



**Hood River Valley Parks and Recreation District Regular Board Meeting  
Wednesday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 6:00 pm  
Hood River Aquatic Center**

**In Attendance:**

**Board:** Suzanne Cross, Anna Cavaleri, Nan Noteboom, Mike McCarthy, Martha Ortega-Verduzco

**Staff:** Mark Hickok, Marcie Wily

**SDAO Consultant:** Bob Keefer

**Port of Hood River Executive Director:** Kevin Greenwood

**Regular District Board Meeting**

**Call Regular Meeting to Order**

Cavaleri called the meeting to order at 6:09pm.

**Comments from the General Public** (3 minutes per person, per subject, Maximum 30 minutes public comment taken)

Kevin Greenwood, Port of Hood River Executive Director, wanted to thank Hickok and the district for their work and wanted to keep an open relationship between HRVPRD and the Port of Hood River.

**Review Minutes**

1. **February 15, 2023 – Regular Board Meeting Minutes**

**Action:** Consider a motion to approve the February 15, 2023 meeting minutes

Noteboom made a motion to approve the January 18, 2023. McCarthy seconded. All approved

**Regular Business**

2. **Strategic Planning**

**Action:** Review and Provide Direction

Hickok gave an overview of the district's strategic planning with Bob Keefer, SDAO Consultant. The district has three options when building a new facility. The first option was a new building but keep the same pools format with some upgrades (estimated at \$25 Million). The second was a new building and new pool designs (estimated at \$30 Million). The last option was the same as the second but add a third story to the design plans which will be a community fitness center (estimated at \$36 Million). Cross asked Hickok about moving the pool to a different sight. Hickok explained to the board that keeping the pool where it is today is the most cost-effective and simple option, however there are a couple options we can study. But a decision will need to be made soon if we want to stick with the May 2024 ballot timeline. Hickok will follow up with more info at the next meeting.

Hickok presented to the board some of the future needs of the district as it expands. Looking at the budget, Hickok asked the board to keep in mind that the district will need more staff, storage, supplies and general overhead expenses to run the new facilities in the future. Hickok estimates seven more full-time employees between the four departments. To achieve these future needs the district would need to ask for a 30-year capital bond at \$0.62 and an additional operations levy at \$0.37. The other option is a prepared food sales tax. According to 2018 data would bring in about two million dollars, but the district would be short of what they need to operate the new facilities. Comparing both options, the prepared food sales tax would cost the average Hood River family less than the bond and levy. Hickok

and Keefer will be doing more research on the different scenarios for how the district can fund its future goals and how to present these scenarios to the community. Keefer emphasized to the board that over the next two months they need to decide what future projects they want and not add anymore to the districts plate before finding a sustainable source of income.

### **3. Appoint Budget Committee Members**

Action: Consider a motion to appoint two budget committee members

Hickok presented the new candidates, Brian Hackett and Allan Schmidt, for the budget committee to the board.

Cross made a motion to appoint Brian Hackett and Allan Schmidt to the budget committee. Noteboom seconded. All approved.

### **4. Executive Director Performance Evaluation Process**

Action: Consider a motion to appoint one board member to serve on the ED evaluation committee.

Cavaleri asked Cross to spearhead the executive director's evaluation committee and recommended choosing one of the new board members to join her on the evaluation committee.

Cross reviewed the director's performance evaluations process over with the board and asked their thoughts on having an online survey for the stakeholders to fill in. The board agreed that an online survey would be a great way to collect stakeholder's input. Noteboom and Cross will collaborate to improve and review the executive director's performance evaluations process.

### **5. Resolution 22/23 – 2 To Authorize Application for Grant**

Action: Consider a motion to authorize the application for an acquisition grant through Local Government Grant Program with the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

Wily gave an overview of the application for a grant to purchase Parkdale Park. Before the district can apply for the grant, they must get board approval through resolution. The district will have to match 40% of the grant if they get approved for it. Hickok voiced his concern about the funding the project. If the district received both the grants they are applying for this summer, they do not have the funding in the SDC account to fund both. The property is a great opportunity, but it was not in our budget or capital plan so finding the funding is going to be a stretch. The board felt this sort of project resonates with people and private funding should be explored.

Noteboom made a motion to approve resolution 22/23 – 2 to authorize application for the grant. Ortega-Verduzco seconded. All approved.

### **Reports (informational, no action needed)**

#### **6. Finance Report**

Hickok gave an overview of the finance reports. The SDC fund is doing well but most of the money in the fund will be used to purchase the Campbell and Parkdale properties. For March, the revenue for this fund is a bit lower than expected. The Recreation fund will be simplified in next year's budget and it will be charged an overall admin fee. General fund is tracking along nicely with the district already over budget in revenue. Hickok plans to be a little more aggressive in the budget planning for the next fiscal year.

7. Directors Report

Hickok presented his director's report starting with showing the board the tax impact that the Westside Urban Renewal will have on the different taxing districts in Hood River County. It is estimated that 94 million dollars will be forfeited to the City of Hood River for the urban renewal with it ending in 2048. The board deliberated over this and wanted to make sure that HRVPRD will get something out of renewal since they will be losing out on operating revenue.

HRVPRD will be celebrating Earth Day with a work party and grand opening of the southside extension of the Indian Creek Trail. Waste Connections donated a dumpster to HRPRD to help dispose of the remaining tires on the trail.

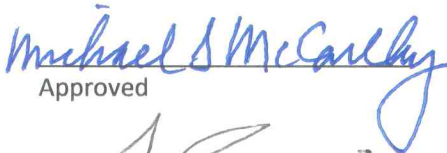
There was a trail closure on the Indian Creek Trail between 7<sup>th</sup> Street stairs and Hazel Ave because of a land slide. The trail was finally reopened after many hours put into removing the landslide. This section of the trail was also closed for repairs on a retaining wall and to re-gravel the trail.


8. Aquatics & Recreation Report

Wily presented the recreation and aquatics reports. Basketball was a huge success with more recreation programs on the way. Some programs coming up are rock-climbing, women's soccer, youth soccer, track field, and youth ultimate frisbee. The pool has been busy with swimming lessons going on during the day from the different schools around Hood River. Sunday kayak roll session has been extended to three hours. The pool is still looking for more daytime staff even after hiring seven lifeguards on the recent lifeguard course.

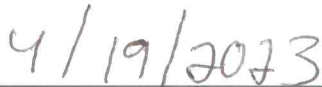
**Adjourn**

McCarthy made motion to adjourn the meeting. Noteboom seconded. All approved.

  
Approved

  
Attest

  
Date

  
Date

