



**NORTH OF THE RIVER RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
DISTRICT OFFICE**

**MEETING DATE November 18, 2024**

**1. Call to Order Time/By: CRYSTAL MADDEN @ 5:30 P.M.**

**2. Roll Call:**

<u>Governing Board Member</u>	Present	Absent
Crystal Madden, Chairperson	<u>    X    </u>	<u>          </u>
Janett Miller, Clerk	<u>    X    </u>	<u>          </u>
Jenifer VanAlstein	<u>    X    </u>	<u>          </u>
Bob Smith	<u>    X    </u>	<u>          </u>
Ryan Skidmore	<u>          </u>	<u>    X    </u>
Matt Howard	<u>    X    </u>	<u>          </u>
 <u>Staff Members</u>		
Bret Haney, General Manager	<u>    X    </u>	<u>          </u>
Wayne McArthur, Director of Finance	<u>    X    </u>	<u>          </u>
Esther Grijalva, Director Human Resources	<u>    X    </u>	<u>          </u>
Steph Thisius, Director Planning and Construction	<u>    X    </u>	<u>          </u>
Jasmin LoBasso, Director of Community Relations	<u>    X    </u>	<u>          </u>
Lauren Cronk, Director of Recreation	<u>    X    </u>	<u>          </u>
Mike Evans, Director of Operations and Maintenance	<u>    X    </u>	<u>          </u>
 <u>Legal Counsel</u>		
Jacob Thomasy	<u>    X    </u>	<u>          </u>

**3. NOTICE OF MEETING BEING TAPED, FILMED, STREAMED OR BROADCASTED**

Please be aware that a recording and broadcasting of tonight's meeting is being made and may capture images and/or sounds of those attending tonight's meeting.

**4. Flag Salute by: CRYSTAL MADDEN**

The Flag salute will be led by North of the River Recreation and Park District Board of Directors

**5. Approval of Agenda**

Items requiring attention after the agenda is posted may be added to the agenda with 2/3 majority approval of the Board. Items to be added will be made available to the public at the meeting.

**Motion:** Smith **Second:** VanAlstein **Ayes:** Smith; Madden; VanAlstein; Howard **Noes:** None **Abstain:** None  
**Absent:** Skidmore

**6. 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.

**People Present (see sign-in)**

\_\_\_\_\_ Y  N

No comments

**7. CONSENT AGENDA**

All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are deemed routine in nature. Information concerning these items has been forwarded to each Board Member prior to this meeting for their study. The Consent Agenda is acted upon in one motion unless members of the Board, staff, or public request discussion and/or removal of an item.

- A. **Posting of Agenda**  
Approval of Secretary Declaration of Posting of Agenda 72 Hours in Advance of Meeting
- B. **Minutes**  
Approval of Minutes from the Board of Directors’ Regular Meeting Held October 21, 2024
- C. **Financial**  
Approval of Receipt of Bills and Invoices
- D. **Bills Exceeding Policy Limit**  
Approval of Bills Exceeding Policy Limit
- E. **Agreement for CHP to Provide Service at the 2024 Annual Christmas Parade, Resolution #35-24**  
Staff requests Board approval of an agreement with CHP to provide one-time law enforcement services at the Annual NOR Christmas Parade on December 14, 2024.

**RECOMMENDATION: Approve Consent Agenda**

**Motion:** Smith **Second:** VanAlstein **Ayes:** Smith; Madden; VanAlstein; Howard **Noes:** None **Abstain:** None  
**Absent:** Skidmore

**8. BOARD BUSINESS**

**A. Review and Approval of Updating Employee Benefits-Holiday Full Time Policy and 2025 District Holiday Schedule**

General Manager Bret Haney requests Board approval to update the Employee Benefits- Holiday Policy for full-time employees and 2025 District holiday schedule. Mr. Haney explained that the current policy only allows a full-time employee to use hours from a worked holiday schedule in 90 days. The new update will give the employee flexibility to use 64 hours maximum accrue time during the calendar

year and added 3 floating holidays will be available for full-time staff to use during a calendar year. The board will review and approve a resolution for this schedule change at the next board meeting. AFTER DISCUSSION, BOARD APPROVED UPDATING EMPLOYEE BENEFITS-HOLIDAY FULL TIME POLICY AND THE 2025 DISTRICT HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

