

# ORANGEVALE RECREATION & PARK DISTRICT

## Minutes of Meeting of Board of Directors November 21, 2024

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Orangevale Recreation and Park District was held on November 21, 2024 at the District Office. Director Stickney called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Directors present: Stickney, Meraz, Brunberg  
Directors absent: Montes, Presinal  
Staff present: Barry Ross, Interim District Administrator  
Jennifer Von Aesch, Finance/HR Superintendent  
Horacio Oropeza, Park Superintendent  
Jason Bain, Recreation Supervisor II  
Melyssa Woodford, Admin. Services Supervisor

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was conducted.

Interim Admin Ross shared the loss of a valuable team member, Bruce Edwards, who passed away on Sunday, November 17<sup>th</sup>. He worked for the District for over sixteen years as a highly skilled Park Maintenance Worker. He held several certifications during his years of employment and took pride in his work. OVParks acknowledges the valuable contributions he made in keeping our parks clean, safe, and beautiful for the community to enjoy. Our sincere condolences to Bruce's family, friends, disc golf community, and co-workers.

A moment of silence was held in honor of Bruce Edwards.

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOTION #1**

On a motion by Director Brunberg, seconded by Director Stickney, the agenda was approved by a vote of 3-0-0 with Directors Stickney, Brunberg, and Meraz, voting Aye. There were no Nays or Abstentions. Directors Montes and Presinal were absent.

5. **PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

No one wished to address the Board during public discussion.

6. **MINUTES**

a) Approval of Minutes of October 17, 2024, 2024 (pg 1-6): To be moved to the agenda for December BOD meeting.

7. **CORRESPONDENCE**

a) Orangevale View Advertisements/Photos of Interest (pg. 7-9): Orangevale Community Fright Night photos were shared.

**8. CONSENT  
CALENDAR**

**MOTION #3**

- b) On a motion by Director Brunberg, seconded by Director Stickney, the consent calendar was approved by a vote of 3-0-0 with Directors Stickney, Brunberg, and Meraz voting Aye. There were no Nays or Abstentions. Directors Montes and Presinal were absent.

**8.1. CONSENT  
MATTERS  
GENERAL FUND**

- a) Ratification of Claims for October 2024 (pg 10)  
b) Budget Status Report for October 2024 (pg 11-13)  
c) Revenue Report for October 2024 (pg 14)

**8.2. OLLAD  
CONSENT  
MATTERS**

- a) Ratification of Claims for October 2024 (pg 15-16)  
b) Budget Status Report for October 2024 (pg 17-18)

**8.3. KENNETH GROVE  
CONSENT  
MATTERS**

- a) Ratification of Claims for October 2024 (pg 19)  
b) Budget Status Report for October 2024 (pg 20)

**9. NON-CONSENT  
MATTERS  
GENERAL FUND**

**MOTION #4**

- a) Ratification of Claims for October 2024 (pg. 21)  
On a motion by Director Brunberg, seconded by Director Meraz, the Non-Consent Ratification of Claims for October 2024 was approved by a vote of 3-0-0 with Directors Stickney, Meraz, and Brunberg, voting Aye. There were no Nays. Directors Montes and Presinal were absent.

**10. STANDING  
COMMITTEE  
REPORTS**

- a) Administration and Finance: Nov. 7, 2024 Meeting Recap (pg. 22-23) Director Stickney advised that Interim Admin Foell is researching the cell tower contract options to consider and report back to the Board of Directors at a Regular Board meeting.

Proposition 32, which would have raised the minimum wage immediately to \$17 and to \$18 in January 2025 for part-time staff did not pass. Minimum wage is still increasing by .50 on January 1, 2025, due to a built-in annual inflation clause in the current California minimum wages laws.

- b) Maintenance and Operation: No report.
- c) Recreation Committee: Nov. 7, 2024 Meeting Recap (pg. 24) Supervisor II Bain advised that a 5% fee increase for athletic fields and special events is recommended by the committee. This topic is included in this BOD meeting agenda for BOD approval.
- d) Personnel & Policy: No report.
- e) Government: No report.
- f) Planning Committee: October 29, 2024 Meeting Recap (pg. 25-27): Discussion surrounding reopening the walking easement

positioned between two homes in Coyote Court which was built for the neighborhood to access Sundance Park. The Planning Committee recommendation is as follows: Option 2: Remove the locks from the gates. Remove the Coyote Court side gate and fencing and clean easement for safety and visibility. Allow 24-hour access through the easement. Provide no trail improvement on the Sundance Natural Area side that leads to the Arcade-Cripple Creek Trail. The gate between the Sundance Natural Area and the easement to Coyote Court to remain closed with a sign stating, "This gate is to be kept closed at all times. No Loitering in the easement." This topic is included in this agenda for BOD approval.

g) Trails Committee: Trails Committee: No report.

h) Ad Hoc: No report.

