

MINUTES
RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING
June 7, 2023, 9:00 A.M.
Boardroom, UWCD Headquarters
1701 N. Lombard Street, Oxnard, CA 93030

COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Sheldon G. Berger, chair
Gordon Kimball, director
Daniel Naumann, director

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

Mauricio Guardado, general manager
Marissa Caringella, environmental services manager
Anthony Emmert, assistant general manager
Eva Ibarra, clerk of the committee
Josh Perez, chief human resources officer
Ed Reese, technology systems specialist
Clayton Strahan, chief park ranger
Brian Zahn, chief financial officer

OPEN SESSION 9:30 A.M.

Chair Berger called the Committee meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Three committee members were present (Director Berger, Director Kimball, and Director Naumann).

1. Public Comments
Information Item

Chair Berger asked if there were any comments or questions from the public for the Committee. None were offered.

2. Approval of Minutes
Motion

Motion to approve the minutes from February 1, 2023, Director Naumann; Second, Director Berger. Voice vote: three ayes (Berger, Kimball and Naumann). Motion carries unanimously 3/0.

3. Monthly Park and Recreation Department Report
Information Item

The Committee received and reviewed the monthly report. Additionally, the Committee received an oral report and presentation from staff, which included ongoing tasks and activities from the Lake Piru Recreation Area for the month of May 2023, along with a financial overview.

Director Berger asked about the fire ring maintenance, and if maintenance takes place at the lake? Chief Park Ranger Clayton Strahan explained that this process takes place every three years.

Director Naumann asked what the visitation rate is at this time? Chief Strahan said he will review all details of visitation in a later slide.

Director Naumann asked if improvements can be made as the District works its way through cleaning up all the debris from the winter storm disaster? Chief Strahan said no, as improving would mean additional costs that would not be reimbursable through FEMA or CAL-OES funding.

Director Berger asked if any other opportunities for service have been looked at, such as providing fishing licenses or other lake related services to benefit lake visitors? Chief Strahan said, with the General Managers approval, he would like to offer snacks to visitors that can be delivered by staff that now drive around providing ice and water, which will surely bring in more revenue.

General Manager Mauricio Guardado, Chief Strahan, and all Directors discussed water levels, Article 21 Water and the capability United Water has shown for balancing water flows and storage.

Director Berger asked if Tommy's can bring in mechanical boats? Chief Strahan said Tommy's does not want to rent out mechanical boats and explained the reason row boats are not desired, due to water conditions at the lake. Chief Strahan also mentioned revenue for boat rentals are doing well.

Director Berger asked if the idea of providing fuel for boats has been looked into. Chief Strahan said it would be challenging as it will require getting approval and meeting the providers' requirements and would not be financially beneficial for the District given the costs and associated expense for compliance.

4. Facilities Improvement Plan Review

Motion Item

The Committee received an oral report and presentation on the latest updates for the Lake Piru Facilities Improvement Plan and provided directions to staff on next steps.

Director Berger asked if eliminating camp sites would provide extra breathing room for campers between campsites, or if the space was only added community space? Chief Strahan said the staggering of sites will allow campers a better experience with less noise and less congestion of campers around their sites.

Director Naumann asked how many more sites will be added? Chief Strahan said eight more full-service sites will be added and will provide a higher quality feel with the added space. He also mentioned relocation will have no impact on revenue.

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Director Naumann asked what the timeline is for the proposed plan? Chief Strahan provided a slide with all the details and explained the plan and costs. He said it would be two to three years before completion, and it will also depend on funding and Board approval. Chief Strahan also mentioned reservation fees will be increased by 2.5% the year after construction has been completed, which creates an expected revenue increase of 5%.

The General Manager, Chief Strahan and all Directors discussed ideas and thoughts on how to obtain funding for the improvement plan.

Director Naumann asked for an update on quagga mussels at the lake? Mr. Guardado said quagga population control has had its difficulties and United continues to do their best to monitor. Chief Strahan said it has been a roller coaster, but staff does their best to control the population. Staff continue to inspect all boats and do its part in attempting to eradicate quaggas as much as possible.

Future Agenda Items

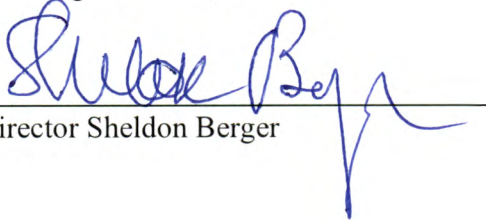
None mentioned.

ADJOURNMENT: 10:33 a.m.

Director Berger adjourned the Recreation Committee meeting at 10:33 am

I certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the UWCD Recreation Committee meeting of June 7, 2023.

ATTEST:


Director Sheldon Berger