-104, is identified as the General Manager, and another, is to approve new contracts and changes to existing contracts that have a substantial fiscal impact. Section 6-103 in the Finance chapter of the Policy Handbook, specifies the different funding levels for contracts and the authority of the General Manager to act based on those limits. Up to \$25,000, no Board approval is necessary, although other requirements

**F. Discussion and Determination Regarding the Need for Board Approval for Any Agreements that Affect Potential District Revenue and Agreements that Increase District Liability (Continued)**

exist. This flexibility allows a practical means by which the General Manager can enter into contracts on behalf of NOR without board approval to ensure efficient and orderly management NOR's business. Contracts over \$25,000 require Board approval. It would be within the Board's authority to decrease that limit the General Manager's spending authority, however, this could impede efficiency and require greater Board oversight over day-to-day operations. The question of the General Manager's authority to commit NOR to contracts that "increase" NOR's liability is less objective. Any agreement or contract or employee hiring invites the possibility of exposure to liability. The Board's authority to approve the majority of new contracts provides an opportunity for the Board to make its own determination based upon input from the General Manager and staff. Ms. Kuney commented that the Policy Handbook contains useful information in clarifying what the Board is responsible for doing and what it has the authority to do. In regards to requests to use NOR property, the General Manager is well positioned to know of potential or real conflicts that may result from different use requests that are made and those decisions would be in the purview of her authority to make. Ms. Kuney confirmed that she would be happy to respond to any further questions. Chairperson Steve Ruetters suggested the Board become familiar with the policy.

**7. STAFF REPORTS**

**A. General Manager Report**

General Manager Monya Jameson reported that Jasmin LoBasso has been hired as the Superintendent of Recreation and Community Services. Ms. LoBasso is scheduled to begin on August 1, 2022.

**B. Marketing Report**

No Report

**C. Capital Improvement Projects**

No Report

**D. Financial Report**

No Report

**E. Personnel Report**

Human Resources Director Esther Grijalva reported that staff has been busy with the summer program hiring. The District is trying to fill the many job openings. Ms. Grijalva also reported that COVID-19 cases are on the rise and the District is being affected.

**F. Parks Division Report**

Superintendent of Parks and Facilities Mike Evans reported that the District replaced the air conditioner unit on the Head Start building area at Riverview Community Park and completed the Almondale light retrofit project replacing lights that have been damaged or vandalized. He also reported that the North Beardsley Skate Park fencing will be completed on June 23, 2022. Mr. Evans also informed the Board that the Cub Scouts will soon be completing a conservation project at the Almondale horseshoe pit.

**G. Recreation Report**

No Report

**H. Training Report**

REPORTS RECEIVED AND FILED.

**8. CORRESPONDENCE**

No Correspondence

**9. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Opportunity for the Board to comment on items not listed on the agenda

**JAMES NABORS** – No Comment

**CRYSTAL MADDEN** – No Comment

**STEVE RUETTIGERS** - No Comment

**10. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**The Board of Directors entered into Executive Session at 6:29 P.M. for the following discussions:**

- A.** Request for Executive Session Regarding Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release – Government Code Section 54957 [b][1]
- B.** Request for Executive Session Regarding General Manager Performance Evaluation – Government Code 54957

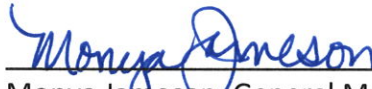
**The Board Reconvened from Executive Session at 7:10 P.M.**

- C.** Request for Executive Session Regarding Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release – Government Code Section 54957 [b][1]  
NO ACTION TAKEN.
- D.** Request for Executive Session Regarding General Manager Performance Evaluation – Government Code 54957  
NO ACTION TAKEN.


**11. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:11 p.m. to the next meeting of the Board of Directors of North of the River Recreation and Park District scheduled on July 18, 2022.

Minutes to be approved at Board  
Meeting held on July 18, 2022

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Monya Jameson, General Manager

  
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Racheal Garcia, Clerk of the Board

  
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Steve Ruettgers, Chairperson