



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

REGULAR MEETING

RUSH PARK
Auditorium
3021 Blume Drive
Rossmoor, California 90720

Tuesday, March 12, 2024

A. ORGANIZATION

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

2. ROLL CALL:

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

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Girl Scout Troop 8190

4. PRESENTATIONS:

President Maynard introduced California Highway Patrol Officer Zeferino Valdovinos who provided an update of services to Rossmoor including calls for service, types of calls, eBikes; left information about eBike safety and addressed online training and the recent enforcement campaign event.

Discussion followed regarding current CHP staffing levels, new hires, anticipated coverage for Rossmoor this year, distribution of the educational information at local schools, the status of the citizen's volunteer program, incidents at Rossmoor intersections and issues with speed.

- a. Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA) – Elizabeth Denny, Community Relations/Education Specialist

OCFA Division Chief Craig Covey referenced a social media post challenging whether the OCFA is effectively serving Rossmoor; provided a brief history of the OCFA; discussed their Automatic Vehicle Locator system for dispatch and cooperative agreements with other agencies; addressed their coverage maps and offered to respond to questions from the Board.

Members of the Board spoke favorably regarding the services provided by OCFA and thanked Chief Covey for attending the meeting.

B. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA - None

C. PUBLIC FORUM

President Maynard opened this portion of the meeting.

Michele Fieldson reported she had requested adding to the agenda a discussion to attach a list of AP warrants to each agenda; listed the importance of doing so; reported receiving a response from General Manager Mendoza stating it would not be placed on the agenda for discussion, but staff would begin attaching AP warrants as other agencies do so. She stated opposition to the “circumvention of transparency”; noted the AP warrant reports in the present agenda reflect January data and opined they should be timely, reflecting data from the previous month, allowing for community members and the Board to challenge any questionable items. She requested that the Board revisit this issue, that timely warrants be included in upcoming agendas and that if it can be done, that the Board explain why, in an upcoming meeting.

Susan Kaplan spoke about decreasing tennis use; opined this is not because a lack of interest in tennis but rather by hostile design; noted there are 25% more pickleball courts than tennis courts; believed there is a decrement in the quality of tennis and that players have been lost to other venues; referenced a comment that “pickleball will ‘ghettoize’ Rossmoor”; urged the Board not to spend money resurfacing the tennis courts; addressed errors made relative to projected pickleball costs and urged the Board to revote on this matter, reduce pickleball hours and have the lights on only during play.

There were no other public comments and President Maynard closed this portion of the meeting.

D. REPORTS TO THE BOARD

1. REPORT BY SENIOR CIVIL ENGINEER WEI ZHU, ORANGE COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS TRAFFIC INVESTIGATIONS AND STUDY

Orange County Public Works (OCPW) Senior Civil Engineer Zhu and Denise Esguerra narrated a PowerPoint presentation with details of the Orange County Public Works Traffic Investigations and Study including results of a resident survey.

Discussion followed regarding controls for the voting protocol, the importance of getting the input of the community, the number of residents who responded, engaging those who did not, confirmation that speeding is an issue, especially on Bradbury and the need for more education and enforcement.

Director DeMarco spoke about the priority of traffic issues in Rossmoor according to the survey results; addressed roundabouts and safety along Montecito; noted the County does not have a solution for the lack of parking; mentioned the development of new technology, enforcement, aversion to change and other available solutions for traffic calming besides roundabouts and thanked OCPW Senior Civil Engineer Zhu for her work.

President Maynard invited public comments on this item.

Amy Pearson spoke about witnessing speeding along Bradbury; suggested adding a "Keep Clear" sign along an area near Bradbury and Weatherby to increase visibility and the possibility of adding stop signs along Weatherby.

Director DeMarco talked about soft dips installed in L.A. County for speed calming and suggested they may be useful in Rossmoor.

Mary Holzgang expressed concerns with protected bike lanes on Montecito; opined the roundabouts would not be helpful; liked the idea of soft bumps and spoke about the need to see increased CHP presence and enforcement.

Alan Winter asked about Rossmoor's survey response rate compared to other cities and OCPW Senior Civil Engineer Zhu noted it was higher, compared to other surveys; spoke about the massive effort involved in the study and noted that Rossmoor residents are very engaged and involved.

Mr. Winter agreed with the previous speaker in terms of the need to increase enforcement.

President Maynard spoke about identifying impact zones and implementing best practices for the impact zones; stated he does not believe Rossmoor should have a four-lane highway through its residential community; addressed the need for a well-cut-out bike path to increase safety for children and thanked OCPW Senior Civil Engineer Zhu for her work.

Beth Piburn noted she lives in a huge impact zone; spoke about parking being a challenge; encouraged the Board to consider parking permits; discussed flashing stop signs as traffic-calming efforts and commented on the survey rate of response.