## 11. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

a) Monthly Activity Report – October 2024 (pg 28-32):

Interim Admin Ross expressed appreciation to Supervisor II Bain and Coordinator Vickers for attending the Small Business Workshop and Supervisor II Bain for attending the Business Watch Meeting. The business watch is pertinent to the Orangevale Community working together to combat homelessness and crime issues. Supervisor II Bain shared that the Small Business Workshop provided insight into obtaining database information for marketing in the area.

Park Supt. Oropeza advised of routine maintenance and some branches down and necessary pruning conducted. Park Maintenance Foreman Fuhlrodt and Park Staff Lucas Lilly assisted with the teardown and removal of the OCP playground equipment for the new equipment installation. Park Supt. Oropeza assisted with the tractor work for the project.

In addition, Park Supt. Oropeza reported and the Sacramento Sheriff issued a 602, notice of no trespass, to an individual causing ongoing issues in the Sundance Park Trail. He has reported several homeless issues throughout the Sundance Park Trail to the Sheriff's Department and they have responded and removed encampments.

E-Bikes have been an ongoing issue throughout the parks. Several complaints have been received from community members regarding the speed and lack of respect displayed by the E-Bike riders. Park Supt. Oropeza has been researching the Sacramento County ordinances. They are included in a special ordinance which specifies E-Bikes on trails must not exceed 15 mph if bikes are used on the trails. The E-Bike riders are going off trails and vandalizing trail and field areas by creating ramps and damaging property. The ordinance would enable law enforcement to assess and cite individuals and potentially confiscate their e-bike. Park Supt. Oropeza to complete

research and provide further information at the December BOD Meeting to determine next steps.

Recreation Supervisor II Bain advised that October revenue was slightly down from the projections. November revenue is stable. Kidz Korner report will be provided at the December BOD Meeting. Director Stickney appreciated the charts and graphs provided by Supervisor II Bain.

**12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- a. OCCP Parking Lot Project/Pathways & Trails Project Update (verbal): Park Supt. Oropeza advised that the project is complete with some loose areas of DG to be addressed. He has reached out to Peter Larimer from MTW and met with Baldoni Construction who will provide a report. The contractor mentioned that construction compaction can be corrected, however vandalism from E-Bikes is not covered. Park Supt. Oropeza will be filing a report with the Sacramento Sheriff's Department with pictures and video taken of the individuals on E-Bikes causing the damage and vandalism on OVparks property. The pictures and video will also be brought to the area schools to potentially identify the individuals and contact the parents. Director Stickney requested that the dead trees and cyclone fencing on the new property be removed.
- b. OCCP HVAC Project Update (verbal): Park Supt. Oropeza advised that the HVAC units have been installed and awaiting Sacramento County inspection. Digital thermostats have been installed with remote control accessibility.

Michel Construction, currently renting the land area behind the new property, took out the power lines to Building 2 while loading a backhoe onto a trailer. The electrician has been out to the site to provide a quote. Upon completion of the electrical, Sacramento County provide an inspection and SMUD will come to the property to drop new lines. The cost will be covered by Michel Construction. The new HVAC unit has been installed at Building 2 and will be tested and inspected once power has been restored to the building.

- c. OCP Playground Update (verbal): The new small playground at the Orangevale Community Park has been completed. Audit paperwork of approval has been received.
- d. Orange Vale Water Company Exploration of Locating Well Site at Orangevale Community Center Park (pg 33): Orange Vale Water Company has indicated they are no longer interested in pursuing a well site at OCCP due to the proximity of another well they are constructing. Director Stickney mentioned an existing test well site, previous drilled by the Orange Vale Water Company fifteen to twenty years ago, near the gravel parking lot

at the Orangevale Community Park on Oak Avenue. Park Supt. Oropeza to advise Orange Vale Water Company of this site to consider as an option. The corner OVparks property near Rollingwood YMCA may also be a potential option for a well site to consider.

### 13. NEW BUSINESS

- a) Public Hearing: Approval of the Recommendation from the Planning Committee to Re-Open the Sundance Natural Area Easement at Coyote Court (pg. 34-36): Interim Admin Ross advised that three community members requested to speak on this subject. He advised that twelve emails were received from members of the Sundance Community on this topic. Five of the emails indicated preference for Option 1. Two residents requested Option 4. Five residents requested access be provided.

