



**MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ROSSMOOR COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**

REGULAR MEETING

RUSH PARK
Auditorium
3021 Blume Drive
Rossmoor, California 90720

Tuesday, January 14, 2025

A. ORGANIZATION

1. CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Directors DeMarco, Remnet, Searles, Shade and
President Maynard

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. PRESENTATIONS:

a) 2024 STATE OF THE DISTRICT ADDRESS PRESENTED BY PRESIDENT
MICHAEL MAYNARD

President Maynard reported the 2024 community satisfaction survey was conducted during the month of December and its results are currently being analyzed and will be reported at the next meeting in February; noted that numerous Rossmoor facilities have been upgraded this past year including three resurfaced tennis courts, one converted tennis court into four pickleball courts, replaced flooring and carpeting in the auditorium at Rush Park, slurry sealed the Rush Park parking lot, plans and specifications have been submitted to Orange County Planning Department for approval of a picnic structure at Rossmoor Park, the attendance and revenue of the pickleball courts at Rossmoor Park have exceeded initial projections. Additionally, he stated the District's urban forest has earned the Tree City, USA designation for the 14th consecutive year as well as a finalist spot for the California Joint Powers Insurance Authority's Capstone award; announced the District's preventative maintenance on trees has resulted in minimal claims despite managing over 5,000 trees; added that due to efforts made to educate the community regarding tree maintenance there have been very few citations issued for trimming violations, that efforts have been made to provide every residence with at least one parkway tree per District policy and the installation of the trees will conclude in the upcoming weeks.

President Maynard asserted that all programs, events and well-maintained facilities are attributed to the dedicated, well-trained District Staff and claimed the staff training program is above reproach and that staff is well-prepared for emergency situations and practice good safety procedures. He announced that the California Joint Powers Insurance Authority awarded RCSD the 2024 Risk Management Award for Best Overall Performance in the Workers Compensation Program for non-municipal agencies with 200 public agency peers recognizing RCSD.

Additionally, President Maynard congratulated newly elected Board Director Mary Ann Remnet and re-elected Board Directors Tony DeMarco and Nathan Searles; said he believes that this new board will be able to accomplish great things in the coming year due to their collective commitment to serving the Rossmoor community with integrity, transparency and dedication; noted RCSD has a few challenges upcoming, namely hiring a new general manager and finding a new accounting firm, as well as the normal challenges that come with a new board; stated he is honored to have worked for the community over the years and it has been a privilege to witness the dedication, hard work, and collaboration to make the community what it is today.

b) YOUTH CENTER COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT ANNUAL REPORT
PRESENTED BY LINA LUMME, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Lina Lumme narrated a PowerPoint presentation detailing the statistics of community events and the marketing and partnership coverage in the community.

Director Remnet congratulated Ms. Lumme's ability and skill in making something out of nothing and stated she looks forward to seeing what she will be able to accomplish this year.

Ms. Lumme stated it takes a village to keep the Youth Center and its programs going and that she and her staff work hard to serve the community as best as possible.

Director Shade echoed the sentiments of Director Remnet and stated how it is a pleasure to work with Ms. Lumme.

Director DeMarco thanked Ms. Lumme for all her work and hoped that 2025 will bring even more happiness to the youth.

Ms. Lumme detailed the Little Rascals program, noting its conception was due to unsafe conditions for children, that children are picked up after school and safely walked to the park where they have various activities for children, and addressed registration for Camp Shark, as well as other summer programs which open April 1, 2025.

President Maynard thanked Ms. Lumme for including the details on Rossmoor resident participation.

Ms. Lumme stated that due to their partnership with RCSD, registration for their events opens

2 days before for Rossmoor residents and credits the high attendance numbers to this.

Arnie Fine, Youth Center Board Member, announced the Youth Center will be hosting their 10th annual golf tournament at the Rio Hondo Golf Course, the sellout point is 144 golfers, children are allowed to participate, and special needs kids are welcome as well.

5. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

General Manager Mendoza thanked President Maynard for his leadership declared the position of President of the Board, vacant, and called for nominations.

1. Election of President - Acting President Maynard called for nominations for the office of President. President Maynard nominated Director DeMarco for the office of President of the Board for the 2025 calendar year, the nomination died due to lack of a second. Acting President Maynard then called for additional nominations.

Director DeMarco nominated Director Shade for the office of President of the Board for the 2025 calendar year, the nomination was seconded by Acting President Maynard. The nomination died with a 3-2 vote in opposition.

Acting President Maynard then called for additional nominations. Director Shade nominated Director Searles as President of the Board for the 2025 calendar year, the nomination was seconded by Director Remnet. Acting President Maynard asked if there were any further nominations. Seeing none, Acting President Maynard asked for a roll call vote. Director Searles was unanimously elected as President of the Board of Directors with a 5-0 vote.

