

**Canon City Area Metropolitan
Recreation and Park District
575 Ash Street
Canon City, CO 81212
(719) 275-1578**

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
September 8, 2020**

CALL TO ORDER The Canon City Area Metropolitan Recreation and Park District Board meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Board President, Jim Johnson, in the meeting room located at 575 Ash Street.

ROLL CALL

Board Members:

Present: Jim Johnson
 Mike Sallie
 Nick Sartori
 Greg DiRito
 Brett James (via telephone)

Staff: Kyle Horne Executive Director
 Dawn Green Finance Director

Attorney: Dan Slater

Guests: Tony Adamic
 Tim Payne

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Board member Mike Sallie made a motion, seconded by board member Greg DiRito to accept the minutes from the regular board meeting on August 11, 2020 as written. Motion carried unanimously, all present voting aye.

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Board member Jim Johnson made a motion to accept the agenda as written, seconded by board member Mike Sallie. Motion carried unanimously, all present voting aye.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Board reviewed the monthly financial statements and accounts payable. They discussed the current water bill at the pool location which was higher due to evaporation and leaks in the sprinkler system. The leaks have been repaired.

Board member Nick Sartori made a motion, seconded by board member Mike Sallie to approve the financial matters. Motion carried unanimously, all present voting aye.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

- No member of the public addressed the board.

ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

- Board member Nick Sartori received a letter from a member of the Canonland Walkers & Hikers who expressed concern about the graffiti on the Riverwalk Trail. Kyle Horne responded that the parks crew is addressing this issue now that the archery range project is nearing completion.

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

Executive Director – Kyle Horne reported:

- He received notice that the Recreation District has been authorized \$12,300 in CARES funding. The funds are strictly for COVID-19 expenses and are being administered by DOLA.
- The District Parks Crew, the Homelessness Coalition and representatives from the BLM cleaned up a homeless camp in the Eagle Wing area near the dam. Homelessness is an ongoing issue in open spaces. There will be clean-up efforts at another site at the end of this month.
- Brian LeDoux has reported that the construction of the flow trail at Eagle Wing is going well and he is expecting the project to take another three weeks. Backfill for the project is being hauled in from the Canon City cemetery.
- The finishing touches are being put on the archery range. These improvements include a new pad and a hand-built table. The overall project is a significant upgrade to the facility. The District is waiting on the new targets to arrive and they will include two 3D targets that will be used intermittently. The project was funded by grants from CPW and the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, and donated resources from HCGA Engineering and GE Johnson.
- The District is applying for a youth corps conservation grant for removal of dead cottonwoods in John Griffin Regional Park. This fire mitigation project is expected to require four weeks of work from a chainsaw crew. If the grant is awarded, the crew will tackle the project next spring or early summer.

- Watering the fields at Rouse Park has become a challenge as the District was informed of a water call on the Crooked Ditch. The District is only allowed to water once a week for a 24-hour period.
- The District's health insurance plan with CEBT will see a price increase next year of 5.5% for the medical portion of the coverage. However, the District may receive a dividend next year due to the reduced use of elective medical services early in the pandemic. The dividend may cover the increased cost. District staff recommend staying at the PPO3 level of coverage, as changing to a higher-level PPO plan increases the costs to the employees.
- District staff is researching a web-based time clock feature through the accounting software currently in use. In 2021 sick leave rules are changing and will require more extensive monitoring of the hours worked by all employees. Currently timecards are completed by hand. To implement this new feature this year, a budget line item transfer from "transfer to the pool fund" to computer software is proposed. The new sick leave rules will affect labor cost in 2021.
- Kyle is working with the Fremont Sanitation District on the Ash Street Bluff as the river is eating into the bank. There is a sanitation line there and the trail sits on top of it. Other property owners in the affected area include Ralph Guiliford and Fremont County. The Army Corps of Engineers has estimated the study will cost \$500,000. The Fremont Sanitation District, who is leading the project, is funding a \$16,000 study now to look at options to stabilize the bank.
- The annual SDA conference will be virtual this year with a cost of \$100 per participant. Attorney Dan Slater stated he would like to defer his attendance to next year. If any board member would like to attend, Kyle needs to know this week to meet the registration deadline. He will send out an itinerary to the board members.
- In a Program Activities update, registration numbers for youth fall soccer and football are low. The District is reaching out to the community using the Active Net registration software communications tool, advertising in the Daily Record both in print and online, on the radio and on Facebook. A new art class is being offered. Registration for a winter adult cornhole league is open. Due to health department guidelines open gym and indoor volleyball are not being offered. Preparations for Aftermath are continuing.
- The demolition of the playground at Rouse Park is set to start soon. The new playground equipment is on order and the concrete border wall will be poured in early October. By mid-October, the equipment should arrive and then be installed.
- A new program, organized by CCHS seniors Casey Horne and Liam Monroe, is Junior Tiger Band camp. It will be offered to middle school students and run by high school staff and students.

