

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

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
December 12, 2023**

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

ROLL CALL

Board Members:

Present: Nick Sartori
Joel Dudley
Andrew Palmasano
Melissa Smeins
Cooper Trahern

Staff: Kyle Horne Executive Director
Dawn Green Finance Director

Attorney: Dan Slater

Guests: Tony Adamic
Member of Citizens for a Pool

ACCEPTANCE OF CONSENT AGENDA

Board member Cooper Trahern made a motion, seconded by board member Joel Dudley to accept the consent agenda as written on the December 12, 2023 regular meeting agenda. Motion carried unanimously, all present voting aye.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

- None

ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

- Board member Nick Sartori provided feedback that the Turkey Trot went well. Kyle stated that the Turkey Bowl went extremely well, and the events of the day enjoyed good weather.

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

Executive Director – Kyle Horne reported:

- Kyle stated that this year's Toy Bowl was well attended. The food collected was donated to Loaves and Fishes. The money collected was used to purchase toys and they (along with the toys collected) were given to the Catalyst Church to distribute. The Church works with Toys for Tots as well.
- Kyle showed photos of the ADA work completed at Rouse Park. The path behind fields A and B that leads to the playground was improved with crusher fines and rail sides. The maintenance crew installed two crusher fine paths to the playground. The latch on the gate to the archery range was also replaced.
- Copies of an email from Mr. Luke Javernick regarding the project in John Griffin Regional Park were included in the board packets. CPW (Colorado Parks & Wildlife) is interested in the project as an option to store water.
- The Recreation District did not receive the GOCO grant for youth corps services to build the trail connection on the Schepp property. It was a very competitive cycle. The District will have to fund the project and Kyle is in touch with Terra Firma Trails for an updated cost estimate for the 2024 budget.
- Krista (Bernard) is out of the rental house and the maintenance crew is starting the cleanup process. Board member Joel Dudley did a walk-through of the premises.
- The District will be doing the year end budgeted transfers between funds based on allowable conservation trust fund expenditures and pool expenses.
- The programs staff began to use the new background check company, Sports Engine, which does a national check. The staff is working on a sponsorship package to help cover the cost. The District will be invoiced monthly.
- District staff will again be submitting a grant application to the Yankton Benedictine Sisters Fund to replenish the scholarship fund.
- District staff have started to work with Streamline to switch the website to their platform.
- New furniture was added to the front office. A 55" television will be purchased to show promotional videos. A 75" television will be purchased to replace the Promethean Board in the meeting room.
- In place of the annual Christmas party, staff will be taking a trip to Cripple Creek.

Dan Slater:

- Dan Slater stated that he is waiting to hear back on the County's concerns regarding the connector trail.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Carrie Trimble was expected at the meeting to talk about the results from the water and soil testing at Ash Street. Copies of the report were included in the board packet. Some of the levels were high, but none above allowable limits. Watering the produce in the community garden is an issue and it was suggested that the District might want to consider potential filtration options. Kyle will contact NRCS and the USDA regarding options. Board member Nick Sartori asked how often it is tested and Kyle will speak to Carrie about this.
- Kyle made the changes to the 2024 list of goals which were recommended at the November board meeting. It was suggested that #11 be changed to - Implement a sponsorship program for volunteer coach background checks.

Board member Joel Dudley made a motion, seconded by board member Nick Sartori to approve the amended list of District goals for 2024. The motion passed with all members present voting aye.

- After the budget workshop, the state held a special legislative session and passed bills which will affect property taxes. The resulting impact on the 2023 property taxes is similar to having Proposition HH pass, except the exemption for multifamily and residential properties will increase from \$50,000 to \$55,000. The eligibility for backfill was reduced from 20% growth to 15% growth in evaluations, and at 15.3%, the Recreation District will no longer qualify. The Fremont County Assessor is waiting for a software update to calculate the final evaluations.

The Governor did send out a letter requesting local governments reduce their mills to help property owners. Kyle informed the board that the Recreation District's growth has not been keeping up with inflation and he does not recommend a mill levy reduction.

The Recreation District will have to revisit the original draft budget with some changes to consider. These changes include funding for the connector trail as the grant was not awarded and increasing the budget line to repair the van. Kyle reviewed the updated budget deadlines: January 3rd – the final evaluation from the assessor due; January 10th – certification of mill levies; and January 31st - file the budget with DOLA.

- Tomorrow starts the pool feasibility study with a kickoff meeting at 5:30 p.m. Kyle handed out copies of the agenda and list of the advisory group members which represent the Recreation District, City of Canon City, School District, Citizens for a Pool and community members. Board members Nick Sartori and Melissa Smeins are on the committee. From the community there will be a representative from the Golden Age Center. Before the kickoff, Kyle will first meet with representatives from OLC and Ballard King at the Icabone pool and then visit other potential sites.

Board member Cooper Trahern stated that the El Pomar Foundation approved the \$15,000 grant for the feasibility study.

Kim with Citizens for a Pool stated that they will be holding a board meeting at 11:00 am tomorrow.

NEW BUSINESS

- No new business was listed on the agenda.
- The Board moved into executive session at 7:55 p.m. for a personnel matter – the Executive Director’s annual performance evaluation. The Board exited from the Executive Session at 8:56 p.m. and reentered the regular board meeting.

Board member Joel Dudley made a motion, seconded by board member Cooper Trahern to approve a step increase and the 4% COLA (in the 2024 salary schedule) for the Executive Director. The motion passed with all members present voting aye.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, Board President, Nick Sartori, adjourned the meeting at 8:57 p.m.

Submitted by:

/s/ Dawn Green

Dawn Green, Finance Director

Approved as written or amended:

/s/ Nick Sartori

Nick Sartori, Meeting Chair

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**EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES
December 12, 2023**

Executive Session was called at 7:55 p.m.

The substance of discussion during executive session was a personnel matter: the Executive Director's annual review under C.R.S. section 24-6-402(4)(f).
The executive session adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

Submitted by:

/s/ Dawn Green
Dawn Green, Finance Director

Approved as written or amended:

/s/ Nick Sartori
Nick Sartori, Meeting Chair