



**EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
AGENDA STAFF REPORT**

DATE	May 7, 2024
TITLE	Approval of the Minutes for the Board Meeting April 2, 2024
DIVISION	General Manager's Office
FROM	Yolande Barial Knight, Clerk of the Board

RECOMMENDATION

The General Manager recommends the Board of Directors approve the attached minutes for the Board Meeting of April 2, 2024.

BOARD MINUTES APRIL 2, 2024

The Closed Session Board Meeting, which was held April 2, 2024, at East Bay Regional Park District, 2950 Peralta Oaks Court, Oakland, CA 94605 was called to order at 11:06 a.m. by Board President Elizabeth Echols.

The April 2, 2024, Board of Directors meeting was video recorded and may be viewed by clicking the following link <https://ebparks.new.swagit.com/videos/296591>

I. ROLL CALL

Directors Present:

Elizabeth Echols, President
Ellen Corbett, Vice President
Olivia Sanwong, Treasurer
John Mercurio, Secretary
Colin Coffey
Dennis Waespi
Dee Rosario
Directors Remote: None
Directors Absent: None

Staff Present: Sabrina Landreth General Manager, Lynne Bourgault General Counsel

Guests: None

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON CLOSED SESSION AGENDA ITEMS

None.

III. CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

**A. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS
(Pursuant to Gov. Code Section 54956.8)**

Properties: Contra Costa County – 561-100-050 through -055, 561-420-001 and -002, 561-430-001, 561-440-001 through -004, and 561-450-001- through -031; Stenmark Drive, Richmond, CA

Agency Negotiators: Sabrina Landreth, Ken Wysocki

Negotiating Parties: Point Molate Futures, LLC

Under Negotiation: Price and terms of payment

Properties: Contra Costa County – 078-140-010-6; Marsh Creek Road, Clayton, CA

Agency Negotiators: Ken Wysocki, Becky Bremser

Negotiating Parties: BJ Ranch, LLC

Under Negotiation: Price and terms of payment

Properties: Alameda County – 704 Terminal Circle, Livermore, CA

Agency Negotiators: Becky Bremser, Terrence Cotcher

Negotiating Parties: Rive River Hangars, LLC

Under Negotiation: Price and terms of payment

B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

Significant Exposure to Litigation pursuant to Gov. Code Section 54956.9(d)(2):

[One Case]

The Board Meeting, which was held April 2, 2024, at East Bay Regional Park District, 2950 Peralta Oaks Court, Oakland, CA 94605, the Open Session of the Board Meeting was called to order at 1:23 p.m. by Board President Elizabeth Echols.

The April 2, 2024, Board of Directors meeting was video recorded and may be viewed by clicking the following link: <https://ebparks.new.swagit.com/videos/301560>

I. ROLL CALL

Directors Present:

Elizabeth Echols, President

Ellen Corbett, Vice President

Olivia Sanwong, Treasurer

John Mercurio, Secretary

Colin Coffey

Dennis Waespi

Dee Rosario

Directors Remote: None

Directors Absent: None

Staff: Sabrina Landreth, Lynne Bourgault, Dr. Ana M. Alvarez, Yolande Barial Knight, Debra Fuller, Amir Aziz, Anthony Knight, Ross Mitchell, Alonso Aguilar, Alexander Araiza, Sara Fetterly, Michael Moran, Renee Patterson, Jordan Traverso, Keti Dignan, Allyson Cook, Amanda Gallo, Ken Wysocki, Jim Devlin, Roberto Filice

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Director Waespi led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Director Rosario read the Native American land acknowledgment.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

By motion of **Director Waespi**, and seconded by **Director Rosario**, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda.

Directors Present: Colin Coffey, Ellen Corbett, Elizabeth Echols, John Mercurio, Dee Rosario, Olivia Sanwong, Dennis Waespi

Directors Against: None

Directors Absent: None

Abstain: None

V. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

None.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Renee Patterson reminded the Board about the PERS filing.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

VIII. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

A. CONSENT CALENDAR

Moved by **Director Corbett**, seconded by **Director Rosario** to approve the Consent Calendar.

