

**Canon City Area Metropolitan Recreation and Park District**

**575 Ash Street  
Canon City, CO 81212  
(719) 275-1578**

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**June 11, 2024**

**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, Nick Sartori, in the board meeting room located at 575 Ash Street.

**ROLL CALL**

Board Members:

Present: Nick Sartori  
Joel Dudley (*arrived at 7:02 p.m.*)  
Andrew Palmasano  
Melissa Smeins  
Cooper Trahern

Staff: Kyle Horne Executive Director  
Dawn Green Finance Director

Attorney: Dan Slater

Guests: Adam Hartman  
Bret Meuli

**ACCEPTANCE OF CONSENT AGENDA**

Board member Cooper Trahern made a motion, seconded by board member Andrew Palmasano to accept the consent agenda as written on the June 11, 2024 regular meeting agenda. Motion carried unanimously, all present voting aye.

**CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

None

## **ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

A thank you from Randi Esquibel with Citizens for a Pool was received. In it she thanked those who attended the recent fundraiser. The event raised \$5,200 and she stated fundraising buckets will be going out into the community.

Board member Andrew Palmasano stated that T-ball is going full swing, and that opening day was a success.

## **DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION REPORTS**

Executive Director – Kyle Horne reported:

Kyle spoke about the high flows in the Arkansas River and showed the board recent photos. The photos show flooded areas in what is typically dry land near Forrest Island. There is a tree partially in the river near the ropes course and Kyle will notify AHRA (the state park managing this section of the river). The water is creeping up on the trail at the 9<sup>th</sup> St. underpass.

There is work being done on the Bighorn Round Table. It is a collaborative effort to help get grant funding. Member entities include CPW, Fremont County, City of Canon City, FAR, Recreation District, Florence and other groups. The next meeting is on June 18<sup>th</sup> at the Recreation District office. There is grant funding available for the round table to hire a director.

The City of Canon City has applied for a CPW grant. The Recreation District provided a letter of support and a request. If the grant is successful, the District will receive six bear-proof trash cans for the Riverwalk and Rouse Park.

Kyle and Dawn met with a representative from Musco on a potential mini court grant. The mini court could provide a lighted soccer field and basketball court at Harrison Park.

The ropes course is coming down and parts of it will be used for the lean-to project. Kyle spoke about the difficulty in operating the ropes course, the state of the equipment and finding facilitators. He has received calls about what will be done with the area. Suggestions include a bike park and bouldering wall. On Monday June 17<sup>th</sup>, Black Hills Energy will be on site to help remove the tall poles. The District cannot sell the old equipment as it is out of date.

Public agencies need to transition lawn care equipment under 25 hp to battery power by June 2025 per a new state law. The Recreation District will need to replace trimmers and blowers. A Stihl representative is coming down to do a demo. There is a 30% rebate available through the state if purchased from an authorized dealer, which in our area is the True Value near the airport.

Kyle spoke about the expanding needs of the community and the constrained funding of the District. He has spoken with citizens who would like to see amenities added including a boulder wall, a bocce court, disc golf, horseshoe pits, and high school aged programs. Board member Nick Sartori commented about the need for more pickleball courts.

Dan Slater:

Dan Slater had not report.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **Letter of Intent with Canon City Schools:**

Superintendent Adam Hartman spoke about the letter of intent between the Recreation District and the School District. The School District is glad to be a partner with the Recreation District for the expansion of the pool. He stated the School District was fortunate with the November election to receive the funding for the upgrades at the High School. At the School Board meeting there was zero opposition to the resolution to approve the letter of intent. He did say that the School District would like to see a covered facility. School board member Bret Meuli stated that he sees the pool issue as one of safety and financing. It is an opportunity to work with the Recreation District to keep kids safe (teaching swimming) and having more parking at the high school is good for their District. Kyle Horne asked the school representatives about the school district paying for their use of a swimming pool. They responded that they are open to that discussion.

## **RESOLUTION NO. 2024-10**

### **A RESOLUTION DIRECTING ENTRY INTO A LETTER OF INTENT WITH FREMONT SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-1 FOR THE ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY**

Board member Joel Dudley made a motion, seconded by board member Andrew Palmasano to adopt Resolution 2024-10. The resolution was adopted with all members present voting aye.

### **Update on Pool Feasibility Study and Survey Work:**

The board was shown three concept drawings of a potential pool facility based on the survey results. The first showed an outdoor recreational pool that is smaller than the Icabone Pool. It has a lower bather load and only two lap lanes, which means the loss of the swim team. Kyle stated that this concept moves us backwards. The second shows the outdoor recreational pool and an indoor lap pool. The six-lane lap pool could be used for volleyball and basketball and could include a climbing wall. This option has separate restrooms and mechanical rooms for the two pools. Option three shows everything indoors. Kyle reviewed the expected costs – Option 1 = 10 million, Option 2 = 24 million, Option 3 = over 30 million and an Option 4 (both pools outdoors) = 15 to 17 million.

