



# North of the River Recreation & Park District

**NORTH OF THE RIVER RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REGULAR MEETING  
3825 RIVERLAKES DRIVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2024, 5:30 P.M.**

DISCLAIMER: This agenda includes proposed actions and activities with respect to each agenda item, as of the date of posting. As such, it does not preclude the Board from taking other actions on any item on the agenda that is different or in addition to what may have been recommended.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER: BOARD MEETING CONVENED BY VICE CHAIRPERSON JENIFER VANALSTEIN AT 5:30 P.M.**
- 2. ROLL CALL:**
  - BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**  
JENIFER VANALSTEIN; RYAN SKIDMORE;  
MATT HOWARD; BOB SMITH; JANETT MILLER
  - BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**  
CRYSTAL MADDEN
  - STAFF PRESENT**  
BRET HANEY; WAYNE MCARTHUR; ESTHER GRIJALVA;  
STEPH THISIUS; JASMIN LOBASSO; MIKE EVANS; LAUREN CRONK
  - LEGAL COUNSEL**  
JACOB THOMASY
  - PUBLIC PRESENT**  
BRANT CLAYTON
- 3. NOTICE OF MEETING BEING TAPED, FILMED, STREAMED OR BROADCASTED**  
Please be aware that a recording and broadcasting of tonight's meeting is being made and may capture images and/or sounds of those attending tonight's meeting.
- 4. FLAG SALUTE:** Vice Chairperson Jenifer VanAlstein led the flag salute.
- 5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**  
Items requiring attention after the agenda is posted may be added to the agenda with 2/3 majority approval of the Board. Items to be added will be made available to the public at the meeting  
  
**Motion:** Howard **Second:** Skidmore **Ayes:** VanAlstein; Smith; Howard; Skidmore  
**Noes:** None **Absent:** Madden **Motion carried.**
- 6. PUBLIC COMMENTS**  
The North of the River Recreation and Park District Board of Directors may take official action only on items included in the posted agenda. Items addressed during the Public Comment section are generally matters not included on the agenda and, therefore, the Board will not take action at this scheduled meeting. Such items, however, may be added to a future meeting's agenda. Members of the public may

address the Board on items included on the agenda in the order that the items appear. Speakers are limited to two minutes. Please state your name before making your presentation. Thank you!

Mr. Clayton proposed the idea of turning a section of the Silver Oak Ranch Park into a pickleball court. Staff member Steph Thisius will follow up with Mr. Clayton regarding his proposed location for a pickleball court at Silver Oak Ranch.

## 7. CONSENT AGENDA

All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are deemed routine in nature. Information concerning these items has been forwarded to each Board Member prior to this meeting for their study. The Consent Agenda is acted upon in one motion unless members of the Board, staff, or public request discussion and/or removal of an item.

### A. Posting of Agenda

Approval of Secretary Declaration of Posting of Agenda 72 Hours in Advance of Meeting.

### B. Minutes

Approval of Regular Minutes August 19, 2024.

### C. Financial

Approval of Bills and Invoices

### D. Pacific Gas & Electric Agreement

Approval of Temporary Construction Easement with Pacific Gas & Electric, Resolution #31-24

**RECOMMENDATION:** Approve Consent Agenda

**Motion:** Smith **Second:** Howard **Ayes:** Smith; VanAlstein; Howard; Skidmore  
**Noes:** None **Absent:** Madden **Motion carried.**

## 8. BOARD BUSINESS

### A. Amendment to the Five-Year Agreements for Facility Use and Concessions by Kern County Softball Association dba Bakersfield Amateur Softball Association (BASA), Resolution #32-24

Director of Community Services Jasmin LoBasso requests Board approval of amendment to update the existing BASA agreements running through 2028 to include a change in the specified number of fields for priority use, concessions, and BASA's name change. AFTER DISCUSSION, BOARD APPROVED RESOLUTION #32-24 APPROVING THE AMENDMENT TO THE FIVE-YEAR AGREEMENT WITH KERN COUNTY SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION.

**Motion:** Smith **Second:** Howard **Ayes:** VanAlstein; Howard; Skidmore; Smith  
**Noes:** None **Absent:** Madden **Motion carried.**

**B. Designate Official Name for Future Park Site, Stockdale River Ranch Community Park, Resolution #33-24**

Director of Planning and Construction Steph Thisius requests Board approval of designating the official name for future park site, Stockdale River Ranch Community Park. AFTER DISCUSSION, BOARD ADOPTED RESOLUTION #33-24 APPROVING THE OFFICIAL NAME FOR FUTURE PARK SITE, STOCKDALE RIVER RANCH COMMUNITY PARK.

**Motion:** Skidmore **Second:** Howard **Ayes:** VanAlstein; Howard; Skidmore; Smith  
**Noes:** None **Absent:** Madden **Motion carried.**

**C. Approval of Employee Medical Insurance Renewal with Kaiser Permanente, Resolution #34-24**

Director of Human Resource Esther Grijalva discussed the Kaiser Permanente employee medical insurance coverage rates for 2025 with the Board. AFTER DISCUSSION, THE BOARD ADOPTED RESOLUTION #34-24 APPROVING THE ANNUAL MEDICAL INSURANCE RENEWAL.

