

**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
MONTE RIO RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Monday, August 9, 2021, at 6:00 pm  
Monte Rio Community Center**

1. **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Board Chair Steve Baxman.
2. **Roll Call and Approval of Agenda and Minutes from Previous Meeting**  
Present: Directors Steve Baxman, Jean Sasso, Marina McTaggart, Paul DuBray and Linda Santa Cruz; Administrator/Board Clerk Sherry Pimsler and Park Supervisor Leslie Hofelich; Brian Grant of PRAXIS Architects.

Marina moved and Linda seconded approval of this evening's agenda and minutes of July 12, 2021.

3. **Public Comment** – None
4. **Old Business** – None.
5. **New Business** – None
6. **Reports & Information**
  - A. **Board Reports** – None
  - B. **Staff Reports**
    - Sherry announced that Form 700 notices had been sent to Steve and Paul via email. *(She later realized they were late notices and has corrected Steve's email address. They agreed to send Paul a hard copy to fill out.)*
    - Leslie and Sherry have purchased a "Flume", discounted through Sweetwater Water District, to electronically monitor water usage at the Amphitheater. If it's worthwhile, more may be purchased. Water rates have increased significantly.
  - C. **Budget Committee** – Budget has been submitted to the County. There are new contacts replacing Olena Chandler in the Auditor-Controller's office.
  - D. **Facilities/Safety Committee** –
    - Leslie reported a \$900+ repair to the dishwasher/sterilizer. She's getting some estimates for a replacement.
    - The beach will lose three employees about the middle of August. Concessions will be able to stay open through Labor Day weekend, but plans are to close by the 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> of September *(later moved to the 20<sup>th</sup>)*.
    - Brian has contacted a company for an estimate to replace the F&W restroom doors and repair the beach restroom doors. F&W (Brian Shelton) has asked for three bids.
    - An audio-visual specialist assessed the need for an upgrade to the Redwood Room system and has provided an estimate of around \$15,000. That will include replacement of the projector, screen, audio and internet connections. Sherry also received a recommendation for a camera/microphone set-up for hybrid public meetings at \$1,000.
    - CAPRI (MRRPD's insurance carrier) scheduled a site visit on Tuesday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Report will be forthcoming, but the District appeared to receive good marks.
    - Leslie has scheduled termite fumigation in the Community Center for October 6-8. Offices will be closed and the building tented.

- **Bridge Replacement:**

- Steve, Brian, Stephanie and Sherry attended a virtual meeting with the County (Samuel Baumgardner-Kranz, Deborah Waller, John Mack), federal lead agency Caltrans (Tom Holstein) and Fish & Wildlife (Brian Shelton) to discuss the 4(f) process. Section 4(f) is a provision of the U.S. Dept. of Transportation Act which considers whether a transportation project will have adverse effects on park and recreation lands, wildlife and water fowl refuges. A determination of *de minimis* (minor) impact on MRRPD property would require concurrence from the District and F&W that the project will not adversely affect the activities, features and attributes that qualify the property for protection under Section 4(f).

In addition to significant loss of beach enterprise and facility rental revenue during and possibly after construction, another concern raised was permanent loss of some car and boat trailer parking.

The County also wanted further input on how best to leave the abandoned roadway above the existing abutment on the south side of the bridge, but apparently, that will be discussed in a separate meeting. In addition, right-of-way issues cannot yet be discussed until acquired and it looks like that will include some MRRPD property.

Brian will check in with Kevin Doble at LACO for his input.

- On July 13<sup>th</sup>, Brian, Stephanie, Steve, Marina and Sherry attended a virtual kick-off meeting with BAE regarding economic impact of the project on MRRPD and the community. A contract has been signed and Stephanie has been working with them on survey content to go out to local businesses.
- **Grant Updates - Per Capital Grant:** There is a deadline of December 31, 2021 to submit applications. The State encouraged early submission in order to avoid the last-minute rush. Solar projects are set to commence and Brian has been given a go-ahead to have contractor replace the portion of Community Center roof where panels will be installed (at \$10,500). As for improvements to the skate park, a portion of the original plans for the skate pool were never constructed, but were approved and permitted by the County. Brian checked and only a small fee would be required to go with what has already been approved. That would be a huge savings for the project. It was suggested that a 501(c)(3), such as the Friends of Monte Rio, might be willing to receive funds raised toward the project. In that regard, an event is already planned in the Amphitheater, followed by a competition at the skate park. Brian is trying to make contact with an organizer, Jason, and a parent named Joe to make sure they understand the deadlines if Per Capita grant funding is to be used.
- **Trail Projects Update:**  
Sweetwater Property: Steve and Brian accompanied Lynda Hopkins, her staff and Regional Parks on a hike around the Sweetwater property. The property has some old growth redwoods on it.
- **Flood Impact Update:** No report. Still waiting on closeout with FEMA.
- **Review of Flood/Emergency Preparedness:** No new report.

- **Safety Committee Report:**

- Steve reported on the fire near Tyrone Road (not MRRPD property) that required CalFire planes and helicopters. It appears to have started in a homeless encampment. Leslie said the helicopters did a good job of pushing Azolla up on the banks!
- A disabled woman fell on some slime on submerged board walk. Steve assisted her and she was uninjured. We will place some signage.
- Four homeless vehicles have been parking at Koret Park.
- The locksmith has repaired the maintenance closet door at the Fish & Wildlife restrooms. The burglary has been reported. Leslie is having a third light installed so that the security camera can pick up more detail.

**E. Personnel Committee** – A meeting is to be scheduled.

**F. Marketing & Public Outreach Committee** – Marina noted that the number of MRRPD followers on the new Facebook page is growing.

**G. CWA (Creekside Wastewater Authority at Creekside Park)** – No update.

**7. Correspondence** – None

**8. Action Items** – None

**9. Review Monthly Accounts Payable:** The P&L report for July reflected \$47,474.98 in expenses and \$40,145.25 in income.

**10. Next Meeting/Adjournment** – Meeting was adjourned at 6:40 pm. The next Board meeting will take place on September 13, 2021 at 6 pm.