



**EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT  
BOARD LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
AGENDA STAFF REPORT**

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| <b>DATE</b>     | April 2, 2025  |
| <b>TITLE</b>    | Approval of the Minutes for the Board Legislative Committee Meeting<br>December 11, 2024 |
| <b>DIVISION</b> | General Manager's Office   |
| <b>FROM</b>     | Debra Fuller, Recording Clerk  |

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**RECOMMENDATION**

Recommend approval of the minutes for the Board Legislative Committee Meeting of December 11, 2024.

**COMMITTEE MINUTES**

The December 11, 2024 Board Legislative Committee meeting was held in-person and via video conference pursuant to the Brown Act, as amended by AB 2449.

Members of the public can watch the meeting on the Park District's website here:

<https://ebparks.new.swagit.com/videos/322408>.

The meeting was called to order at 10:38 p.m.

**1. Roll Call**

Recording Clerk Fuller conducted a roll call. Present were the following Directors and staff:

Committee: Director Colin Coffey, Director Elizabeth Echols, and Director Dennis Waespi (Chair)

Staff: Jason Rosenberg, Debra Fuller, Max Korten, Erich Pfuehler, Lisa Baldinger, Flora Csontos, Yulie Padmore

Consultants: Abigail Smet, Energy and Environment Consulting

**2. Approval of Minutes**

**MOTION**

Director Echols moved and Director Waespi seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the September 30, 2024 and November 13, 2024 Legislative Committees. The motion carried unanimously.

### 3. **Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda**

Kelly Abreu discussed the recent meeting in San Lorenzo at which the Alameda County Flood Control District's intent to raise property taxes aimed at paying for improvements was discussed. He expressed concern that the Flood Control District falsely associated themselves with the Hayward Area Shoreline Planning Agency (HASPA).

In response to Director Waespi, Principal Planner Devin Reiff stated Alameda County Flood Control District was not a member, although staff had participated on the advisory committee.

### 4. **Action items**

#### a. **Recommendation to Board of Directors to Enter into a Contract for Services with Kountoupes Denham Carr & Reid in the Amount of \$156,000 for General Federal Advocacy Consulting Services**

Division Lead of Government and Legislative Affairs Erich Pfuehler discussed the request for proposals (RFP) and recommendation.

In response to Committee questions, Lead Pfuehler and Legislative and Policy Management Analyst Lisa Baldinger explained E2 Strategies had not submitted a proposal; the RFP was for seeking general services; three respondents; reference checks; the Park District could benefit from broader representative; fixed monthly retainer; bipartisan representation; and State Advocates extension.

Director Coffey discussed the art of advocacy; specialized focus; and Federal advocacy.

Director Echols requested additional information on the firm's expertise and staffing.

### **MOTION**

Director Coffey moved and Director Waespi seconded a motion to recommend the Board of Directors enter into a contract with Kountoupes Denham Carr & Reid, with the item not on the Consent Calendar.

### **ALTERNATIVE MOTION**

Director Echols moved to recommend the Board of Directors to enter into a contract with Kountoupes Denham Carr & Reid, allowing staff to determine where the matter was placed on the agenda. The motion died due to lack of a second.

The original motion carried 2-1, Director Echols dissenting.

### 5. **Informational Items**

#### a. **Informational Update on Local Actions Taken by Other Jurisdictions – Special Presentation**

Principal Planner Devin Reiff introduced Will Nelson, Contra Costa County Advanced Planning Manager.

Mr. Nelson provided an overview of Envision Contra Costa, an update to the General Plan, Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP) and the Zoning Ordinance for the county, including the importance of a General Plan; four themes throughout the General Plan; General Plan elements; Land Use Map; Urban Limit Line; the CAAP; CAAP strategies, General Plan and CAAP relationship; policy highlights; and outreach since 2019.

In response to Committee questions, Mr. Nelson listed the impacted communities. Director Coffey discussed potential enhancements to the waterfronts along Rodeo and Crockett. The Committee thanked Mr. Nelson and the County for its partnership.

**b. Informational Update on the Park District Grants from October 18, 2024 – November 19, 2024**

Grants Manager Katy Hornbeck reviewed grant applications and awards during the period of October 18 through November 19, 2024.

**c. Informational Update on the 2025 Sacramento Advocacy Conference**

Division Lead of Government and Legislative Erich Pfuehler and Legislative and Policy Management Analyst Lisa Baldinger presented a PowerPoint outlining the proposed schedule, goals, and agenda for the Advocacy Conference.

In response to Committee questions, Management Analyst Baldinger indicated staff could add wildfire prevention as a reason for area of connectivity in the East Bay Hills legislation and Lake Anza to watershed health; and include discussion of lake levels.

Director Coffey discussed the importance of Government Affairs determining the topics, along with the inclusion of Ward priorities.

Deputy General Manager Max Korten expressed appreciation to the Government Affairs Department and the Board for its input.

Director Echols suggested a broader approach for funding for shoreline parks. Lead Pfuehler explained the intent is to highlight certain projects along with the broader ask.

Director Waespi requested continual updates about the meetings and attendance.

**d. Informational Update on the Federal Budget and Legislation**

Division Lead of Government and Legislative Affairs Erich Pfuehler provided an update on the Federal budget and impacts on Park District projects; and legislation regarding eligibility for special districts and grasslands.

**d. Informational Update on Events and Site Visits**

Legislative Assistant Flora Csontos provided an update.

**6. Announcements**

None.

**7. Adjournment**

There being no further business, Chair Waespi declared the meeting adjourned at 11:58 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Fuller, Assistant Clerk of the Board