

The Board Meeting, which was held November 19, 2019 at East Bay Regional Park District, 2950 Peralta Oaks Court, Oakland, CA 94605 called its **Closed Session** to order at 11:35 a.m. by Board President Ayn Wieskamp.

## ROLL CALL

Directors Present: Ayn Wieskamp, President  
Ellen Corbett, Vice President  
Colin Coffey, Secretary  
Dee Rosario, Treasurer  
Whitney Dotson  
Beverly Lane  
Dennis Waespi

Directors Absent: None.

The **Open Session** of the Board Meeting was called to order at 1:10 p.m. by President Wieskamp.

Staff Present: Ana Alvarez, Carol Victor, Debra Auker, Anthony Ciaburro, Mona Koh, Jim O'Connor, Carol Johnson, Kristina Kelchner, Steve Castile, Lance Brede, Dave Mason, Michael Reeves, Aileen Thiele, Kelly Barrington, Deborah Spaulding, Michael McNally, Noah Dort, Erich Pfuehler, Jeff Rasmussen, Ren Bates, Brian Holt, Tiffany Margulici, Anne Kassebaum, Mary Mattingly, Renee Patterson, Eric Bowman, Lisa Goorjian, Kip Walsh, Katy Hornbeck, Becky Tuden, Rachel Sater, Matt Graul, Katherine Dudley, Pamela Beitz

Guests: Jay Watson

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

### A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

By motion of Director Waespi, and seconded by Director Lane, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Agenda.

Directors For: Colin Coffey, Ellen Corbett, Whitney Dotson, Beverly Lane, Dee Rosario, Dennis Waespi, Ayn Wieskamp.

Directors Against: None.

Directors Absent: None.

### B. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Kristen Tennesen stated she lives near the Contra Costa Canal Trail and Iron Horse Trail. She commented on how much her family appreciates the District. She asked that the District stop ticketing e-scooters and allow them onto the trail, and suggested a study be created. DGM Alvarez thanked her for her comments and stated staff will look at their pilot studies. Danny Milks, a Walnut Creek resident said he bikes his son and friends to school every day. He thanked the District for the trails and asked the District to allow e-scooters on the trails and to look at it as safety.

Steve Hollister, a representative of Castro Valley Forest Fire Prevention (CVFFP) Ad Hoc committee stated that they are using public comments after a written request for the Ten Hill trails fire mitigation to be placed

on the agenda was denied. Public comments provide no chance for action or follow up. Hollister complimented the District for the Lake Chabot abatement. Hollister stated there was lack of treatment in some specific areas. On a more positive note, many property owners are clearing a 100 ft area. Brad Onstad, a member of CVFFP, commented that District leaders have done little to reduce the fire exposure. Onstad stated that many other agencies have acknowledged more work needs to be extended, and CVFFP has asked for work to be extended. Onstad said the District continues to make decisions based on a 12-year old fire mitigation report. As of January 2019, the Public Utilities Commission, along with Cal fire and PG&E, has published mapping of the area which indicates an extreme fire danger. Don Osborne, a member of CVFFP thanked the District for fixing the oak tree problem. Osborne stated CVFFP understands a LC9 next year, but why wait. Osborne commented that there is red flag warning today for another severe wind event and PG&E is planning to shut the power down again to residences along the Ten Hills trails. Osborne explained he helps support neighbors when there is a power outage. Osborne stated there needs to be *No Smoking* signs installed in the park. Osborne said it is time to get the work done and be fire protection friendly. John Sullivan, member of the CVFFP, passed out photos to the Board depicting the state of Ten Hills Trail. He remarked that to continue fire mitigation of the trail is not a huge undertaking.

DGM Alvarez announced that she just received notice that there is no planned power outage in Alameda County. The District has a planning document based on science pertaining to wildfire hazard reduction that is on the District website. The planned area will stand in perpetuity, the District has permits in hand, and staff will continue doing recommended treatments.

Director Coffey said that this item is not on the agenda. District Counsel said that it is not on the agenda and suggested it not be discussed further. Director Lane acknowledged that everyone in her ward is also concerned about fire as our many other areas in the District. This will be addressed from a policy sense and the District will be as responsive as possible.

