



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, OCTOBER 18, 2021, 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 5:30 P.M.**

- 2. ROLL CALL:**
 - BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**
 - BROOKS DOUGLASS; JIM ECKROTH; STEVE RUETTGERS
 - BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**
 - DONNA CLOPTON; JAMES NABORS
 - STAFF PRESENT**
 - MIKE EVANS; RACHEAL GARCIA; ESTHER GRIJALVA;
MONYA JAMESON; WAYNE MCARTHUR; LISA PLANK;
STEPH THISIUS-SANDERS; JOE WEST
 - LEGAL COUNSEL**
 - NONE
 - PUBLIC PRESENT**
 - BRITTNEY BRIMM; CHRIS FENDRICK; TIMOTHY PLUMMER

- 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!

Comments were received from Chris Fendrick expressing his concern regarding the possible discontinuation of the Consolidated Transportation Services Agency program and will be speaking at the Golden Empire Transit board meeting as well. Mr. Fendrick commended the District for continuing this critical program and hopes to see a plan if the agreement falls through.

Comments were received from Brittney Brimm informing the Board of her use of the Consolidated Transportation Services Agency program for the last couple of years and expressed her desire to see the program continue. Ms. Brimm would also like to see more managers and drivers to offer more ride opportunities for clients.

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.

Douglass; Eckroth: Ayes: Douglass; Eckroth; Ruetters.

Noes: None. Absent: Clopton; Nabors. Motion carried.

B. Approval of Minutes from the Board of Directors' Regular Meeting Held September 20, 2021

Request by Clerk of the Board of Directors to approve the minutes from the September 20, 2021 Regular Board Meeting. BOARD APPROVED MINUTES.

Douglass; Eckroth: Ayes: Douglass; Eckroth; Ruetters.

Noes: None. Absent: Clopton; Nabors. 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.

Douglass; Eckroth: Ayes: Douglass; Eckroth; Ruetters.

Noes: None. Absent: Clopton; Nabors. Motion carried.

D. Approval of Bills Exceeding Policy Limit

Accounts Payable Clerk Tammy Sturtevant requested approval of the bill exceeding policy limit related to CAPRI Second Quarter of the Annual Contribution for Workers' Compensation. BOARD APPROVED THE BILL EXCEEDING POLICY LIMIT.

Douglass; Eckroth: Ayes: Douglass; Eckroth; Ruetters.

Noes: None. Absent: Clopton; Nabors. Motion carried.

6. BOARD BUSINESS

A. Approval of Annual Health Insurance Renewal, Resolution # 29-21

Human Resource Director Esther Grijalva discussed the Kaiser Permanente employee medical insurance coverage rates for 2022 with the Board. Staff responded to Board inquiries. AFTER DISCUSSION, THE BOARD ADOPTED RESOLUTION #29-21 APPROVING THE ANNUAL HEALTH INSURANCE RENEWAL.

Douglass; Eckroth: Ayes: Douglass; Eckroth; Ruetters.

Noes: None. Absent: Clopton; Nabors. Motion carried.

B. Approval of Additional Vehicles with Enterprise Lease Program, Resolution #30-21

General Manager Monya Jameson requested approval of Resolution # 30-21 authorizing the addition of six (6) 2022 leased trucks to the current Enterprise Lease Program. Two (2) crew cab vehicles will be exchanged for F250 extended cabs, and four (4) vehicles will be added to replace District owned vehicles that are older than 14 to 16 years with an average of over \$100,000 miles. Ms. Jameson introduced Enterprise Fleet Management's, Client Strategy Manager, Timothy Plummer to answer any questions from the Board. AFTER DISCUSSION, RESOLUTION DID NOT PASS BY THE REQUIRED THREE (3) VOTE MAJORITY AND FAILED BY A VOTE OF 2-1.

Eckroth; Ruetters: Ayes: Eckroth; Ruetters.

Noes: Douglass. Absent: Clopton; Nabors. Motion fails.

C. Approval to Continue Video Conference Board Meetings, Resolution #31-21

General Manager Monya Jameson requested adoption of Resolution # 31-21 approving 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. AFTER DISCUSSION, BOARD ADOPTED RESOLUTION #31-21 APPROVING THE CONTINUED USE OF TELECONFERENCING FOR PUBLIC MEETINGS.

Douglass; Eckroth: Ayes: Douglass; Eckroth; Ruetters.

Noes: None. Absent: Clopton; Nabors. Motion carried

7. STAFF REPORTS**A. Committee Report****1. CTSA Program Review**

General Manager Monya Jameson provided an update regarding the Consolidated Transportation Services Agency (CTSA). In February 2021, an Ad Hoc Committee was created to discuss the significant increase in size and scope of the CTSA program. It was decided a letter be sent to Kern Council of Governments requesting a request for proposal (RFP) be developed to find a new provider for the program. The committee decided to recommend the Board approve a letter to terminate the memorandum of agreement effective December 31, 2021, at the October Board meeting. Ms. Jameson was requested to develop a back-up plan be completed before the termination effective date. Kern Council of Governments was notified of the intent to terminate the agreement. Ms. Jameson was contacted by multiple members of the community that expressed the importance of the program. On Thursday, October 14, Ms. Jameson was contacted by Kern Council of Governments Executive Director Ahron Hakimi and notified of the CTSA possible transition from the District to the Golden Empire Transit. Ms. Jameson will work with Golden Empire Transit CEO Karen King to create a transition plan and transfer the program in July 2022.

