

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

**Monday, September 13, 2021, at 6:00 pm
Monte Rio Community Center**

1. Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 6:04 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; Stephanie Felch and Brian Grant of PRAXIS Architects.

Jean moved and Marina seconded approval of this evening's agenda and minutes of August 9, 2021.

3. Public Comment – None

4. Old Business –

A. Expenditure of Additional Per Capita Grant Funding (discussion/possible vote)

- Refer to Per Capita Grant Fact Sheet (refer to Attachment: Item 4.A).
- Brian gave a presentation to the Board and members of the skateboarding community to explain the options according to the amount of funds raised, after which, questions were answered. Community members who spoke were Jason Cool of Guerneville, Paul Sebern and Millie Munson of Forestville.

5. New Business – None

6. Reports & Information

A. Board Reports – None

B. Staff Reports

- Sherry announced that the Bohemian Corridor group did not receive a CalFire Grant.

C. Budget Committee – None.

D. Facilities/Safety Committee –

- Sherry again brought the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities grants (BRIC) to the committee's attention. Although the current grant offerings are competitive, the District might want to keep an eye on them as a possible funding source, since FEMA appears to be the only insurance to cover Creekside in the wake of a catastrophic event (such as the 2019 flood). These grants are intended to proactively invest in flood mitigation in areas of repetitive flood damage to buildings.
- The District will host free COVID-19 testing in the middle parking lot, starting on September 13th (later postponed to mid-October in order to execute the Use Agreement). Flyers will be posted.
- Sherry reported that significant cracks are forming on the tennis courts that will need to be addressed soon.
- Leslie will have John seal the Community Center fence.
- Leslie reported that Beach tear-down will begin on September 20th.
- Steve said the County inquired about putting tents for the homeless in our parking lot, but that it isn't logistically possible.
- Leslie plans to order a \$600 vandal-proof part for the Creekside drinking fountain.

- She asked Steve to use his water tender at Creekside to blow out water tubes installed to redirect storm water from the County culvert to prevent damage to the trails.

Bridge Replacement:

- BAE has the survey to local businesses ready to mail out and has shared a listing that includes non-MR Chamber members. Sherry agreed to help Marina with introductory wording to introduce it to local business owners. Notice of the survey will be posted on the MRRPD website and Facebook page.
- It is questionable whether the beach will be operable during construction of the new and demolition of the old bridges. We need to confirm that the downstream culverts placed by the County during construction are completely blocked off and access is covered by insurance.

Grant Updates –

- Per Capital Grant: Refer to Old Business 4.A of these minutes. The committee discussed Praxis’ presentation of the skate park at this Board meeting.
- Brian, Stephanie and Sherry met with Friends of Monte Rio (a 501(c)(3) organization), about receiving funds raised toward the skate park project. Tim Miller from WCCS also joined to offer suggestions from their experience. WCCS has been holding in their account \$3,250, previously raised by Friends of the Russian River Skate Park. They would like to hand it over to the proper entity for this fundraising effort. An event is already planned in the Amphitheater, followed by a competition at the skate park.

Trail Projects Update:

- Part of the Matthew Nash property with the house is on the market. When Matthew was last in conversation with Stephanie, the price had not yet been finalized. For some years, the remaining parcels (not currently on the market) have been envisioned as part of a neighborhood trail leading from Creekside to the bridge.
- Steve reported that crews are opening up old roads in the general area of the Sweetwater property.

Safety Committee Report:

- Not on MRRPD property:
 - Steve said that reported arsons are being investigated.
 - MRFPD responded to 32 homeless encampment fires.
 - There have been burglaries in the area.
- No drownings were reported this summer.
- Brian has received an estimate of \$10,000 for replacement of 4 doors at the F&W restrooms – one ADA. The estimate will be forwarded to Fish & Wildlife to see if the existing operating agreement will cover it.

F. Marketing & Public Outreach Committee – None

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 August reflected expenses of \$47,474.98 and income of \$40,145.25.

10. Next Meeting/Adjournment – Meeting was adjourned at 6:40 pm. The next Board meeting will take place on October 11, 2021 at 6 pm.

PER CAPITA GRANT FACT SHEET
For September 13th meeting of the MRRPD Board

State Parks has awarded MRRPD \$178,656 in Per Capita Grant funding. In order to take advantage of the grant funds, projects must be determined and applications submitted before the deadline of December 31, 2021. Once approved, the project contracts must be signed and encumbered by June, 2022 and work must be completed by June 30, 2024. Following is the current status of intended use of the money. It should be noted that the figures remain estimates:

Approved

1. **Solar panel installations** on both the Community Center and Creekside Park building. Each installation will save the District around \$6,000 to \$10,000 per year in PGE costs. After those projects are accounted for, there will be as much as \$91,456 still to be appropriated.

Proposed Projects for Remaining Funds

2. **Skate park expansion.** At their July 12th meeting, the Board indicated that as much as \$65,000 in Per Capita Grant funds may be available for the skate park improvement project, once the District's needs are met. With a December 31, 2021 deadline for application submission in mind, the following are factors to be considered:
 - a) Plans and permits have already been approved for expansion of the skate pool, as originally planned, allowing for a huge cost savings. Nevertheless, the cost of the improvements, not including plans and permits, is still estimated at \$175,000.
 - b) If the estimated \$65,000 in Per Capita Grant funding is to be applied to the skate park improvement project, that portion calls for a 20% match of \$13,000, which skateboarders are tasked with raising in order to show their commitment.
 - c) If the \$175,000 project cost, as originally planned and already approved by the County, is to be realized, an additional \$97,000 will have to be identified. (\$65,000 in Per Capita funds and a \$13,000 match, leaves an additional \$97,000 to identify).
 - d) If the 20% match of \$13,000 is not realized and/or the \$97,000 remaining project funding is not identified before the 12/31/21 deadline for application submission, a longer-term fund raising effort can always be undertaken for the skate park, without Per Capita Grant funding, at which point, other sources of funding can be explored.
 - e) The MRRPD Board is in the process of preparing a grant submittal to T-Mobile "Hometown Grant Program". The Board intends to request \$50,000 for skate park improvements. The deadline for submittal is September 31, 2021 with notification of approval or denial by mid October.
3. **Needed upgrades at the Community Center:** An estimated \$26,000 in grant funds will remain to cover needed upgrades at the Community Center that are eligible under the Per Capita Grant Guidelines. They include replacement of the A/V system, sterilizer/dishwasher and ice machine, as well as installation of a security gate and cameras for the shed enclosure (for storage of an ADA golf cart per the District's ADA Transition Plan). Unfortunately, much needed office equipment, a generator, and partial roofing where solar panels are to be installed are not eligible.