## C. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

### I. CONSENT CALENDAR

By motion of Director Corbett, and seconded by Director Rosario, the Board voted unanimously to approve the **Consent Calendar** minus **Item j**.

Directors For: Colin Coffey, Ellen Corbett, Whitney Dotson, Beverly Lane, Dee Rosario,  
Dennis Waespi, Ayn Wieskamp.

Directors Against: None.

Directors Absent: None.

- a. Approval of District Check Listing for the Period of September 23, 2019 to October 20, 2019  
Resolution No. 2019 – 11 - 292 (attached)
- b. Approval of the Minutes for the Board Meeting of November 5, 2019
- c. Resolution to Support H.R. 4197 (Maloney D-NY) – Revitalizing Cities Through Parks Enhancement Act  
Resolution No. 2019 – 11 - 293 (attached)
- d. Resolution to Support H.R. 4236 (Quigley D-IL) – Reducing Waste in National Parks Act  
Resolution No. 2019 – 11 - 294 (attached)

Director Waespi asked if District concessionaries sell plastic water bottles. AGM O'Connor replied that all concession agreements have various timelines for implementation. As contracts are renewed, staff will include language that follows the use of one-time plastic bottles.

- e. Resolution to Support H.R. 4512 (Barragan D-CA) – Outdoors for All Act  
Resolution No. 2019 – 11 - 295 (attached)
- f. Resolution to Support S. 2384 (Hirono D-HI) – Botanical Sciences and Native Plant Materials Research, Restoration and Promotion Act  
Resolution No. 2019 – 11 - 296 (attached)
- g. Resolution to Support S. 2467 (Booker D-NJ) and H.R. 4273 (Gomez D-CA) – Transit to Trails Act  
Resolution No. 2019 – 11 - 297 (attached)
- h. Authorization to Enter into Cooperative Agreements with the California Department of Transportation for the San Francisco Bay Trail at Doolittle Drive: Martin Luther King, Jr. Regional Shoreline  
Resolution No. 2019 – 11 - 298 (attached)
- i. Authorization to Apply for Grant Funds from the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority for Restoration Projects: District-wide  
Resolution No. 2019 – 11 - 299 (attached)

Director Lane asked how staff are proceeding with this number of projects. Lisa Baldinger, Acting Grants Manager replied staff are proposing four grants to move forward on this project. Baldinger named each grant and explained staff are working with SFBRA staff to ensure that the District can proceed. Lane commented she appreciated it because the District has miles of shoreline to complete.

- j. Authorization to Purchase Three Chevrolet Vehicles from Winner Chevrolet for Vehicle Replacements and an Addition to the Fleet  
Resolution No. 2019 – 11 - (attached)

Director Rosario observed that California is no longer purchasing from Chevrolet unless they sign the compact to build low emission vehicles. AGM O'Connor read the press release, State Announces New Purchasing Policies to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions from the State's Vehicle Fleet order into the record, which stated that the Department of General Services (DGS) will prohibit purchase by state agencies of any sedans solely powered by an internal combustion engine. GM/Chevrolet, Fila, Chrysler and Toyota have not agreed to sign on to this policy. Ford, Honda, BMW and Volkswagen have agreed to sign on. O'Connor said that this policy is of interest to the District's efforts to green the fleet. The District has been using Toyota vehicles, and one of the big efforts to complete the fleet has been the purchase of Prius and Volts, and staff need to have a more in-depth discussion. Director Corbett asked if due to this new protocol, staff should schedule future standing committees or Board meetings to discuss. DGM Alvarez said this is a two-prong approach; Board Operations committee followed by Executive committee. O'Connor said these vehicles will be in effect with the current policy. Corbett said in light of this policy statement coming from the Governor's office, she wouldn't feel comfortable voting on this today and suggested putting it over to the next meeting. **This item was pulled from the Consent Calendar.**

- k. Authorization to Renew Contract for Youth Employment Services with Civicorps Schools for 2020  
Resolution No. 2019 – 11 -300 (attached)

Director Waespi remarked that Civicorps does wonderful work and asked if staff could expand the amount of time for fire mitigation work. AGM O'Connor replied he and Chief Theile will discuss. Director Rosario

commented that he is happy to continue engagement with EBCC and SCA and hopes the District can build an employment bridge to get this youth into our system.

