
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

January 23, 2025 – 4:00 P.M.

Board Members Present: Dave Donnan, Vice Chair
Michael McGinnis, Board Member
Christopher Norden, Board Member
Jason Roye, Board Member

Board Members Absent: Tom Lando, Chair

Staff Members Present: Annabel Grimm, General Manager
Angela Carpenter, Finance Manager
Holli Drobny, Administrative Director
Scott Schumann, Parks and Facilities Director

Legal Counsel Present: Jackson Glick, Attorney at Law

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:00, and a roll call was taken, as noted above.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public comment was received from a community member who used to work for the District as a lifeguard in the 80s. This community member thanked the District for being a great place to work.

Public comment was received related to agenda item 5.3, and due to this community member needing to leave the meeting, Director Donnan allowed the community input. This input was related to honoring the Chico Peppers and in support of naming the softball field at Hooker Oak after the team and its accomplishments.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

- 3.1. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors on December 12, 2024
- 3.2. Monthly Financial Reports for November & December 2024 (Staff Report FI-25-001)
- 3.3. Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Audit (Staff Report FI-25-002) *Action Requested: the Board accepts the audit report for fiscal year 2023-2024 as prepared by Chavan & Associates, LLP.*
- 3.4. Update Salary Schedule (Staff Report FI-25-003) *Action Requested: The Board approves the updated salary schedule.*

M/S/C/ (Directors McGinnis/Norden) Board of Directors approved the consent agenda.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Absent: Lando

4. REGULAR AGENDA

- 4.1. Committee Report Out – Information Provided
 - 4.1.1. Finance Committee

4.1.2. Facility Committee

Director Roye reviewed the Facility Committee agenda and the Committee's recommendations.

4.2. Board of Directors Manual (Staff Report 25-001)

Following the initial review of the updated Board Manual, there were questions related to the District's ability to issue ordinances. Jackson Glick, legal counsel, reported that the District does have the power to issue ordinances and can issue citations. Jackson recommended that these things should be coordinated with the City of Chico.

M/S/C/ (Directors Roye/McGinnis) Board of Directors approved the updated Board Manual.
The motion was unanimously approved.

Absent: Lando

4.3. Chico Bike Park Update (Staff Report 25-002)

Trevor Miller, provided a presentation on the status of the design of the upcoming Chico Bike Park, located on Humboldt Ave.

Jim Hutchinson provided comments in opposition to the Bike Park citing concerns to the impact of the geographical area, low-income community members, and bus stops. Hutchinson requested the District to provide better outreach to residents with disabilities to get their input on the development.

Bruce MacLane asked questions related to the design of the pending Bike Park, specifically the orientation of the map and the lighting. MacLane stated that there could be better outreach to inform residents of the project.

Glen Graves asked questions related to the design of the pending Bike Park. Graves expressed concerns related to the development and the ongoing operations and maintenance of the Bike Park.

Laurie Norton provided comments in support of the project and his gratitude for the space to be developed. Norton expressed his hope that the Bike Park development will reduce crime and waste in the area. Additionally, he noted that the District's presence has already helped with unauthorized camping and the cleanliness of the area.

Patrick Farrar provided comments in support of the project and understanding of the concerns voiced.

Patrizia Hironimus, Butte Environmental Council, provided comments and questions related to concerns of the environmental and ecosystem impact of the Bike Park.

The Board discussed this project in length and confirmed with District staff that there will be more community input meetings to continue to gather and address feedback. Director Norden asked to review the outreach protocols at a future Board meeting.

4.4. General Manager Performance Evaluation

Based on an annual performance evaluation, the General Manager will receive a 5% salary increase.

M/S/C/ (Directors McGinnis/Norden) Board of Directors approved the salary increase for the General Manager, resulting in an annual salary of \$150,500.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Absent: Lando

4.5. Design Award for Henshaw Neighborhood Park (Staff Report 25-003)

The District released a Request for Proposals to solicit eligible firms to design Henshaw Neighborhood Park. Greg Melton provided public comments about the value and the quality of task performance, and his understanding that the decision was not based off the lowest bid. The selection criteria for the project was discussed. The Board's requested to review both proposals and bring back this topic at a future meeting.

M/S/C/ (Directors Norden/McGinnis) The Board of Directors requested that both firms attend a future meeting to participate in an interview process, which will inform their decision.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Absent: Lando

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.1. 2025 District Event Calendar (Staff Report 25-004)

District staff presented the 2025 calendar of Community Events (free) and Special Events (paid admission) for the Board of Directors to review.

5.2. Proposed Improvements to Veterans Memorial (Staff Report FA-25-001)

The Board reviewed proposed improvements to the park, including the topics of new baseball fields, park signage, and installing a flagpole.

M/S/C/ (Directors Norden/Donnan) The Board of Directors accepted the donation of baseball fields from Central Little League at Veteran's Memorial Park. The Board also provided approval of updated park signage and installation of a flagpole.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Absent: Lando, McGinnis

5.3. Honoring Chico Peppers via Naming Opportunity (Staff Report FA-25-002)

The Board reviewed a community request to honor the Chico Peppers, a historic and notable local softball team whose home field was located at Hooker Oak Community Park. Numerous members of the public attended the meeting and provided comments highlighting the significant impact of the Chico Peppers. Katie Salcido provided impactful comments and relayed the history of the team. Tami Lyon, Board Member of the Chico History Museum, remarked about the impact of the Peppers. Glen Graves reported that the legacy of the Peppers is ongoing and there is a current youth travel softball team named after the Peppers. Terry thanked the Board

and District staff for the opportunity and shared her experience as a player. Lindsey Nadeau, Board Member of the Chico Softball Little League, shared her support of the field name. Director Donnan commented on his admiration for the Chico Peppers.

M/S/C/ (Directors McGinnis/Donnan) The Board approved the request from the community to honor the Chico Peppers by naming the softball field at Hooker Oak, the Chico Peppers Field. **The motion was unanimously approved.**

Absent: Lando

5.4. District Facility Tour - *Information provided/possible action.*

The Board selected Friday, February 7th at 10am for a District tour. The starting location will be at the Community Center.

6. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS

Director Roye expressed gratitude for the public comment at the meeting. Director Norden asked for an update on the Recreation Director. General Manager Grimm announced that Erin Morrissey has accepted the position, and her start date is February 4th.

7. STAFF COMMENTS

There were none.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 5:50 PM to the next meeting of the Board of Directors of the Chico Area Recreation and Park District.