Director DeMarco commented on the CHP being understaffed and hiring back up; agreed with the need for increased enforcement; urged residents to call whenever they see something and mentioned paying for increased enforcement through the budget process.

Alan Winter suggested the Board work with the Los Alamitos School District and the possibility of having crossing guards provide enforcement.

There were no other public comments on this item.

2. RECREATION REPORT – CHRIS ARGUETA

Recreation Supervisor Chris Argueta presented details of the Recreation Report including past and upcoming spring and summer events and thanked event sponsors.

Discussion followed regarding Shakespeare in the Park and increasing promotion of events through social media.

E. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. MINUTES:

- a. Regular RCSD Board Meeting of February 13, 2024

2. JANUARY 2024 REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE REPORTS

Director Searles pulled Item No. 1.a for separate discussion.

Motion by Director Barke, seconded by Director DeMarco, to approve the Consent Calendar except for Item No. 1.a, which was pulled for separate discussion. Motion passed 5-0.

ITEMS EXCLUDED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR

1. MINUTES:

- a. Regular RCSD Board Meeting of February 13, 2024

Director Searles noted that Captain Patella's report was supposed to be attached to the meeting minutes for February 13, 2024 and asked that they be included with the minutes.

Motion by Director Searles, seconded by Director DeMarco, to approve Item No. 1.a, as amended, to include Captain Patella's report. Motion passed 5-0.

F. PUBLIC HEARING – None

G. REGULAR CALENDAR

General Manager Mendoza requested skipping to Item No. G.5 of the agenda as the contractor is in attendance.

President Maynard skipped to Item No. G.5 of the agenda.

The Board discussed Item No. G.1 after Item No. G.5 of the agenda.

- 1. DISCUSSION AND ACTION RE: AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT EXTENTION WITH ENRICHED FARMS & AVANTI HARVEST, INC.

General Manager Mendoza presented details of the report and addressed the scope of the contract as well as conditions and terms.

Director DeMarco commented favorably about the Farmers Market.

Discussion followed regarding the financial impacts of the Farmers Market, having the Youth Center participate during the off season, publishing a survey to determine how residents like it and the possibility of RCSD adding vendors.

Motion by Director Shade, seconded by Director Barke, to AUTHORIZE THE GENERAL MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT EXTENTION WITH ENRICHED FARMS & AVANTI HARVEST, INC. Motion passed 5-0.

2. DISCUSSION AND ACTION RE: AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH ELITE SPECIAL EVENTS TO PROVIDE SERVICES AT THE 2024 ROSSMOOR SUMMER AND WINTER FESTIVALS.

General Manager Mendoza provided a brief history of the summer and winter festivals; reported the events have grown and that RCSD staff does not have the capacity to coordinate the events and addressed the scope of the contract as well as conditions and terms.

Discussion followed regarding the annual agreement, insurance and indemnifications, complaints in relation to the beer garden and RCSD's right to terminate the contract.

General Counsel Preziosi stated he would need to research whether the Board could cancel the contract if RCSD could cancel subsequent festivals if there is a problem with the first festival.

President Maynard noted that RCSD's policy for alcohol is to address it on an event-by-event basis.

General Counsel Preziosi noted he would need to look at the policy a little deeper as this is a district-sponsored event. He added that it would behoove RCSD to look carefully at the body of its agreement to ensure that language does not give the vendor some form of vested right.

President Maynard suggested pausing this item to allow the General Counsel to review the RCSD agreement in terms alcohol service.

President Maynard skipped to Item No. G.3 of the agenda.

General Counsel Preziosi addressed General Provision 3.4 of the RCSD agreement relative to its ability to terminate the agreement or any part of the agreement, at any time, without cause.

Motion by Director DeMarco, seconded by Director Barke, to AUTHORIZE THE GENERAL MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH ELITE SPECIAL EVENTS TO PROVIDE SERVICES AT THE 2024 ROSSMOOR SUMMER AND WINTER FESTIVALS. Motion passed 5-0.

The Board skipped to Item No. G.4, as Item No. G.3 was previously discussed.

3. DISCUSSION AND ACTION RE: AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT EXTENSION WITH BREA IT.

General Manager Mendoza presented details of the report; noted the request for a 5% increase in fees effective July 1, 2024; addressed other cities serviced by Brea IT and the quality of their work and requested approval of a three-year extension to their contract.

In reply to Director Searles's inquiry, Director DeMarco reported that Brea IT was not involved in the RCSD website redesign.

Motion by Director Shade, seconded by Director Barke, to AUTHORIZE THE GENERAL MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT EXTENSION WITH BREA IT. Motion passed 5-0.

President Maynard returned to Item No. G.2 of the agenda.