- I. Approval of 2020 Consolidated Fee Schedule  
Resolution No. 2019 – 11 - 301 (attached)

Director Rosario expressed concern about projections for 2021. AGM O'Connor replied that staff reviewed a suite of other facilities annually and did a comparison. O'Connor stated the District is still at the lower end of fees. Tiffany Margulici, Acting Grants Manager, said this is an overall structure change with a goal to simplify and consolidate for affordability. This fee schedule is for 2021, and in most cases, there has been no increase in five years and now staff are making fees all inclusive. The District is still below comparable market average. Rosario stated that staff should keep an eye on the usage drop off to determine if people find it too expensive. Rosario noted that Dumbarton Quarry has a \$20 increase. Margulici replied this is because it is all-inclusive, includes WIFI, and is new. Waespi thanked staff and Operations for their work on the schedule. Waespi asked if a banner could be added to the District website stating Board material is free. President Wieskamp thanked Noah Dort for his work on the consolidated fee schedule.

- m. Authorization to Purchase Vehicle Set-ups from LEHR: Public Safety Division  
Resolution No. 2019 – 11 – 302 (attached)

## 2. FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES DIVISION

By motion of Director Lane, and seconded by Director Rosario, the Board voted unanimously to approve **Item 2a.**

Directors For: Colin Coffey, Ellen Corbett, Beverly Lane, Whitney Dotson, Dee Rosario, Dennis Waespi, Ayn Wieskamp.  
Directors Against: None.  
Directors Absent: None.  
Directors Abstain: None.

- a. Approval of the Major Infrastructure Renovation and Replacement (MIRR) Fund Policy  
Resolution No. 2019 – 11 -303 (attached)

Debra Auker, AGM/FMS introduced this item. Deborah Spaulding AFO, began with a partial list of the vast assets of the District. She stated the District's goal with this policy is to develop a major infrastructure renovation and replacement fund that functions like the Districts current Major Equipment Replacement Fund. An internal service fund where staff know what District assets are, when they will be replaced and is funded proactively. Spaulding outlined the steps taken to implement the MIRR, which are to: 1) Inventory all assets; 2) Establish performance standards; 3) Allocate Resources; 4) Monitor and Report on Progress. Spaulding defined the MIRR Fund Policy, explained the Performance Standards, what is the funding target, how much is in MIRR Reserves, what are the Pavement Condition and Facilities Condition Index, what is the funding target and how much money needs to be held in MIRR reserves. DGM Alvarez commented that she was appreciative that this was being brought forward. Director Lane asked if this money will appear in the budget. Spaulding replied yes.

Director Rosario said that if the policy is adopted and the recession comes, does the District have flexibility to not put in a certain amount. DGM Alvarez answered yes. DGM Auker agreed, noting that it is in the written policy. Director Rosario and Director Lane asked what the strategy is for maintaining the District's Facility Condition Index (FIC). O'Connor replied that strategy is still being worked out to determine the most efficient ways to tackle the issue. Alvarez commented that when staff finishes this work, they will

explain in depth the process to the Board and the Board will be able to prioritize other projects. O'Connor said staff is good at leveraging.

Director Waespi asked if the District puts aside \$7.5 million, who loses? Spaulding restated that what suffers over the long term, FCI scores improve, the maintenance costs go down and over the long term it will save the District money. Auker stated there is no loss to the District. By not setting aside funds it does a disservice to the agency. Waespi asked if staff thought of the discretionary stuff – OPEB and CalPERS? Auker replied that staff have identified a lot of the District's unfunded liabilities, and there are different types of reserves.