Director Searles was declared President, unanimously; took his place on the dais and presented Director Maynard with a gift and proclamation for his leadership and accomplishments.

2. Election of First Vice President – conducted by the newly elected President; President Searles called for nominations of the office of First Vice President.

Director Shade nominated Director Remnet for the position of First Vice President. The nomination was seconded by President Searles. The President asked if there were any further nominations. Seeing none, President Searles closed the nominations. Director Remnet was unanimously elected as First Vice President of the Board of Directors with a 5-0 vote.

3. Election of Second Vice President – President Searles called for nominations of the office of Second Vice President.

Director Remnet nominated Director Shade for the position of Second Vice President. The nomination was seconded by President Searles. The President asked if there were any further nominations. Seeing none, President Searles closed the nominations.

Director Shade was unanimously elected as Second Vice President of the Board of Directors with a 5-0 vote.

B. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA - None

C. PUBLIC FORUM

Michelle Fieldsen raised concerns about a comparison made by General Manager Mendoza between the Rossmoor Court resurfacing project, costing \$61,000, and a similar project in Los Alamitos, costing \$183,000; felt it was an inaccurate comparison, pointing out that the Rossmoor courts had 3-5 years of useful life remaining, while the Los Alamitos Courts needed significant repairs; opined there was mismanagement because the Rossmoor project excluded key costs such as fencing, bench replacement and noise mitigation which were recommended by consultants, and other critical projects at Rossmoor Park such as playground replacements and a promised shade canopy. She talked about a lack of transparency relative to the bidding process and that cost savings options were ignored. She addressed negative impacts on the community as the rushed implementation of the pickleball courts led to parking congestion, safety concerns, potential displacement of community activities such as softball events and various deferred maintenance issues. Finally, she called for an audit of the Prop 68 funds to ensure they are being used appropriately because she believes the money was improperly used for routine maintenance and repairs for which should have been budgeted.

President Searles reminded there is a 3-minute speaking limit for Public Forum and requested there be a reminder on all future agendas.

Ms. Kaplan and Mr. Kaplan complained about Mr. Mendoza's comparison; cited key differences between Los Alamitos and Rossmoor projects including that Los Alamitos had to demolish and rebuild the entire foundation while utilizing high-quality materials whereas Rossmoor just resurfaced existing courts with inferior materials, Los Alamitos installed high-quality fencing while Rossmoor utilized existing fencing with plastic mesh covering gaps, Los Alamitos has various amenities such as new wind screens and benches with canopies while Rossmoor kept the deteriorated wind screens and replaced benches with cheap plastic ones that lacked shade, Los Alamitos courts are well spaced to avoid crowding while Rossmoor's four courts are cramped and share space with tennis courts, often resulting in players walking across active courts, and Los Alamitos' gate installment is in a convenient and unobtrusive area while Rossmoor's is not. They pointed out that when first discussed in 2022, Mr. Mendoza quoted \$500,000 to build a full facility, but Los Alamitos was able to do so with \$183,000.

D. REPORTS TO THE BOARD

1. RECREATION REPORT - RECREATION SUPERINTENDENT CHRIS ARGUETA

Recreation Superintendent Chris Argueta provided a report on past and upcoming events.

General Manager Mendoza highlighted the fact that about 90% of their programs are accomplished through partnerships and collaborations and that they are always open and looking for more.

Director Shade requested that information about the monthly blood drive be included in the future.

Discussion followed regarding attendance at the Senior Club, the monthly blood drive logistics, the need for volunteers and additional resources the Recreation department may need.

E. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. MINUTES:

a. Regular RCSD Board Meeting of December 10, 2024

2. This item was pulled from Consent for separate discussion.

3. This item was pulled from Consent for separate discussion.

President Searles pulled items E2 and E3 for separate discussion.

Motion by Director DeMarco, seconded by President Searles, to approve Item E.1, which carried 5-0, by voice vote.

EXCLUDED FROM CONSENT

2. NOVEMBER 2024 REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE REPORT AND DECEMBER 2024 WARRANTS AND CURRENT LAIF AND US BANK BALANCE THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2024

President Searles reported that General Manager Mendoza provided an itemized bill for the credit card payment to US Bank \$3,618.31.

Discussion followed on how and what should be included in future revenue reports attached to the agenda.

President Searles stated he does not doubt the accuracy or transparency of the reports, but that it was a timing issue and stated he will work to have the itemizations included as best as possible.

Discussion followed regarding articulating the item in the Consent Calendar.

Motion by President Searles, seconded by Director Shade to approve Item E.2 and carried 5-0, by voice vote.

3. 2025 RCSD BOARD COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

General Manager Mendoza provided a background and a brief report.

