

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

**Monday, November 8, 2021, at 6:00 pm  
Monte Rio Community Center**

**1. Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm by Board Chair Steve Baxman.

**2. Roll Call and Approval of Agenda and Minutes from Previous Meeting**

Present: Directors Steve Baxman, Jean Sasso and Marina McTaggart; Administrator/Board Clerk Sherry Pimsler and Park Supervisor Leslie Hofelich; Brian Grant of PRAXIS Architects. Absent: Director Paul DuBray.

Marina moved and Jean seconded approval of this evening's agenda and minutes of October 11, 2021.

**3. Public Comment** – None

**4. Old Business** –

**A. Expenditure of Additional Per Capita Grant Funding** (*continued discussion*)

- The Board agreed that a final decision for Creekside Park cannot be reached until the T-Mobile Grant is awarded. However, Brian will go ahead and submit the application for the Community Center. In order to meet the December 31<sup>st</sup> deadline, a special meeting may be necessary.

**5. New Business** – None

**6. Reports & Information**

**A. Board Reports** – None

**B. Staff Reports**

- Sherry confirmed the December 13<sup>th</sup> potluck with the Board. It will be kept small this year.
- Federal OSHA Emergency Temporary Standards (ETS) were released November 5<sup>th</sup> for employers of 100 or more, and almost immediately a stay was issued. Nevertheless, since CalOSHA is much stricter than federal OSHA, employers of any number were advised to begin gathering and documenting proof of vaccine from employees. Once the standards are in effect, they will need to have developed either a mandatory vaccination policy or a policy that gives employees a choice to either get vaccinated or elect to undergo regular COVID-19 testing and wear a face mask at work in lieu of vaccination; employees will be noticed and records maintained. Sherry informed the Board that since all current employees are vaccinated and the boat crew all complied last summer, she would like to make vaccination a requirement of employment. The Board concurred.
- The MOU is signed and COVID-19 testing is now taking place on Mondays in the Community Center parking lot. (*MOU has since been extended through March.*)
- Kevin Doble of LACO performed inspection of the beach after tear-down and issued reports to all of the regulatory agencies. Sherry will provide the Board with the reports.

- RH & Sons tested the backflow prevention device at Creekside and issued a report to Sweetwater.
- The Lightwave lease expires on January 6<sup>th</sup>, with an option to renew for three more years. The exhibit listing equipment owned and maintained by MRRPD is under review. A refurbished espresso machine has just been purchased for \$3,363.71.
- An annual report on operating and maintenance expenses for the Creekside onsite wastewater treatment system (OWTS; formerly CWA) will be issued to both MRRPD and MRFPD boards in January.
- Leslie reported that an oven in the Community Center kitchen is being repaired. She and John are seeding the side yard and have replaced chips under the play structure to meet insurance requirements. A gate is being installed in the Meadow to keep cars from driving on the irrigation system.

**C. Budget Committee –**

- Sherry presented the Board with a profit and loss report for FY 18/19, 19/20 and 20/21 to show the revenue loss in facilities rental during the pandemic, down from \$62,677 in FY 18/19 to \$32,477 in FY 19/20 and \$12,150 in FY 20/21.

**D. Facilities/Safety Committee –**

**Bridge Replacement:**

- Email received from Deborah Waller, Sr Environ Specialist, Planning Div., Natural Resources, PRMD on 10-19-21:  
 DTPW, Permit Sonoma and Caltrans have been holding meetings with CDFW [officials] regarding the Monte Rio Fishing Access parking lot. Coordination is on-going. Last week, DTPW provided CDFW with a new revised permanent parking plan. Once [DTPW] has further input from CDFW, they'll circle back.

Regarding the abandoned roadway above the existing abutment on the south side of the old bridge, they had been considering replacing the asphalt with natural planting, adding a small bench/sitting area, or adding a couple of public parking spaces. Their current plan for the space underneath the bridge is to simply restore grade and use it for any mitigation tree planting. They asked for our input on best use of the space above the abutment. Committee recommended a park space as an overlook of the river. PRAXIS will generate a sketch for the DTPW.

Brian expressed a concern about the County's plan to create a roadway to bring equipment from the parking lot to the beach that cuts across the boat ramp driveway, which they've indicated would stay open to traffic.

Marina said that she has reached out to BAE regarding the impact survey. Committee agreed that another incentive letter would be appropriate.

**Grant Updates –**

Wildlife Conservation Board Grant:

- WCB Grant submission opens next year. MRRPD will spend the time designing and writing up the project.

Per Capita Grant

Solar Panel Project:

- Brian is going to go ahead and submit the Community Center application, which includes solar panels, kitchen dishwasher and icemaker, A/V equipment, and security gate.

Skate Park:

- Tax deductible/thank-you letters were sent to skate park donors who wrote checks.

- \$4,449 total was received from the current fundraising effort. (*Correction from original assessment*), including \$2,594 from the event (\$725 in checks; \$1,869 in cash); along with \$3,374.86 that West County Community Services had been holding in their account from a past skate park fundraiser.
- Brian suggested a thank-you/fundraising sign at the skate park. Event organizers did a great job of cleaning up.
- Thank-you's were sent to organizations who provided letters of support for the T-Mobile Grant application (Friends of MR, Regional Parks, W. Co. Community Svcs, Jill Ravitch, Lynda Hopkins)
- For future reference, insurance for a skate board event is difficult to obtain.
- If the T-Mobile Grant does not come through to provide a sufficient match, other projects will be considered for the Per Capita Grant, such as replacement of the seating destroyed in the 2019 flood. (*MRRPD subsequently received a letter from T-Mobile saying we had not been chosen.*)

**2019 Flood Impact Update:** Sherry received close-out documents from CalOES.

**Trails Projects Update:**

- Steve has been checking out fire roads with Regional Parks – Tyrone up toward Willow Creek.

**Safety Committee Report:**

- Frederick Norgaard helped to clear the boat ramp of debris that was causing a hazard.

**F. Marketing & Public Outreach Committee** – None

**G. CWA (Creekside Wastewater Authority at Creekside Park)** – Waiting to hear back from Dan Fein regarding status of attorney Bill Ross' assistance with an operating agreement.

**7. Correspondence** – None

**8. Action Items** – None

**9. Review Monthly Accounts Payable:** The P&L report for October reflected expenses of - \$33,056.88.

**10. Next Meeting/Adjournment** – Meeting was adjourned at 6:37 pm. A possible Board meeting will take place on December 13, 2021 to approve remaining Per Capita Grant expenditure at Creekside Park. Time and day to be announced.