FOR: Colin Coffey, Elizabeth Echols, John Mercurio, Dee Rosario, Olivia Sanwong, Dennis Waespi, Ellen Corbett

AGAINST: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

1. Approval of Park District Check Listing for the Period of January 1, 2024 through January 14, 2024
Resolution No. 2024 – 04 - 068 (attached)
2. Recommendation to Support State Legislation: AB 437, AB 637, AB 1798, AB 1889, AB 2124, AB 2285, AB 2330, AB 2440, AB 2509, AB 2682, AB 2869, ACA 16, SB 925, SB 1029, SB 1159, SB 1402
Resolution No. 2024 – 04 - 069 (attached)
3. Recommendation to Support Federal Legislation: S. 3670 and H.R. 7082, H.R. 6659, H.R. 6773, H.R. 6841, H.R. 6882 and H.R. 6925
Resolution No. 2024 – 04 - 070 (attached)
4. Authorization to Execute Amended and Restated License Agreement with UC Berkeley Seismology Lab to Extend License Term and Allow Installation of Additional Seismic Station CEQA Determination: Exempt per 14 Cal Code Regs §15301, §15304, §15061(b)(3)
Resolution No. 2024 – 04 - 071 (attached)
5. Authorization to Grant a 5-Year License Agreement to Alameda County Public Works Agency for the Planting and Maintenance of Eighteen Trees as Mitigation for Impacts of Emergency Embankment Repairs: Shadow Cliffs Regional Recreation Area
CEQA Determination: Exempt per 14 Cal Code Regs §15301, §15304, §15061(b)(3)

Resolution No. 2024 – 04 - 072 (attached)

6. Authorization to Execute a Professional Services Contract with Rangeland Conservation Science in the Amount of \$65,500 for Long-Term Native Grassland Monitoring
Resolution No. 2024 – 04 - 073 (attached)
7. Authorization to Execute an Amendment to the Two-Year Agreement with Concern to add the First Responder Program Services to the Employee Assistance Program in the Amount of \$25,000
Resolution No. 2024 – 04 - 074 (attached)
8. Authorization to apply for grant funds from the US Fish and Wildlife Service's Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program
Resolution No. 2024 – 04 - 075 (attached)

IX. GENERAL MANAGER'S OFFICE

Legislative and Policy Management Analyst Lisa Baldinger and Chief of Planning, Trails and GIS Brian Holt presented a PowerPoint outlining AB 2091; engagement and support; case study examples; and recommendation.

In response Director Rosario, Legislative and Policy Management Analyst Lisa Baldinger explained that AB 2091 allowed for streamlining of opening of trails but Staff continued to analyze and operate under Ordinance 38 Guidelines. Director Mercurio discussed frustration with inaccessible trails and parks. He mentioned support of the land preservationist supporters. In response to Director Coffey, Baldinger stated no institutional opposition had been filed. In response to Director Sanwong, Holt explained the land use analysis, considerations for Tyler Ranch and the Robertson Properties; Pleasanton Ridge and land acquisition restoration process; and efforts to restore lands. He explained that AB 2091 would allow focus on projects in a more efficient manner. Director Waespi indicated support for the proposal due to staff's internal processes for review and analysis. President Echols thanked Staff and Assemblymember Grayson and the Board for its assistance.

Comment from the Public: Norm La Force, Sierra Club, indicated the Sierra Club's opposition to AB 2091. He stated the examples provided were not applicable and suggested the use of initial studies and mitigated negative declarations.

Moved by **Director Mercurio**, seconded by **Director Rosario**

FOR: Colin Coffey, Elizabeth Echols, John Mercurio, Dee Rosario, Olivia Sanwong,
Dennis Waespi, Ellen Corbett

AGAINST: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

- A. Recommendation to Sponsor AB 2091 (Grayson D-Concord) existing Trails for Nature Access
Resolution No. 2024 – 04 - 076 (attached)

X. ACQUISITION, STEWARDSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

A. Project Update on the Replace Environmental Education Center (EEC) Project at Tilden Nature Area: Tilden Regional Park

Chief of Design and Construction Ren Bates, District Architect Jim Devlin and Interpretive Recreational Services Regional Manager Moran presented a PowerPoint outlining the project goals; proposed replacement; project location; update on progress and next steps; Tilden Nature Area Context; interpretative planning including orientation plan, reception plan, parkland plan, Wildcat Creek plan, reflection plan, and Woodland plan; architecture context and goals; Branch Scheme including existing conditions, architectural design, landscape design, and location of stage and bridge; and next steps.

Director Waespi expressed excitement for the proposal and suggested the addition of sky lights. In response to Director Corbett, Interpretive Recreational Services Regional Manager Moran explained the need to design exhibits to appeal to multi-generational guests and be all inclusive. District Architect Jim Devlin discussed development over and above ADA requirements. Director Mercurio stated he was impressed with the development. District Architect Jim Devlin stated the giant historic relief map would be part of the exhibit. Interpretive Recreational Services Regional Manager Moran discussed the use of docents. Director Mercurio suggested the use of stained glass. In response to Director Sanwong, District Architect Jim Devlin discussed participation in via Zoom meetings and means of communicating with the public. Director Sanwong suggested compiling the various means of outreach for use in the fundraising phase. She suggested inclusion of STEM Programming for potential corporate and UC Berkeley donations. She confirmed the new visitor center was approximately the same size as the existing center and suggested the messaging include that it was a top site in the Bay Area for people to visit when trying to connect with nature.

Director Coffey discussed the Tilden Nature Area Context and exclusion of Jewel Lake. District Architect Jim Devlin stated Jewel Lake would be included as part of the history and explained efforts to be able to modify the exhibits. Chief of Design and Construction Ren Bates explained that Jewel Lake was one feature of Wildcat Creek Watershed, which was dynamic, therefore, flexibility, changeability, and adaptability was built into the project.

Director Rosario recommended avoiding flat roofs. Devlin confirmed that the new bridge would be for pedestrian access.

President Echols concurred with avoiding flat roofs. She expressed her appreciation for consideration of accessibility from all angles, include written English and Spanish material and audio in other languages. Interpretive Recreational Services Regional Manager Moran discussed the inclusion of indigenous history with input of the community. Echols confirmed that the lawn would remain the same size. She stated it was important to appreciate and acknowledge the origin of the visitors. She suggested not creating exhibits strictly for STEM funding.

Director Coffey suggested inclusion of adult changing tables.

XI. GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

General Manager Sabrina Landreth and Assistant General Manager of Public Affairs Susan Shiu introduced Chief Communications Officer Jordan Traverso.

Chief Communications Officer Jordan Traverso discussed her background and expressed her enthusiasm for the new position.

XII. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM CLOSED SESSION

None.

XIII. BOARD COMMENTS

Director Rosario reported on meetings attended. Director Rosario:

- Attended the Operations Committee on March 20;
- Attended the Regional Parks Women's Conference on March 20;
- Attended the Annual Alameda County Special Districts event on March 21;
- Attended the Lake Temescal History Walk on March 24;
- Attended the PAC on March 25;
- Attended the Finance Committee Meeting on March 27;
- Attended the Board Meeting on April 2; and

Rosario requested adjourning in honor of Carol Williams, former Board Member.

Director Mercurio reported on meetings attended. Director Mercurio:

- Attended the Board Meeting on March 5;
- Lunched with constituent Dave Hammond from the Alamo on March 6;
- Attended a property tour of Borel on March 6;
- Attended the Contra Costa Mayor's Conference on March 7;
- Attended the Closed Session on March 11;
- Attended All Abilities Day with Director Coffey on March 26;
- Attended the Finance Committee Meeting on March 27;
- Met with Govt. Relations to discuss promotion and attention to the American Discovery Trail on March 28.

Director Corbett reported on meetings attended. Director Corbett:

- Attended the Regional Parks Women's Conference on March 20;
- Attended the Annual Alameda County Special Districts event on March 21;
- Met with Staff to discuss upcoming projects on March 27.

Director Waespi reported on meetings attended. Director Waespi:

- Attended and presented at the Retirees Annual Luncheon on March 20;
- Attended the HARD Foundation Meeting on March 20;
- Attended the HASPA Meeting on March 21;
- Attended the Annual Alameda County Special Districts event on March 21;
- Met with Executive Staff, Police Officers, and pilots at the helicopter hanger on March 22.

Director Sanwong reported on meetings attended. Director Sanwong:

- Attended the Operations Committee Meeting on March 20;
- Attended the Finance Committee Meeting on March 27; and
- Attended a Zoom Meeting with Del Valle neighbors and Alameda County Supervisor Halbert and Staff on March 27.

Director Coffey reported on meetings attended. Director Coffey:

- Attended the Mokelumne Pedestrian and Bike Bridge Dedication in Brentwood on March 20;
- Attended the premier of the Vision of Diablo Range movie on March 20;

- Attended Congressman DeSaulnier's Annual Birthday event in Concord on March 23;
- Attended All Abilities Day on March 26;
- Toured Jersey Island on March 26;
- Attended the Marsh Creek Watershed Council Meeting on March 26;
- Attended the event for Representative Swalwell in Walnut Creek on March 27;
- Represented the Park District at the Investiture Ceremony of Mojdeh Mehdizadeh, the 10th Chancellor of Contra Costa Community College District on March 28.

President Echols reported on meetings attended. President Echols:

- Met with the Acquisition, Stewardship and Development Team and General Manager on March 26; and
- Attended the Pre-Board meeting on March 29.

Director Rosario discussed the contributions and honored Former Board Member Carol Williams.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

President Echols adjourned the meeting at 3:33 p.m. in honor of Carol Williams.