Director Corbett agreed with priority concerns, however with more information staff can plan into the future; it does force staff to make certain decisions which can be hard. Corbett asked about the FCI chart and what *does not include all structures*, refer to. Jeff Rasmussen, AFO replied that staff are in the final phase of completion and certain things were excluded. Rasmussen explained that in early 2020 there will be a complete list. FCI scores may need to be updated and per Auker are brought before the Executive committee every year. Director Coffey asked about the MIRR fund. Auker explained the goals of this funding strategy are to have money set aside annually, so money is accumulated, and when needed to replace equipment. For example, staff have it saved instead of pulling it out of the general fund. Wieskamp stated that she looks on this document as a goal, and asked if staff have factored in the increase in material costs? This is not an easy goal, and staff will have a tough time with a Board that wants it all. Auker agreed it establishes a goal, will help to support the program and the auditors view, and staff recommend approval of this policy and its goals.

### 3. BOARD AND STAFF REPORTS

#### a. Actions Taken by Other Jurisdictions Affecting the Park District

Deputy General Manager Alvarez discussed the two items in this report. Director Lane thanked staff for accommodating San Ramon's interest in open space.

### 4. GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

#### a. Presentation from Operations Division. AGM O'Connor will provide an update on the Park District's actions to implement the resolution for eliminating glyphosate.

DGM Alvarez introduced this item. Jim O'Connor, AGM Operations thought this was a priority to do a presentation before the budget process. O'Connor discussed the resolution approved in July which immediately banned glyphosate in picnic areas and eliminates glyphosate in all developed park areas by December 31, 2020. Staff will develop an implementation plan and study the Park District's IPM policy and practices. The guiding principles include keeping employees safe, effectively managing vegetation, being fiscally responsible, ensure District-wide implementation of IPM principles and effectively communicate to the Board and to the public. The work to date was discussed, operational adaptive strategy and the upcoming 2020 calendar year was discussed. O'Connor acknowledged Steve Castile, Becky Tuden, Pamela Beitz and Katherine Dudney for their work.

Director Rosario asked if there is data on some of Brierly's information. Pam Beitz explained that per staff the bare ground applications in Del Valle are effective. Rosario asked if staff are considering plant conversion? Beitz said everything she touches is competitive planting to reduce the amount of weed pressure. Director Corbett asked if staff are keeping track of weed abatement deadlines. O'Connor replied that is the plan. O'Connor said that is the core challenge of Operations.

Corbett asked if there will be a change in priority planning to pre-plan. O'Connor replied it is a challenge to balance best IPM practices and park aesthetics. Director Lane commented that she appreciates the report, but the parks in her area have minimal staff and in terms of maintaining the park there will be work that won't be done. Director Coffey said that there will be greater growth in some parks, and staff might want to give thought to those. O'Connor said the staff are committed to do their best efforts. Director Waespi said he appreciates the great work. Wieskamp said that staff need to plan with Public Affairs to spread the message, so the public understands the District is not neglecting the parks. DGM Alvarez replied staff has been extremely responsive to the Board's direction.

- b. Maintenance Superintendent Eric Bowman and Alternative Work Program (AWP) Supervisor Patrick Demmons will update the Board on the first year of the Park District's Small Trails Crew.

AGM Operations, Jim O'Connor introduced this item and explained that five years ago staff began discussing forming a small trails crew. Staff created a small trails crew to do strategic work and assist the park supervisor. Eric Bowman, Maintenance Superintendent opened with the program goals to create and develop a small trails crew, enhance partnership with the Student Conservation Association, and support and aid the young adult community by providing environmental service projects. Patrick Demmons, AWP Supervisor discussed each of the trail crew projects at Redwood Park, Pleasanton Ridge, Tilden, Anthony Chabot and Sunol. There were 18 project sites, 16 miles of trail were rehabilitated, and .9 miles of new trail constructed. Demmons also created a position to survey the trails and identify any area in need of maintenance. Demmons introduced the four-member crew. Director Rosario stated this is a great boom and benefit to the public the District serves. Directors Rosario and Waespi expressed the hope to retain the crew as future employees. Lane said that the small crew is wonderful and appreciates the survey intern. Jay Watts, Regional Vice President of Wester U.S. of SCA said he is glad to be back in partnership with the District. O'Connor said that Demmons is a fast learner and is amazing. Rosario commented that he is glad to include the SCA. Rosario stated that Patrick Demmons received an award for his leadership in the Alameda County Work Development to work on storm damage trails, and he is an awesome employee.

