



# North of the River

recreation and park district

**NORTH OF THE RIVER RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REGULAR MEETING  
405 GALAXY AVENUE, BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA 93308  
MONDAY, APRIL 20, 2015, 5:30 P.M.**

## **SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS**

**1. CALL TO ORDER:** BOARD MEETING CONVENED BY CHAIRPERSON STEVE RUETTGENS AT 5:30 P.M.

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

STEVE RUETTGENS; BOBBIE ROBERSON; JIM ECKROTH;  
DANA MARTIN

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

STUART PATTESON

**STAFF PRESENT**

ELAINE BUSH; THERRON DIECKMANN; ESTHER GRIJALVA;  
MONYA JAMESON; DAVID MCARTHUR; LISA PLANK;  
STEPH SANDERS; JOE WEST

**LEGAL COUNSEL**

PAT OSBORN

**PUBLIC PRESENT**

REBECCA DELATOREE; COREY GROVES; BARB MORTON; DENNIS  
NATE; BOB SNODDY; CORINA VILLALI

**3. FLAG SALUTE:** CHAIRPERSON STEVE RUETTGENS 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!

DENNIS NATE EXPRESSED CONCERN REGARDING THE DISC GOLF COURSE AT RIVERVIEW PARK; SPECIFICALLY DISCS BEING THROWN ON HIS PROPERTY THAT COULD DISRUPT OR ENDANGER HIS HORSE STABLING BUSINESS.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

A. **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.

**Eckroth-Roberson: Ayes: Ruettgers; Roberson; Eckroth; Martin.**

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

B. **Approval of Minutes from the Board of Directors Regular Meeting Held March 16, 2014**

Request by Clerk of the Board of Directors to approve the minutes from the March 16, 2015 Board Meeting. BOARD APPROVED MINUTES.

**Eckroth-Roberson: Ayes: Ruettgers; Roberson; Eckroth; Martin.**

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

C. **Receive and File Bills and Invoices**

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.

**Eckroth-Roberson: Ayes: Ruettgers; Roberson; Eckroth; Martin.**

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

D. **Ratification of Bill Exceeding Policy Limit**

Accounts Payable Clerk Tammy Sturtevant requested approval of bill exceeding policy limit related to the lease agreement for RiverLakes Ranch Community Center. BOARD APPROVED BILL EXCEEDING POLICY LIMIT.

**Eckroth-Roberson: Ayes: Ruettgers; Roberson; Eckroth; Martin.**

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

E. **Approval of Cafeteria Plan Service Agreement, Resolution #10-15**

Finance Director Monya Jameson requested Board adoption of Resolution #10-15, approving a service agreement with FlexToday, Inc. (pending legal counsel review) to assist in the administration of the North of the River Recreation and Park District's Cafeteria Plan. BOARD ADOPTED RESOLUTION #10-15 APPROVING THE SERVICE AGREEMENT.

**Eckroth-Roberson: Ayes: Ruettgers; Roberson; Eckroth; Martin.**

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

F. **Approval to Purchase Insurance for Youth Tackle Football Program, Resolution #13-15**

Office Manager Elaine Bush requested Board adoption of Resolution #13-15 approving the purchase of insurance for the Youth Tackle Football Program. BOARD ADOPTED RESOLUTION #13-15 APPROVING THE PURCHASE.

**Eckroth-Roberson: Ayes: Ruettgers; Roberson; Eckroth; Martin.**

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

**6. PUBLIC HEARING**

**A. Public Hearing Regarding Unmet Transit Needs, Resolution #11-15**

Transportation Supervisor Joe West provided a report noting that there are unmet needs in the form of denied rides, however, those unmet needs cannot be met due to lack of funding. The hearing was then opened by Chairperson Ruettggers. There were no public comments. The hearing was closed. BOARD ADOPTED RESOLUTION #11-15 RESOLVING THAT UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS WERE IDENTIFIED, HOWEVER, ARE NOT REASONABLE TO MEET AND THAT THESE FINDINGS WILL BE FORWARDED TO THE KERN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS.

**Roberson-Martin: Ayes: Ruettggers; Roberson; Eckroth; Martin.**

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

**7. BOARD BUSINESS**

**A. Approval of RiverLakes Ranch Park Lease Agreement, Resolution #12-15**

With a site plan in process and development of RiverLakes Ranch Park being at least two to three years in the future, staff requested approval of a two year lease agreement with Night Terror Productions to operate a haunted house and other related seasonal events. Staff responded to Board Member inquiries. AFTER DISCUSSION, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ADOPTED RESOLUTION #12-15 AUTHORIZING STAFF TO ENTER INTO A TWO YEAR LEASE AGREEMENT AS APPROVED BY THE GENERAL MANAGER AND LEGAL COUNSEL TO INCLUDE DEAL POINTS PROVIDED AT TONIGHT'S BOARD MEETING.

**Eckroth-Roberson: Ayes: Ruettggers; Roberson; Eckroth; Martin.**

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

**B. Discussion and Direction Regarding Norris Road Veterans Building Lease**

General Manager David McArthur led discussion as to whether the District should continue a lease agreement with the County of Kern to operate the Norris Road Veterans Building. The District has received some good use of the facility for its programs and offered opportunities to the public to use the facility as well and recommends that NOR continue to operate the facility on a year to year basis only. Staff responded to Board Member inquiries. AFTER DISCUSSION, STAFF WAS GIVEN DIRECTION TO CONTINUE WORKING ON THE LEASE AGREEMENT. AN AGREEMENT WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE BOARD AT THE JUNE BOARD MEETING.