4. DISCUSSION AND ACTION RE: AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT RENEWAL WITH WEST COAST ARBORISTS (WCA).

General Manager Mendoza presented details of the report; addressed the contract terms and conditions and requested approval by the Board.

Discussion followed regarding obtaining Mary's input and her support of the agreement.

Motion by Director Shade, seconded by Director Searles, to AUTHORIZE THE GENERAL MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT RENEWAL WITH WEST COAST ARBORISTS (WCA). Motion passed 4-1, with President Maynard, opposed.

President Maynard opined on their service noting he was disappointed about how WCA trimmed his parkway tree.

Director DeMarco felt that could be improved by more oversight and suggested making Mary aware of any issues.

The Board skipped to Item No. H, as Item No. G.5 was previously discussed.

5. DISCUSSION AND ACTION RE: AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A NEW CONTRACT WITH LANDCARE USA, LLC.

General Manager Mendoza presented details of the report; provided a history of the prior vendor and services; addressed the RFP process and discussed the contract terms and conditions.

Briana Lashmet, Account Manager, Landcare USA, LLC, addressed her background in the industry and the company; noted she works in the field, daily; discussed other clients such as the City of Lakewood; reported the contract is performance-based and spoke about the schedule.

General Counsel Preziosi reported this is not a fixed contract in that the parties are free to negotiate and refine the terms of the agreement throughout the life of the contract.

Discussion followed regarding the frequency of audits, the bid process, bid evaluation criteria and proximity of service.

Motion by Director DeMarco, seconded by Director Barke, to AUTHORIZE THE GENERAL MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A NEW CONTRACT WITH LANDCARE USA, LLC. Motion passed 4-1, with Director Searles, opposed.

President Maynard returned to Item No. G.1 of the agenda.

H. GENERAL MANAGER ITEMS

General Manager Mendoza addressed the bid opening and evaluation of bids for the flooring project noting bids will be reviewed by the Budget Committee and brought before the Board in April.

President Maynard reported this project affects the Parks and Facility Committee, the CIP Committee and the Budget Committee; spoke about bringing it before the entire Board and explained the Budget Committee could review it at its meeting on the 21st and bring it before the Board in April.

General Manager Mendoza continued with his report addressing an upcoming Water Safety Awareness event, the court resurfacing project, the status of the zip code matter, the Franchise Tax Board PIFC status; discussed a mainline break at Foster Park; reported that Andrew Do's Deputy has taken another position and RCSD is being reassigned to another representative.

Director Searles asked about who prepares the variance report; requested an explanation regarding medical insurance and felt it should have been part of last month's budget meeting and opined RCSD's accountant should be part of the process.

General Manager Mendoza spoke about increases in medical care and insurance; noted he will review the matter and report back to the Board.

Discussion followed regarding providing a forecast, based on history, flagging significant increases in expenses and advising the Board of significant variances.

I. BOARD MEMBER ITEMS

Director Searles thanked Director Barke for the suggestion about the Farmers Market survey and spoke about the landscaping contract.

Director DeMarco spoke about the possibility of RCSD getting reimbursed for some of its contracts similar to the street sweeping contract; mentioned standing water in Rossmoor channels; expressed appreciation to the County for the Rossmoor-specific traffic study; reported he will be pushing for a parking permit program and thanked the OCPW and OCPW Senior Civil Engineer Zhu for her work. He reiterated the request to add the contact numbers for the OC Sheriff's Department and the CHP to the RCSD website.

Director Shade spoke about the need to engage Vector Control because of standing water in the District; thanked RCSD staff for its work; agreed with the speaker who suggested the need to include warrant reports to agendas and on the website; stated she would like to see increased presence on social media promoting the new website and thanked the Girl Scouts for participating in tonight's meeting.

Director Barke agreed with adding warrants and related reports to agenda packets and the RCSD website; spoke about struggles with parking and traffic in the District; wondered about non-permanent solutions for traffic calming and possible pilot programs and felt the subject should be further considered as well as establishing a parking permit program.

President Maynard agreed with Director Barke's comments; reiterated his suggestion to consider impact zones and noted it all comes down to public safety.

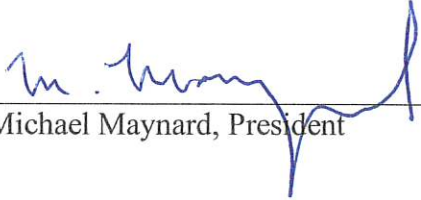
J. GENERAL COUNSEL ITEMS - None

K. ADJOURNMENT

President Maynard adjourned the meeting at 10:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ROSSMOOR COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT



Michael Maynard, President



Joe Mendoza, Secretary
Rossmoor Community Services District

APPROVED: