



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

DATE	March 5, 2024
TITLE	Approval of the Minutes for the Board Meeting March 5, 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 March 5, 2024.

BOARD MINUTES MARCH 5, 2024

The Board Meeting, which was held March 5, 2024, at East Bay Regional Park District, 2950 Peralta Oaks Court, Oakland, CA 94605 called the Open Session of the Board Meeting to order at 1:08 p.m. by Board President Elizabeth Echols.

The March 5, 2024, the Board of Directors meeting was video recorded and may be viewed by clicking the following link <https://ebparks.new.swagit.com/videos/299076>

I. ROLL CALL

Directors Present:

Elizabeth Echols, President

John Mercurio, Secretary

Olivia Sanwong, Treasurer

Colin Coffey

Dennis Waespi

Dee Rosario

Directors Remote: Ellen Corbett, Vice President (arrived at 1:32 p.m.)

Staff Present: Sabrina Landreth, Lynne Bourgault, Dr. Ana M. Alvarez, Debra Fuller, Yulie Padmore, Ren Bates, Scott Stoller, Katy Hornbeck, Jim Devlin, Chris Barton, Mike Moran, Sara Fetterly, Sandi Funke, Roberto Filice, Ross Mitchell, Lisa Goorjian, Pete DeQuincy, Chris Spartan, Susan Shiu, Allyson Cook

Guests: None

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Director Mercurio led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Director Coffey read the Native American land acknowledgment.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

By motion of Director Waespi, and seconded by Director Rosario, the Board voted 6-0, to approve the agenda.

Directors Present: Colin Coffey, Elizabeth Echols, John Mercurio, Dee Rosario, Olivia Sanwong, Dennis Waespi
Directors Against: None
Directors Absent: Ellen Corbett
Abstain: None

V. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Renee Patterson reminded the Board about the PERS filing.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

VIII. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

A. CONSENT CALENDAR

Director Waespi discussed Item 5 indicating he was pleased to be working with the School District. Chief of Design and Construction, Ren Bates stated proposals on the cost to bring Contra Loma back online were scheduled to be considered at the May Executive Committee meeting. He reminded the Board of the 2021 study indicating the need to remove sand and of the necessary maintenance for upgrades for Code and ADA compliance. He stated staff was working with consultants to come up with options for minimal repairs and operations on necessary operational improvements.

In response to Director Coffey, Lifeguard Services Manager, Pete DeQuincy discussed the aquatic recreation and water safety at Antioch High and Deer Valley High pools that would normally occur at Contra Loma. Coffey indicated support for training youth and then recruiting those youth for the Districts' purpose.

Director Waespi indicated support for the proposed grant under Item 12 and asked the number of Fire Safe Councils within the District's boundaries and if they had received grants. Grants Manager, Katy Hornbeck indicated she would provide that information to the Board.

President Echols acknowledged the funding to be received in items on the Consent Calendar.

Moved by Director Mercurio, seconded by Director Rosario, the Board voted 6-0, to approve the Consent Calendar.

FOR: Colin Coffey, Elizabeth Echols, John Mercurio, Dee Rosario, Olivia Sanwong, Dennis Waespi
AGAINST: None
ABSENT: Ellen Corbett
ABSTAIN: None

- I. Approval of Park District Check Listing for the Period of November 27, 2023 to December 19, 2023
Resolution No. 2024 – 03 - 041 (attached)

2. Approval of the Minutes for the Board Meetings of January 16, 2024 and February 5, 2024
3. Approve and Adopt an Amendment to the East Bay Regional Park District Salary Schedule to Implement Approved Wage Adjustments for Police Association Classifications and for Salary Adjustments for Certain Public Safety Unrepresented Classifications
Resolution No. 2024 – 03 - 042 (attached)
4. Authorization to Award and Execute a Professional Services Contract for \$89,830 with ZFA Structural Engineers for the Redesign Tidegates Project: Radke Martinez Regional Shoreline
CEQA Determination: Exempt per 14 Cal Code Regs §15262
Resolution No. 2024 – 03 - 043 (attached)
5. Authorization to Enter into Cooperative Agreement with Antioch Unified School District for Educational and Recreational Aquatic Services
Resolution No. 2024 – 03 - 044 (attached)
6. Authorization to Partner with San Francisco Estuary Institute for the Restore Wildcat Creek at Brook Road Project
CEQA Determination: Exempt per 14 Cal Code Regs §15301, §15307, §15308, §15061(b)(3)
Resolution No. 2024 – 03 - 045 (attached)
7. Authorization to Appropriate and Transfer \$75,000 of Measure FF Funds into Enhance Pallid Manzanita Habitat Project: Sobrante Ridge Regional Park
Resolution No. 2024 – 03 - 046 (attached)
8. Authorization to Appropriate and Transfer \$50,000 of Measure FF Funds into Restore Riparian Habitats Project: Wildcat Canyon Regional Park
Resolution No. 2024 – 03 - 047 (attached)
9. Authorization to Appropriate and Transfer \$220,000 of Measure FF Funds into Assess Redwoods and Management Plan Project: Aurelia Reinhardt Redwood Regional Park and Roberts Regional Recreation Area
Resolution No. 2024 – 03 - 048 (attached)
10. Authorization to Appropriate and Transfer \$200,000 of Measure FF Funds into Restore Native Grasslands Project: Miller/Knox Regional Shoreline
Resolution No. 2024 – 03 - 049 (attached)
11. Authorization to Apply for Grant Funds from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's Watershed Grants Program for the United States Army Corp of Engineers' Delta Levees and Island Project in the Amount of \$750,000
Resolution No. 2024 – 03 - 050 (attached)
12. Authorization to Apply for Grant Funds from California Fire Safe Council's State Fire Capacity Grant Program for Fuels Management in Wildcat Canyon Regional Park in an Amount up to \$100,000
Resolution No. 2024 – 03 - 051 (attached)

13. Authorization to Purchase One 3000-Gallon Portable Restroom Vacuum Tank Truck in the Total Amount of \$290,000 from West-Mark as an Addition to the Fleet
Resolution No. 2024 – 03 - 052 (attached)

Director Corbett arrived at the meeting remotely at 1:32 p.m. and confirmed there were no individuals over 18 years of age in the room where she was participating.

IX. ACQUISITION, STEWARDSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

- A. Authorization to Award Professional Services Contract for \$630,000 with WRT, LLC for the Restoration and Public Access Planning for the North Basin Strip: McLaughlin Eastshore State Park Regional Shoreline
CEQA Determination: Exempt per 14 Cal Code Regs §15262

Restoration Project Manager Chris Barton summarized the proposed project including build out of Eastshore State Park; project location; Risk Assessment and Adaptation Prioritization Plan (RAAPP), grant funding; and the team for design and construction.

Civil Engineer Scott Stoller presented a PowerPoint outlining the project area; project timeline; MESP General Plan guidance; RAAPP; grant award and consultant request for proposals; project purpose including technical studies and preliminary design; tentative public review process; use and source of funds; and recommendation. In response to Director Rosario, Stoller explained the means of determining sea level rise and construction debris requiring capping. Chief of Design and Construction Ren Bates clarified that there was not a specific agreement with the State regarding cap exposure or damage, only an operating and maintenance and development agreement. Director Rosario expressed the need to ensure avoiding the experience with Point Isabel. Director Mercurio encouraged design of the Bay Trail to accommodate heavy trail use and suggested 12–15-foot width. Director Sanwong confirmed that the property was owned by the State of California; that State Parks would review and approve the project; and that Measure AA funding, a 2016 voter approved parcel tax, would help fund the project. Spartan explained the Park District’s undivided interest and rights pursuant to the operating agreement with State Parks. Director Waespi asked if the agreement defined which entity would pay for studies and improvements and expressed concern with potential findings and whether the Board would have a choice to abort the project. Stoller stated staff was cognizant of landfill issues and indicated the intent to limit excavation. He explained that the technical studies would consider the need for additional reconnaissance at the landfill. General Manager Landreth discussed staff considerations of obligations of lands that the District did not own, only operated. Landreth explained the costs covered by the City of Alameda for Crown Beach. Civil Engineer Stoller stated the invasive species was weedy material.

Director Corbett indicated support for the proposed project. Director Sanwong discussed the history of the San Francisco Bay and shoreline and Save the Bay Movement in the 1970s. She recommended contacting the San Francisco Restoration Authority for insight on working with landfills and landfill caps. Bates clarified that the site was not a landfill, rather filled by debris.

Moved by Director Echols, seconded by Director Coffey

FOR: Colin Coffey, Elizabeth Echols, John Mercurio, Dee Rosario, Olivia Sanwong, Dennis Waespi, Ellen Corbett
AGAINST: None

ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None
REMOTE: Ellen Corbett

Authorization to Award a Professional Services Contract for \$630,000 with WRT, LLC for the Restoration and Public Access Planning for the North Basin Strip: McLaughlin Eastshore State Park Regional Shoreline

CEQA Determination: Exempt per 14 Cal Code Regs §15262

Resolution No. 2024 – 03 - 053 (attached)

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

Chief of Design and Construction Bates provided an update on the project including public outreach meetings. District Architect Jim Devlin and Interpretive Recreational Services Regional Manager Moran presented a PowerPoint including project goals; proposed replacement; project location; update on progress and next steps; interpretative planning; Schemes 1: Eddy, Scheme 2: Branch, and Scheme 3: Cluster; landscape and plantings; next steps; and staff recommendation.

President Echols encouraged highlighting Native American history and ensuring language accessibility. Moran explained language accessibility options. President Echols expressed her appreciation for the presentation and project.

President Echols left the meeting at 2:39 p.m.

Director Rosario suggested options for hearing impaired and warned about maintenance on bridges. He expressed excitement about the project and appreciated the work of staff. Director Coffey stated he attended the two community forums. He discussed the disconnect between the ECC and Little Farm. Director Coffey discussed Tunnel Top and the Nature Center and questioned the ability to create a grand entrance with volume. Devlin discussed the idea for gabled roof and plate height to increase the feeling of spaciousness. Moran explained the proposed reflection space. In response to Director Sanwong, Bates requested Board input on the preferred scheme and explained the next steps in the process. In response to Director Sanwong, Devlin explained the location of the existing service yard and proposed relocation and staff parking in the proposed plans. Director Sanwong agreed that pedestrian safety was important and indicated support with staff's recommendation. She suggested community feedback be documented for use in obtaining grant funds and fundraising. She discussed the love of Tilden across the East Bay and San Francisco area and suggested capturing the insight from social media. In response to Director Corbett; Devlin, Bates and Moran discussed public transportation to the facility; regional access as a Board policy, rather than part of the project; and bus transportation through the Parks Express Program. Corbett indicated support and excitement for the project. About 78,000 people visited ECC and Little Farm annually. In response to Director Waespi, Devlin discussed attendance at community meetings. Waespi expressed gratitude for retaining the residence and suggested an interpretative panel. He suggested the compost bin as an interpretative tool; a catch line regarding farming; the branch architectural design; use of windows and skylights; retaining the lawn; and expanding the Redwood Forest.

Director Mercurio stated he was impressed with the creativity; liked the discrete rooms, concept of discovery, and reflection space. He suggested consideration of means to address noise of large groups; use of QR codes, with changing information; and including the history of Bay Area from 10,000 years ago.

X. GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

None.

XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM CLOSED SESSION

None.

XII. BOARD COMMENTS

Director Coffey reported on meetings attended. Director Coffey:

- Attended the Operations Committee as Alternate for Director Rosario on February 21;
- Met with General Manager on February 22;
- Attended the 90th Anniversary outing on the George Miller Trail February 23;
- Attended the Black History Walk at Thurgood Marshall Regional Park on February 25;
- Attended the John Muir Land Trust Kickoff on February 28;
- Attended the second EEC Tilden public forum on February 28;
- Attended the Hercules Democratic Club on February 29; and
- Attended the Trails Workshop on March 1.

Director Sanwong reported on meetings attended. Director Sanwong:

- Attended the Operations Committee on February 21;
- Met with Dublin City Councilmember on February 23;
- Attended the Finance Committee on February 28;
- Met with General Manager on February 29;
- Went to Del Valle to meet with ranchers on February 29; and
- Attended the Trails Study Session on March 1.

Director Waespi indicated he would report at the next meeting.

Director Corbett indicated she would report at the next meeting.

Director Rosario reported on meetings attended. Director Rosario:

- Attended the Indigenous Co-Stewardship of Public Lands Conference in Rohnert Park;
- Attended the Youth Job Fair at Temescal Beach House on February 24;
- Met with General Manager on February 27; and
- Attended the Finance Committee meeting on February 28.

Director Mercurio reported on meetings attended. Director Mercurio:

- Attended the Board Meeting on February 20;
- Attended the Finance Committee on February 28;
- Toured Dutch Slough in Oakley on February 29;
- Attended the Black History Walk at Thurgood Marshall Regional Park on February 25; and
- Attended the Trails Study Session on March 1.

Director Waespi proposed adjourning the meeting in memory of Douglas Lane.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Director Mercurio adjourned the meeting at 3:38 p.m. in honor of Douglas Lane.