A discussion followed. Kyle stated that the bathhouses are determined by the size of the bather load. He asked the question - Can we sell the community on the second option? There was discussion about doing the project in phases and the increased costs involved factoring in inflation. He stated that the consultants will have designs ready for the public meeting on June 25<sup>th</sup>. In further discussion, board member Joel Dudley stated he thought that the second option was the best option as it extends the life of the pool, viewing it as a

better investment which would see more use. Board member Andrew Palmasano said option 2 checks all the boxes. He believes waiting to phase the project is too expensive. Board member Cooper Trahern called option 2 a happy medium. Board member Nick Sartori stated that option two would be beneficial for student athletes.

Kyle reminded the board that June 25<sup>th</sup> is the next public meeting and that we need to fill the (high school) auditorium at 5:30 p.m. This public meeting will be followed by the final report and final presentation on the pool feasibility study.

### **Update on Bond Underwriting and Counsel for Potential 2024 Ballot Questions**

Kyle had a meeting with Todd Snidow of RBC and Tom Peltz of Kutak Rock regarding funding options for a pool facility. He shared information from this meeting with the board.

COP (Certificates of Participation) are not a good option for the District. Although it would require one less ballot question, the District does not have enough assets to get a good interest rate.

GO Bonds (General Obligation) are a traditional funding source requiring a vote of the people. The District could get a better interest rate and a higher bond rating, which makes it easier to sell the bonds. As these would be funded through a sales tax, a question for the GO bonds and a third question to increase the mill levy would be needed. In the discussion, Mr. Peltz asked if the sales tax could be used for capital construction, reserve and operations of the District and be extended. In response, Kyle stated that the tax must sunset per the City and the City is not in favor of including recreation needs in the sales tax question. City Administrator, Ryan Stevens, asked that different numbers be looked at for modeling. Kyle shared this information:

Increase in sales tax	# of Years	Projected Amount
.25	25	19.6 million
.25	20	17 million
.30	25	23.6 million
.30	20	21 million

The board discussed having three questions on the ballot, how pool funding ballot questions operated in other locations throughout the state and what happens if one or two of the questions passes, but not all three. Also discussed was whether the District could ask for an increase in mill levy again if it doesn't pass the first time. The Board's direction was to ask the three questions.

### **Discussion on Use of Backfill Funding**

In the board packets was a list of six projects which could be funded by the backfill money the District received. The only actual quote on the list is for the automatic locks at park bathrooms. The cost is \$5,515. Kyle is waiting for a quote for the network upgrade. The proposals received for the new roof are approximately \$10,000 under what was anticipated. The list includes battery powered equipment for parks use. Board discussion followed and the board agreed with the list.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Selection of Contractor for the Replacement of Metal Roof at District Office**

A review committee consisting of Kyle Horne, Dawn Green, Board member Joel Dudley and Parks Supervisor Devin Everhart looked at the three proposals the District received for replacing the roof. It was estimated to cost \$60,000. One proposal was significantly higher. Proposal Information was included in the board packets. The Centerline proposal had \$575 in add-ons with a proposal amount of \$47,652. The proposal from Vendetti's Roofing was \$48,900 with no add-ons. The proposal from Whitney was \$66,915. The references for Vendetti's Roofing and Centerline were both excellent. However, the proposal from Vendetti included snow breaks on both sides of the building and a better roof vent. The recommendation of the committee is the Vendetti proposal. Board discussion followed and board member Joel Dudley spoke about the different types of roof venting in the proposals. Mr. Dudley informed the board that John Vendetti is one of his sub-contractors from time to time. As Mr. Dudley will not receive any financial gain from the project, Attorney Dan Slater stated that it does not pose a conflict of interest.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 2024-11**

#### **A RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE METAL ROOF TO VENDETTI'S ROOFING**

Board member Melissa Smeins made a motion, seconded by board member Cooper Trahern to adopt Resolution 2024-11. The resolution was adopted with all members present voting aye.

### **Website Accessibility Policy**

This will be included in the policy manual to conform with the new statute going into effect on July 1, 2024.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 2024-12**

#### **A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE "POLICY MANUAL" RELATING TO WEBSITE ACCESSIBILITY**

Board member Nick Sartori made a motion, seconded by board member Joel Dudley to adopt Resolution 2024-12. The resolution was adopted with all members present voting aye.

### **Designation of Election Official**

There was a brief discussion by the board regarding designating an election official.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2024-13**

**A RESOLUTION APPOINTING A DESIGNATED ELECTION OFFICIAL FOR THE  
CANON CITY AREA METROPOLITAN RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT'S 2024  
COORDINATED ELECTION WITH FREMONT COUNTY**

Board member Cooper Trahern made a motion, seconded by board member Andrew Palmasano to adopt Resolution 2024-13. The resolution was adopted with all members present voting aye.

Board member Cooper Trahern informed the board that he will be unable to attend the board meetings in July and August and would like his absences to be approved by the board.

Board member Joel Dudley made a motion, seconded by board member Nick Sartori to approve the absences of board member Cooper Trahern. Motion carried unanimously, all present voting aye.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to conduct, Board Chairman Nick Sartori adjourned the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

Submitted by:

Approved as written or amended:

*/s/ Dawn Green*

Dawn Green, Finance Director

*/s/ Nick Sartori*

Nick Sartori, Meeting Chair