**Motion:** Howard **Second:** VanAlstein **Ayes:** Smith; Madden; VanAlstein; Howard **Noes:** None **Abstain:** None **Absent:** Skidmore

**B. MOU with City of Bakersfield to Install Communication Tower at Polo Park, Resolution #36-24**

General Manager Bret Haney requests Board approval of installing a communication tower at Polo Park with the City of Bakersfield to improve communications around the city. Mr. Haney commented that because of the importance of the rangers communicating with law enforcement, NOR will allow the City of Bakersfield to install an 80-foot poll to improve signal at Polo Park rent free. However, the City of Bakersfield will reimburse NOR for electricity cost. Mr. Haney will get back with Board member Robert Smith regarding public notification.

AFTER DISCUSSION, BOARD APPROVED RESOLUTION #36-24 TO ALLOW MOU WITH THE CITY OF BAKERSFIELD TO INSTALL COMMUNICAITON TOWER AT POLO PARK

**Motion:** VanAlstein **Second:** Howard **Ayes:** Madden; VanAlstein; Howard **Noes:** None **Abstain:** Smith **Absent:** Skidmore

**9. STAFF REPORTS**

**A. General Manager**

General Manager Bret Haney updated the Board that he will schedule individual meetings to discuss department projects in January including the Austin Creek project. NOR is waiting on the Batey family for final proposal. Mr. Haney also commented that at next month's meeting the Board will vote for a new chairperson and vice chairperson.

**B. Capital Improvement Projects (Steph)**

Director of Planning and Construction Steph Thisius referred the Board to the Board Meeting Packet for updates and highlighted Polo Community Park for the Bark Park, once checks and balances are done this item will be brought to the board. Ms. Thisius commented that NOR signed the contract for Standard Community Park and is now waiting for the state to sign it and send it back; Stockdale River Ranch is moving quickly; the sports courts are about 90 percent completed.

**C. Financial**

Director of Finance Wayne McArthur commented that the business office is in the middle of an audit.

**D. Personnel**

Director of Human Resources Esther Grijalva updated the Board on all open positions and mentioned that NOR will have this year's Staff Christmas Party on December 20, 2024, and the Board is more than welcome to attend. Ms. Grijalva commented that on October 24, 2024, some staff members attended the 2024 Hire Celebration Awards luncheon with the Mayor in attendance. This celebration is for employers that hire people with disabilities; NOR partners with Pathways and one of the interns that completed his one-year internship with NOR was nominated and won. Mr. Grijalva added that the Pathways intern, Salvador Murillo, was hired for a regular part time position as a Facility Attendant; NOR was also nominated for a Mayor Harvey Hall Humanitarian Award and won.

**E. Parks**

Director of Operations and Maintenance Mike Evans reported to the Board that the maintenance staff completed the roof repair and paint project at North Rosedale. Mr. Evans commented that there has been a rise in vandalism at Riverview Park restrooms; both Greenacres and Riverlakes gyms are scheduled for resurfacing during the Christmas and New Year’s holidays. Mr. Evans added that the staff is currently working on proposals to repair and refinish Riverview Gym as well as replacements at North Highland Playground and shelter.

**F. Recreation**

Director of Recreation Lauren Cronk reported to the Board that Adult Basketball and Volleyball ended their season, the success of the production of The Wizard of Oz, and currently the Explorer program is serving over 870 students at Standard School District. Ms. Cronk updated the Board on the upcoming events including the Santa Letter, which she added that this year the community will be able to write letters to Santa as well as the Grinch. The NOR Jr. Theater will be performing Alice in Wonderland with 46 performances. Ms. Cronk added that the Christmas parade theme will be Christmas around the world and highlighted the Stricker family, they will be the Grand Marshal for the Christmas Parade.