Public Comment:

Kelly Abreu said that the last 600 ft. of the trail has been quadrupled due to the volume of traffic at Mission Peak. He encouraged staff to go to Mission Peak to observe the trail change.

## 5. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM CLOSED SESSION

District Counsel Victor stated that in the matter of Carpenter et al vs EBRPD, listed on the closed session agenda, the Board authorized a settlement in the amount of \$49,999 dollars by unanimous vote.

## 6. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Legislative Committee (10-18-19) (Corbett)

## 7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Kelly Abreu remarked that on Google you can see the widening trail. Asked staff to take charge of timelines and milestones.

## 8. BOARD COMMENTS

Director Wieskamp reported on meetings attended. Director Wieskamp

- Attended the GM Evaluation Ad Hoc Committee meeting;
- Attended the Executive Committee meeting
- Attended the LARPD meeting;

- Attended the Board Nominating Committee meeting;
- Attended the LARPD Liaison meeting; (Dec. 12 dedication of bridge)
- Attended the LAFCo meeting.

Wieskamp met with Supervisor Ed Campbell, attended a bridge opening and the Tri-Valley Conservancy meeting.

Director Waespi reported on meetings attended. Director Waespi

- Attended the Stewardship Seminar;
- Attended the Founders 85<sup>th</sup> Celebration Anniversary;
- Attended the Executive Committee meeting;
- Met with GM Doyle for I-on-I meeting;
- Attended the Board Nominating Committee meeting;
- Hiked with a constituent;
- Attended the GM Evaluation Ad Hoc Committee meeting.

Director Lane reported on meetings attended. Director Lane

- Attended the Stewardship Seminar;
- Attended the Founders 85th Celebration Anniversary;
- Attended the LARPD Liaison meeting; (Dec. 12 dedication of bridge)
- Attended the Board Nominating Committee meeting;
- Visited the Martinez Shoreline;
- Attended the morning Philanthropy Recognition by East Bay Leadership Council;
- Attended the Women's Suffrage Tour in Sacramento;
- Attended a morning session at Save Mt. Diablo.

Lane discussed McGee preserve and the project in the works to add open space to the Sycamore Valley Preserve. Lane thanked staff for the Frequently Called Numbers list and the Budget.

Director Rosario reported on meetings attended. Director Rosario

- Attended the CSDA Climate Adaptation Roundtable Change Forum;
- Attended Founders 85th Celebration Anniversary;
- Attended a meeting with Erich Pfuehler and Lisa Baldinger.

Director Corbett reported on meetings attended. Director Corbett

- Attended the Climate Adaptation Roundtable Change Forum;
- Attended the Founders 85th Celebration Anniversary;
- Attended the Executive Committee meeting;
- Attended the GM Evaluation Ad Hoc Committee meeting;
- Attended the Crab Cove Veterans event;
- Attended the Central Stores Tour;
- Attended the Regional Park Foundation Board retreat;
- Meeting with DGM Alvarez, AGM Auker and Clerk of the Board Knight.

Director Coffey reported on meetings attended. Director Coffey

- Attended the Stewardship Seminar;
- Attended the Climate Adaptation Roundtable Change Forum;
- Attended the Founders 85th Celebration Anniversary. Founders 85th;
- Attended a political event for Rep. McNerney;
- Attended the grand opening and Richmond cutting of Richmond/

San Rafael Bridge with AGM Jim O'Connor.

Director Dotson reported on meetings attended. Director Dotson

- Dotson nothing to report.

D. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was closed at 4:30 pm in honor of Troy Schwenk an EBRPD park craft specialist who passed on November 11, 2019. Director Rosario and Director Waespi remarked that he was not only a good employee, but a good friend to them, and will be missed.