Dan Slater:

- Dan Slater had no report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- County Commissioner Tim Payne spoke to the board about the proposed change to the intergovernmental agreement concerning Pathfinder Park. He stated the County has 225 shares of water they are not using and would like to trade so that the road and bridge department could have water to use out west. At the last Recreation District board meeting, board members expressed concern that the shares could be sold to outside parties. Mr. Payne stated that the County has no intention of selling the water rights. Attorney Dan Slater stated that with the wording in the amended agreement, the water shares stay within governmental purposes.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-12

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AMENDMENT TO THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT GOVERNING PATHFINDER REGIONAL PARK

Board member Jim Johnson made a motion, seconded by board member Greg DiRito to adopt resolution 2020-12. The resolution was adopted with all members present voting aye.

- On the newly formed URA, there is one position on the committee for special district representation. The Canon City Area Fire Protection District has asked to fill that slot. Mr. Tim Payne is the current Fire District board president and may be that representative.
The board discussed the structure of the URA committee and the Fire District's request. Board member Nick Sartori pointed out that during its formation, the Fire District looked at the URA differently than the Recreation District. Board Member Jim Johnson stated that the Fire District has the backing of the public, which is a point of leverage, even if it only has one vote on the committee.

Board member Greg DiRito made a motion, seconded by board member Mike Sallie in support of having a representative from the Fire District represent special districts on the URA committee. Motion carried unanimously, all present voting aye.

- Kyle has a meeting scheduled this week with John Barnholdt of BRS concerning the pro forma to look at the costs of operating a new recreation center. A follow up meeting is scheduled on September 14th which will include representatives from Canon City, Fremont County and REC.
Kyle stated that there is a thirty million dollar price tag on this project and the District has to work with a firm on the bonds and mill needs to fund the project -

the information needed to ask a tax question. Signing a letter of engagement with a firm is a step in the process. BRS works with Todd Snidow of Stifel. He has been recommended and has a good track record in our community with passing tax questions. The board discussed his work in the community. Kyle has spoken with Mr. Snidow on this project. Kyle asked the board if they would like to set up a meeting with him or send out an RFP. After a discussion, the board directed Kyle to send out an RFP for these services with a deadline to respond in early October.

NEW BUSINESS

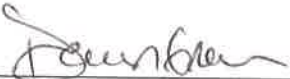
- At the October board meeting, board members will be presented with a draft of the Recreation District's 2021 budget. Worksheets are due from staff this week. Kyle asked the board what projects they would like to see next year. Some suggestions from staff include finishing the rock wall on the lower section of the office building and increasing the technology budget lines as the world goes more digital. Another option is budgeting for the second phase of the trail project at the Schepp Open Space. Kyle was approached by the Noon Lions Club who is looking to invest in a legacy project in the community.
The board held a short discussion and the topic of the digital sign budgeted for this year was broached. At this point, the programs activity fund is showing a loss. Board member Greg DiRito stated that it is important to show the public that the District is watching the budget, as this will have an impact on voter's perceptions of potential tax questions the District may ask.
- The repeal of the Gallagher amendment question (Amendment B) on the State's November ballot is an important issue. If it is not repealed, it is possible that the District will see a substantial drop (potentially 19%) in property tax revenue. The question is not a tax increase but would leave the residential assessment rate at its current level. Rural areas of the state have not seen as much of an increase in assessed property value as that of the metro and mountain communities. The measure to put the issue on the ballot received bipartisan support in the state legislature. The Special Districts Association is asking its members to pass a resolution in support of Amendment B. Board member Jim Johnson asked to have a resolution ready for the next board meeting and urged the board members to study the issue. Attorney Dan Slater will draft the resolution.

ADJOURNMENT


There being no further business to conduct, Board President Jim Johnson adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Submitted by:

Approved as written or amended:



Dawn Green, Finance Director



Meeting Chair