Community members Tom and Linda King spoke on this topic. They reviewed the letter distributed and indicated the perception that Option 2 would include no loitering signage placed on the gate. They mentioned that they prefer Option 4, which includes a keypad access point.

Community member Lily Brantley went door to door to nearly 200 homes within the community to obtain preferences for the gate access. Most residents indicated they would like it to remain the same. She requested the Board look back at the emails sent in from the previous meeting for additional input on this topic. She was hoping to receive more email response from the community. She prefers Option 1 which would keep the gates in place with a padlock key access for the area residents. She also stated preference to leaving both existing fences and gates at Sundance Park and Coyote Court in place rather than removing the Coyote Court fence and gate.

Scott Crowther, homeowner adjacent to the creek in Sundance Park for approximately five and a half years, advised of the homeless activity within the park. He is supportive of Option 1 which would keep the current gates and locks which have existed since 1991, and provide keys to any resident who would like one. He is very concerned that opening up the access will increase car and home break in activity and increase in littering.

Interim Admin Ross clarified that Option 2 which would remove the locks from the gates. Remove the Coyote Court side gate and fencing and clean area for safety and visibility. Allow 24-hour access through the easement. Provide no trail improvement on the Sundance Natural Area side that leads to the Arcade-Cripple Creek Trail. The gate between the Sundance Natural Area and the easement to Coyote Court to remain closed with a sign stating, "This gate is to be kept closed at all times. No loitering in the easement." Interim Admin Ross voiced that one of the biggest

improvements in recreation and parks has been to establish more walking trails. Access to walking trails is a significant selling point in many communities. He understands the safety concerns regarding crime and homelessness in the area.

Park Supt. Oropeza advised that the access will need to be improved for safety. He is concerned regarding the homeless issue throughout the Sundance Park Trail but is supportive all of the community should have access to that area.

Option 2, removing the locks from the existing gates and removing the gate at Coyote Court has been recommended by the Planning Committee. Signage would be placed on the Coyote Court access point. Easement area would be cleaned up and maintained. A motion can be changed if deemed necessary and is implemented on a trial basis. This topic to be revisited in four months to determine if any changes need to be made. The District Administrator and the Park Maintenance Supt. Oropeza will facilitate this action and develop a maintenance schedule. The Maintenance Committee will meet regarding this area around February 1, 2025. Anthony Brantley, resident adjacent to the easement, is willing to provide maintenance to the area. Park Supt. Oropeza advised that a volunteer waiver agreement releasing liability to OVparks would need to be established or decomposed granite can be brought in to cover the easement area to minimize necessary maintenance.

**MOTION #2**

On a motion by Director Brunberg, seconded by Director Stickney, the Option 2, removing the locks from the gates and removing the Coyote Court side gate and fencing, and no loitering signage on the Coyote Court side, was approved by a vote of 3-0-0 with Directors Stickney, Brunberg, and Meraz voting Aye. There were no Nays or Abstentions. Directors Montes and Presinal were absent.

- b) Approval of Resolution 24-11-734, Resolution Establishing a Schedule of Fees for Use of Park and Recreational Facilities, Programs, and Services for 2025 (pg. 37-45)

Supervisor Bain advised that the Recreation Committee recommended a 5% increase in the fees for Special Events and Athletic Field Rentals. All other facility fees will remain the same for 2025. Building rentals have increased to include rentals for full facility rentals. The new rates for Special Events and Athletic Field Rentals will go into effect January 1, 2025.

**MOTION #5**

On a motion by Director Brunberg, seconded by Director Stickney, the Resolution 24-11-734, Resolution Establishing a Schedule of Fees for Use of Park and Recreational Facilities, Programs, and Services for 2025, was approved by a vote of

3-0-0 with Directors Stickney, Brunberg, and Meraz voting Aye. There were no Nays or Abstentions. Directors Montes and Presinal were absent.

**MOTION #6**

- c) Approval of Agreement for Services with Barry Ross in an amount not to exceed \$10,000 (pg. 46-54)  
On a motion by Director Brunberg, seconded by Director Stickney, the Agreement for Services with Barry Ross in an amount not to exceed \$10,000, with change of the agreement end date to November 30, 2025, was approved by a vote of 3-0-0 with Directors Stickney, Brunberg, and Meraz voting Aye. There were no Nays or Abstentions. Directors Montes and Presinal were absent.