**Motion:** Smith **Second:** Howard **Ayes:** VanAlstein; Howard; Skidmore; Smith  
**Noes:** None **Absent:** Madden **Motion carried.**

**9. STAFF REPORTS**

**A. General Manager**

General Manager Bret Haney introduced the new Director of Recreation, Lauren Cronk, to the Board. Mr. Haney commented that NOR had four wonderful candidates interviewed and he felt that given the history Ms. Cronk has with NOR, Ms. Cronk will be a great addition to the team. Mr. Haney updated the Board on the Austin Creek Park, NOR is still in communication with the Batey Family. Mr. Haney offered the Board a park tour now that the weather is cooler.

**B. Capital Improvement Projects**

Director of Planning and Construction Steph Thisius mentioned to the Board that the envelope given to them is a copy of the letter that went out to residents regarding the new water supply well. Ms. Thisius updated the Board on the development of Bark Park; the park is out for bidding and the goal is to bring this item to board by November, but the time frame depends on the participation of contractors. Ms. Thisius shared her recent experience attending the American Society of Landscape Architects Conference in Washington, DC. She highlighted the unique opportunity to gain feedback from a diverse group of participants, which is not often available in the public sector.

**C. Financial**

Director of Finance Wayne McArthur reported that the business office is working on quarter-end reports and claims. Mr. McArthur updated the board on the success of the new full-time position, Administrative Coordinator-Contracts and Procurements.

**D. Personnel**

Director of Human Resources Esther Grijalva reviewed the open and close positions. Ms. Grijalva commented that the Standard District replaces Lauren Cronk's position at Standard with NOR manager Sara Espinoza. Mrs. Grijalva shared the experience she and Ms. Miller had at the NEOGOV USER conference.

**E. Parks Division**

Director of Operations and Maintenance Mike Evans reported that the New Maintenance and Safety Manager has integrated well with the Maintenance staff. Mr. Evans mention that the Maintenance staff projects are on the calendar and schedule and now they are working on big projects that need to be bid out. Mr. Evans updated the Board on the Cartegraph integration. Cartegraph start up updates have been submitted and now the Parks Department is waiting for the system to be updated in order to conduct training events. Mr. Evans responds to Board member's questions regarding Emerald Cove Park, and he will consult with part staff.

**F. Recreation and Community Services**

Director of Community Relations Jasmin LoBasso reported on the recreation side of all the programs that have ended including Young Chef's Academy, 50's Dinner Dance, SAC Rack, and eSports Fortnite. Ms. LoBasso also reported on incoming programs including Junior Theater for the Afterschool program with Rosedale Union School District, NOR is currently casting for Junior Theater program for Alice in Wonderland, and the return of primary sports-Flag Football; this program will include participation from first and second graders. For Special events Ms. LoBasso mentioned the success of the Fall Festival and the upcoming special events including Veteran's Day- Plant a Flag, Love Your Park at Riverview, and the NOR Christmas parade. In the Community Services side Ms. LoBasso highlighted all the sponsors for past and future events: Fall Festival sponsorships are Grimmway Farms, Nelms Surveying Inc., Kern Family Health Care, and American General Media; Pickle Tournament sponsorships are Brand Co Marketing, Bakersfield Prosthetics and Orthotics Center, Kern Golden Girls, and Sabo Physical Therapy; NOR Christmas Parade sponsorships are Kern County District 3, Supervisor Jeff Flores' Office and Nelms Surveying Inc.

**G. Training**

Reports Received and Filed.

**10. CORRESPONDENCE**

No Correspondence was received in October

**11. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Opportunity for the Board to comment on items not listed on the agenda

**BOB SMITH** - No comment

**CRYSTAL MADDEN** - Absent

**RYAN SKIDMORE** – No comment

**JENIFER VANALSTEIN** – Asked staff member Steph Thisius about a potential park land dedication on a land track off Renfro and Santa Fe by developer BalFanz. Ms. Thisius cannot comment on that track without knowing specifics and what that land was condition for.

**MATT HOWARD** – Will let our new Director of Recreation get settled in before updating her on a few projects of interest for Mr. Howard.

## 12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:09 p.m. to the next meeting of the Board of Directors of North of the River Recreation and Park District scheduled on November 18, 2024, 5:30 p.m. at the Riverlakes Ranch Community Center and District Administrative Complex.

Minutes to be approved at Board  
Meeting held on November 18, 2024

**Bret Haney**

Bret Haney, General Manager

Signature:   
Crystal Madden (Nov 19, 2024 08:51 PST)

Email: cagordon32@gmail.com

Signature: 

Email: jmiller@norrecreation.org

**Janett Miller**

Janett Miller, Clerk of the Board

**cmadden**

Crystal Madden, Chairperson

Signature:   
Bret Haney (Nov 19, 2024 08:52 PST)

Email: bhaney@norrecreation.org












# 7B 10-21-2024 Minutes

Final Audit Report

2024-11-19

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