**C. Discussion and Direction Regarding Spray Park Usage**

With the State mandate to reduce water usage by 35%, NOR is currently assessing summer usage of the District's eight spray parks. Park Planner/Landscape Architect Steph Sanders has conducted a study of the water usage of the District's spray parks, including the various spray types to determine whether NOR would be able to meet or exceed the 35% reduction by reducing times, days, and/or various spray types. Through modifications, staff feels it can provide spray park service to the community and still meet or exceed the mandate. An educational "smart water usage" campaign would be launched explaining how NOR has reduced its water usage and how others can do the

same. AFTER DETAILED DISCUSSION, THE BOARD DIRECTED STAFF TO CONTINUE WITH THEIR PLANNING EFFORTS BUT REDUCE SPRAY PARK WATER USAGE CLOSE TO 50%.

**D. Discussion and Direction Regarding Chevron North Meadows Assessments**

Park Planner/Landscape Architect Steph Sanders requested Board Member consideration to increase the Chevron North Meadows Maintenance District Assessments to reflect the 1.01% increase to the Consumer Price Index for California to insure adequate reserve funding is available. BOARD GAVE DIRECTION TO MOVE FORWARD WITH STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION. A PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE HELD AT THE MAY 18, 2015 BOARD MEETING.

**E. Discussion and Direction Regarding NOR Park Maintenance District**

Park Planner/Landscape Architect Steph Sanders requested Board Member consideration to increase the NOR Park Maintenance District Assessments to reflect the 1.01% increase to the Consumer Price Index for California to insure adequate reserve funding is available. THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS GAVE DIRECTION TO MOVE FORWARD WITH STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION. A PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE HELD AT THE MAY 18, 2015 BOARD MEETING.

**F. Discussion and Direction Regarding Rosedale Park**

General Manager David McArthur gave a brief history of the acquisition and planning of the 20 acre Rosedale Park site. The District has provided several proposed park plans to the surrounding community during meetings, but due to the District's desire to locate features typically found in a community park, plans have been rejected. Staff is willing to conduct community meetings to see where the community stands as it relates to this site. Staff is seeking Board input regarding development of a three to four-acre park site located on the southwest corner of the site and selling the remainder of the property to provide capital funding for other capital projects in the area. Park Planner/Landscape Architect Steph Sanders also requested direction from the Board relating to the continuance of the current agriculture lease agreement at this location for another year. BOARD GAVE DIRECTION TO CONTINUE WITH PLANS FOR THE ROSEDALE PARK SITE. DIRECTION WAS ALSO GIVEN TO PREPARE DOCUMENTS TO CONTINUE THE AGRICULTURE LEASE AGREEMENT FOR ANOTHER YEAR FOR APPROVAL AT A LATER MEETING.

**G. Discussion and Direction Regarding Annexation of Austin Creek Park**

Park Planner/Landscape Architect Steph Sanders informed Board Members of the receipt of a letter from the City of Bakersfield inquiring as to NOR's interest in annexing Austin Creek Park (as a part of Annexation #639) into the City. Staff recommends annexing Austin Creek park into the City. Board directed staff to proceed with the annexation process for Board approval at a later date.

**8. STAFF REPORTS**

**A. General Manager Report**

**B. Marketing Report**

Marketing Director Lisa Plank updated Board Members regarding the District's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration.

**C. Capital Improvement Projects**

Park Planner/Landscape Architect Steph Sanders updated Board Members regarding the Stockdale/Heath Road park site.

**D. Financial Report**

Finance Director Monya Jameson updated Board Members regarding the FY 2015-2016 budget process with General Manager Budget Hearings scheduled for Tuesday, April 21<sup>st</sup> and Wednesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**E. Personnel Report**

Human Resources Director Esther Grijalva stated the HR division is busy recruiting and hiring staff in support of all other divisions.

**F. Recreation and Parks Program Reports**

Parks and Recreation Director Therron Dieckmann informed Board Members that aquatics staff have been busy preparing and training for the upcoming summer programs, as are all other programs, and school swim teams will be winding up their practices at NOR pools within the next two weeks.

Mr. Dieckmann also informed Members that over 90% of the Capital Maintenance Projects have been completed with the remainder slated for completion by the end of the fiscal year.

**REPORTS RECEIVED AND FILED**

**9. CORRESPONDENCE**

- Notice of Public Hearing from LAFCo related to the LAFCo Budget
- LAFCo Ballot For Special District Representative on LAFCo
- Letter from CAPRI – District Visit Assessment

**10. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

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

**THERE WERE NO BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

**11. EXECUTIVE SESSION CONVENED AT 6:46 P.M.**

**A. Request for Executive Session Regarding Claim in the Matter of Kern High School District vs. North of the River Recreation and Park District – Government Code 54956.9**

Reconvened from Executive Session to Board Business at 6:50 p.m. in the Matter of Kern High School District vs. North Of The River Recreation and Park District – Government Code 54956.9

BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO REJECT THE CLAIM.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:51 p.m. to the next Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of North of the River Recreation and Park District scheduled on May 18, 2015.

Minutes to be approved at Board Meeting held on May 18, 2015

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Elaine Bush, Clerk of the Board

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David McArthur, General Manager

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Steve Ruettgers, Chairperson