- d) Approval of Quote from ABI Attachments for Purchase of the TR3 Rake Horse Arena Implement (pg. 55-56) (verbal)  
Park Supt. Oropeza spoke with equestrian contacts referred by Liz Staffner, from one of the equestrian groups, to discuss the best attachment options. He also spoke to Kim Cristoni of the Sierra Foothills Horseman's Association. A quote was obtained from ABI Attachments for the TR3 Rake Horse Arena Implement which provides rips, levels, and fluffs. Two quotes are provided, a commercial grade which is half a foot shorter and one typically used by homeowners with horse arenas. Park Supt. Oropeza recommends the purchase of the commercial grade rake as the best option to maintain the horse arena which can also be utilized for maintaining trails.

**MOTION #7**

On a motion by Director Brunberg, seconded by Director Stickney, the Quote from ABI Attachments for Purchase of the TR3 Rake Horse Arena Implement, was approved by a vote of 3-0-0 with Directors Stickney, Brunberg, and Meraz voting Aye. There were no Nays or Abstentions. Directors Montes and Presinal were absent

- e) Bond Measure L Results (verbal): The Bond Measure L has 62.5% in favor with 75% of the vote counted. Twenty six full time equivalent are required. OVparks has fourteen staff with twelve part time FTE.

**14. DIRECTOR AND STAFF COMMENTS**

Interim Admin Ross expressed appreciation to the Board and OVparks Staff for their efforts on Measure L which currently stands at 62.5%. This is a good indication that the community is in support of the measure. Unfortunately, Proposition 5 did not pass which would have allowed 55% to pass instead of 66.7% to pass. So many great things could have been accomplished to improvement within the parks and facilities had this Measure passed. He thanked the community members Brad Squires, Brad Tatum, David Dill, Mary Ann Povey and many other who supported and promoted the measure.

Interim Admin Ross shared that Bruce Edwards served in the Air Force for ten years, from 1985 to 1995. He requested flying the United States flag at half-staff while his daughter and son-in-law are in town December 2<sup>nd</sup> through December 6<sup>th</sup>. The Board left this decision to the discretion of the District Administrator if deemed appropriate. OVparks to send flowers and cards of condolences. An email has been sent to all OVparks staff to provide information regarding counseling available. Finance/HR Supt. Von Aesch to provide the family with Bruce's financial information and any resources available as an employee of Sacramento County. Bruce's family prefers to hold a memorial at the Shady Oaks Disc Golf Course on Tuesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> or Wednesday, December 4<sup>th</sup>. However, in the event of inclement weather, the Orangevale Community Center can be utilized as an alternate location. The Board of Directors agreed that no facility fee would be charged since Bruce was a current employee with OVparks. Interim Admin Ross will follow up with Interim Admin Foell, who has been the main contact with Bruce's daughter, to determine the memorial date and details and will keep the Board apprised.

Finance/HR Supt. Von Aesch advised that Auditor Larry Bain has completed the Audit Report which reflects another clean audit. No expenditure objects were over budget and the managerial report indicated no material weaknesses aside from the separation of duties. The General Fund and OLLAD had significant fund usage for capital projects, and funds are still in good standing. Finance/HR Supt. Von Aesch will contact Auditor Larry Bain to check his availability to potentially present the Audit Report at the February BOD Meeting.

Park Supt. Oropeza expressed shock at the news of Bruce Edwards passing. Parks staff have shared a variety of emotions and he is making efforts to provide support to his staff. He appreciates the Park Maintenance staff for their endurance through the current staff shortage. He anticipates hiring additional staff after the holidays. The Board of Directors directed the Interim District Administrator to contract with an outside agency if needed to alleviate the workload while short staffed.

Director Meraz mentioned his neighbors are the grandparents of Julian Snyder, a senior at Casa Roble High School who tragically passed away. He was a significant part of the Casa Roble Football Team. Director Meraz will follow up with the family if the family is interested in having the memorial service for Julian in the Orangevale Community Center Auditorium, Director Meraz will follow up with staff to facilitate.

Director Stickney mentioned the soccer fields throughout the parks at the end of the season looked the best they ever have and noticed several events going on simultaneously in the parks.



Director Brunberg extended appreciation to the staff and appreciated the efforts of the Park Maintenance Department while short staffed.

**15. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA**

- a) Discussion on Brown Act Training
- b) Kidz Korner Strategy Report
- c) Board of Director Sworn In – Mike Stickney, Lisa Montes, and Arica Presinal
- d) Board of Director Office Preferences
- e) Update on E-Bike ordinances and issues

**16. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION #8**

With no further business to discuss, the general meeting of the Board of Directors was adjourned at 8:27 p.m. On a motion by Director Brunberg, seconded by Director Stickney, the adjournment was approved by a vote of 3-0-0 with Directors Stickney, Brunberg, and Meraz, voting Aye. There were no Nays or Abstentions. Directors Montes and Presinal were absent.

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Mike Stickney, Chairperson