President Searles acknowledged there are vacancies on various committees at this time and stated that announcements of committee assignments will be made at the next board meeting.

No action was taken at this time.

F. PUBLIC HEARING – None

G. REGULAR CALENDAR

1. RESOLUTION NO. 25-01-14-01- A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ROSSMOOR COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT DESIGNATING CERTAIN DISTRICT OFFICIALS TO TRANSACT BUSINESS WITH FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS WHICH HOUSE THE DISTRICT'S INVESTMENTS, SAVINGS, OR OTHER FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

General Manager Mendoza introduced this item.

In response to Director Maynard's concerns, General Manager Mendoza clarified this is a temporary resolution.

Motion by Director Maynard, seconded by Director DeMarco, to waive full reading of and adopt RESOLUTION NO. 25-01-14-01 - A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ROSSMOOR COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT DESIGNATING CERTAIN DISTRICT OFFICIALS TO TRANSACT BUSINESS WITH FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS WHICH HOUSE THE DISTRICT'S INVESTMENTS, SAVINGS, OR OTHER FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS, and carried 5-0, by the following roll call vote:

AYES:	DeMarco, Maynard, Remnet, Shade, President Searles
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	None

H. GENERAL MANAGER ITEMS

General Manager Mendoza encouraged anyone living along the Martha Ann corridor that has footage between their fence and the freeway to contact him; stated he has been trying to contact Supervisor Do's office, OCTA, and Caltrans regarding brush, but they have all been giving him the run-around, and it has become a dire situation in terms of fire risks, so he is working with Joe Peña of Janet Nyugen's office. He reported the Rossmoor Canopy project is in plan check, they will begin ordering supplies and getting bids for installers when it gets back, and he expects it to be in ground in the next two to three month; discussed the midyear budget

review coming up on January 22, 2025; noted the next Personnel and Contracts Committee meeting is to be determined; indicated there are still ten to eleven residents refusing a parkway tree therefore General Counsel Preziosi and he are writing a letter to notify that the District has jurisdiction, there are an additional ten to fifteen homes that tree could not be planted at and he is working with Code Enforcement to rectify those issues. He reported there were no significant tree issues due to recent high winds and explained why he made a comparison of the Rossmoor courts and Los Alamitos Laurel Park courts.

Director Maynard requested that information on landscaping code compliance be sent out.

Discussion followed on issues regarding the Martha Ann corridor.

I. BOARD MEMBER ITEMS

Director DeMarco reported attending Janet Nguyen's swearing-in ceremony and speaking with the Sheriff regarding e-bikes; announced the Sheriff will come to one of the upcoming meetings; talked about the blood drive and expressed his sympathies to those affected by the L.A. fires.

Director Shade thanked Ms. Lumme for her work with the Youth Center; appreciated the public for their comments and feedback and encouraged residents to share; promoted the upcoming blood drive; thanked Los Alamitos High School for their collection drive and congratulated President Searles on his appointment as president.

Director Maynard invited President Searles to have essentially an exit interview and to go over any thoughts or concerns he may have; encouraged the residents along the Martha Ann corridor to send pictures and communicate with General Manager Mendoza; thanked the Board for their cooperation during his leadership and stated it was a privilege to serve.

Director Remnet promoted two shredding events: one for CR&R in March and the second on January 25 starting at 8:00 a.m. at the Lee Elementary School Parking Lot.

President Searles thanked the Board for their support and stated he takes the responsibility to heart; thanked the sponsors for the Winter Festival; thanked the Rossmoor community for their support to those affected by the LA fires.

President Searles announced that Council will recess to Closed Session at this time, 8:45 p.m.

J. CLOSED SESSION – 8:45 p.m.

1. APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, OR EVALUATION OF PERFORMANCE OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PER GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957(b)(1)
TITLE: GENERAL MANAGER

2. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR

Pursuant to Subdivision (a) of Section 54957.6, California Government Code
Agency Designated Representative: Joe Mendoza, General Manger
Name of Employee Organization: All Unrepresented Employees

President Searles invited public comments on Closed Session items.

There were no public comments.

President Searles reconvened to Open Session at 10:15 p.m. with all Board Members, present.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION ACTIONS

General Counsel Preziosi reported the Board gave direction to the previously formed committee consisting of Directors DeMarco and Remnet to further negotiate terms of a potential employment contract with a candidate. Additionally, General Manager Mendoza agreed to extend the terms of his employment with the District through May 9, 2025 with a written contract to be presented and ratified with the Board's approval at the next meeting.


K. GENERAL COUNSEL ITEMS - None

L. ADJOURNMENT


Director Maynard adjourned the meeting at 10:17 p.m.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ROSSMOOR COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT



Nathan Searles, President



Joe Mendoza, Secretary
Rossmoor Community Services District

APPROVED: February 11, 2025