B. General Manager Report

No report.

C. Marketing Report

Marketing Director Lisa Plank informed the Board that the District launched the staff and Board portal. The portal will continue to be updated with newsletters, employee spotlights, polling opportunities and current board documents. Ms. Plank also announced the District launched the NOR app. A QR code will be made available soon and the app can be downloaded from the app store on your mobile device. Ms. Plank reminded the Board that the Fall Festival will take place at Standard Park on November 6, from 1 P.M. to 4 P.M. She also reminded the Board that the Christmas Parade is scheduled for December 11 at 10 A.M.

D. Capital Improvement Projects

Planning and Construction Director Steph Thisius-Sanders reported that she participated in a roundtable discussion consisting of five (5) assembly members and stake holders regarding affordable housing. Housing has been a precedence due to the homelessness issue and housing crisis in California. Discussions included the passing of Assembly Bill No. 602 and Senate Bill No. 9. As these measures are passed it is critical that the District remains in the conversation because we receive impact fees for the development of parks that derive from residential permits. Ms. Thisius-Sanders informed the Board that the District ADA Self-Evaluation Transition Plan process is scheduled to begin in the next month. She also reported that staff has not received correspondence from California Fish and Wildlife regarding the incidental take permit for the kit foxes located at Riverview Park. As part of this process, staff is currently conducting a cost analysis to determine if a District Habitat Conservation Plan should be created. Implementing a plan has the potential to allow the District to receive funding as it relates to wildlife habitat and corridors. The District must also be conscious of the availability of water in the valley and how that will affect the long-term development and sustainability in our parks to contribute to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. Ms. Thisius-Sanders informed the Board that an infographic will be presented at the next Board meeting to display how the discussed topics will be incorporated in the District Master Plan. Staff must have a good foundation set before completing a comprehensive review and establishment of the Master Plan. Ms. Thisius-Sanders also reported the remainder of the Prop 68 funds are being expended on a booster pump at Fruitvale-Norris Park, fencing at the North Beardsley Skate Park and a drinking fountain with a dog bowl at McCray Park.

E. Financial Report

Finance Director Wayne McArthur reported that business office staff continues to work with the auditor and provide requested documents.

F. Personnel Report

Human Resource Director Esther Grijalva reported that staff remains busy as the District continues to open. Ms. Grijalva provided current job openings which include groundskeepers, coaches, scorekeepers, facility attendants, recreation leaders, office clerks, custodians, home delivery drivers, substitute rangers and program leaders. She reported that many open positions have not received applicants or interest. Ms. Grijalva reported that the District continues to see

staff time off due to COVID-19 exposures and quarantine. Most exposure is occurring outside the workplace.

G. Parks Division Report

Superintendent of Parks and Facilities Mike Evans reported that the Fall fertilization has been completed and Fruitvale Norris and Riverview diamonds are undergoing maintenance. Mr. Evans also reported that staff is preparing Standard Park for the NOR Fall Festival. He also informed the Board that staff is completing extra inspections for hypodermic needles at the park and thanked the District Rangers for their assistance with the inspections.

H. Recreation Program Report

General Manager Monya Jameson reported that the current activities continue to have good enrollment numbers. The District continues seeking prospective employees to assist in maintaining program operations.

I. 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

BROOKS DOUGLASS requested an update regarding the previously discussed dog park at Polo Community Park. Planning and Construction Director Steph Thisius-Sanders informed Mr. Douglass that the project will require her time and multiple construction documents to be assembled and will be a future project.

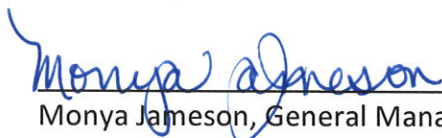
JIM ECKROTH – No Comment

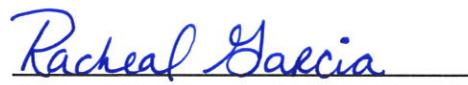
STEVE RUETTIGERS – No Comment

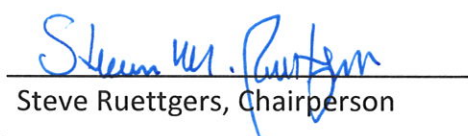
10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:31 p.m. to the next meeting of the Board of Directors of North of the River Recreation and Park District scheduled on November 15, 2021.

Minutes to be approved at Board
Meeting held on November 15, 2021


Monya Jameson, General Manager


Racheal Garcia, Clerk of the Board


Steve Ruettgers, Chairperson