**G. Community Services**

Director of Community Relations Jasmin LaBasso highlighted two additional sponsors for the Christmas Parade, Hall Ambulance and Raising Canes; NOR also had one donation from Cali Farms which will be part of our category prizes. Ms. LaBasso commented that one of her personal goals is to build up NOR’s radio stations’ relationships further with that in mind Ms. LaBasso had a meeting with SheMogul. Ms. LaBasso reported on the success of the Plant a Flag and Love your Park events.

**H. Training**

Reports Received and Filed.

**10. Correspondence**

No correspondence was received in November.

**11. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

**Board Member: Bob Smith- no comment**

**Board Member: Jenifer VanAlstein- No comment**

**Board Member: Matt Howard** appreciates all the hard work Ms. Thisius puts in her reports.

**Board Member: Ryan Skidmore – Absent**

**Board Member: Crystal Madden- No Comment**

**12. ADJOURNMENT Time: 6:21 p.m.**

**Adjourn to the next Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of North of the River Recreation and Park District scheduled on December 16,2024, 5:30 p.m. at the RiverLakes Ranch Community Center and District Administrative Complex.**

An individual who requires disability-related accommodations including auxiliary aids, modifications and/or services in order to participate in the Board meeting, or any materials required by law to be made available for inspection to the public prior to the meeting of the Board of Directors of North of the River Recreation and Park District should contact the Administrative Office at 3825 Riverlakes Drive, Bakersfield, CA 93312 or by calling (661) 392-2000 during regular business hours Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m.

Minutes to be approved at Board Meeting held on December 16, 2024

Bret Haney

Bret Haney, General Manager

Janett Miller

Janett Miller, Clerk of the Board

Crystal Madden

Crystal Madden, Chairperson

Signature:   
Crystal Madden (Dec 17, 2024 11:08 PST)

Email: cagordon32@gmail.com

Signature:   
Bret Haney (Dec 17, 2024 11:46 PST)

Email: bhaney@norrecreation.org

Signature: 

Email: jmill@norrecreation.org












# November 18, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes

Final Audit Report

2024-12-17

Created:	2024-12-17
By:	Janett Miller (jmiller@norrecreation.org)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAJnhzW1kfVZjMYp7RhIzEymNwCaej-rmt

## "November 18, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes" History

-  Document created by Janett Miller (jmiller@norrecreation.org)  
2024-12-17 - 4:36:16 PM GMT
-  Document emailed to Crystal Madden (cagordon32@gmail.com) for signature  
2024-12-17 - 4:36:20 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by Crystal Madden (cagordon32@gmail.com)  
2024-12-17 - 7:07:18 PM GMT
-  Document e-signed by Crystal Madden (cagordon32@gmail.com)  
Signature Date: 2024-12-17 - 7:08:21 PM GMT - Time Source: server
-  Document emailed to Bret Haney (bhaney@norrecreation.org) for signature  
2024-12-17 - 7:08:23 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by Bret Haney (bhaney@norrecreation.org)  
2024-12-17 - 7:45:44 PM GMT
-  Document e-signed by Bret Haney (bhaney@norrecreation.org)  
Signature Date: 2024-12-17 - 7:46:26 PM GMT - Time Source: server
-  Document emailed to Janett Miller (jmiller@norrecreation.org) for signature  
2024-12-17 - 7:46:28 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by Janett Miller (jmiller@norrecreation.org)  
2024-12-17 - 7:47:13 PM GMT
-  Document e-signed by Janett Miller (jmiller@norrecreation.org)  
Signature Date: 2024-12-17 - 7:47:48 PM GMT - Time Source: server
-  Agreement completed.  
2024-12-17 - 7:47:48 PM GMT