



**MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ROSSMOOR COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**

REGULAR MEETING

RUSH PARK
3021 Blume Drive
Rossmoor, California

Tuesday, July 13, 2021

A. ORGANIZATION

1. CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 p.m.
2. ROLL CALL: Directors DeMarco, Nitikman, Rips, Searles
President Barke
3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Manuel Chavez, Constituent Services Manager, Supervisor Katrina Foley's office, led the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. PRESENTATIONS:
 - a. Orange County Sheriff's Department Captain Gary Knutson Re: OCSD Quarterly Crime Statistics

Orange County Sheriff's Department Captain Gary Knutson presented the second quarter, 2021 crime statistics.

Director Searles thanked Captain Knutson for his assistance at the recent special meeting of the RCSD Board of Directors.

B. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA - None

C. PUBLIC FORUM

President Barke invited comments from the public.

Helen, asked about the status of the Orange County Board of Education (OCBOE) permit for educational forums regarding ethnic studies and thanked Directors Rips and Searles requesting a special meeting on the matter.

President Barke announced the OCBOE has chosen not to hold the event in Rossmoor due to the prohibitive cost of additional security and that their application had been withdrawn.

Jamie Sells, Rossmoor, referenced a letter from President Barke to the Orange County Breeze; questioned the intent of the letter and expressed she thought President Barke crossed the line with his comments. She stated President Barke's job is to represent the community, rather than his personal agenda.

Bob Knapp expressed concerns regarding Seal Beach residents parking in Rossmoor and hoped the Board will be proactive in resolving parking problems in Rossmoor.

Joel Block noted items on the agenda; felt there is a common thread relative to weakness in transparency; noted democracy cannot exist in the absence of information; referenced the OCBOE application and proposed contract and noted the public was not provided with copies of same.

Amy Lonnsbury referenced letters by President Barke published in the Orange County Breeze; She urged President Barke to consider his role as the President of the RCSD Board of Directors when posting statements.

Jim D'Ambrosio spoke about lack of parking in the neighborhood; complained that Seal Beach residents use his lawn as a trash can; reported his street rarely gets swept, as people park on his street on street sweeping days without consequences.

Del Clark thanked Directors Rips and Searles for their position regarding the OCBOE application and spoke about Board Members being elected to represent the community, not personal or special interests.

Drew Sells spoke in support of the proposed educational workshop on local control; discussed the importance of transparency; referenced letters and editorials written by President Barke.

Josh Spiller expressed concerns regarding increased legal costs; spoke about spending tax dollars on the beautification of Rossmoor and hoped the matter will be addressed later in the meeting.

Manuel Chavez, Constituent Services Manager for Supervisor Katrina Foley's office, presented an update on upcoming events; discussed a grant program for youth dance programs; reported on an upcoming meeting with General Manager Mendoza and Orange County Public Works to discuss the street sweeping program; and spoke about being aware of Rossmoor parking issues and addressed an upcoming workshop on redistricting.

Discussion followed regarding the possibility of Rossmoor using the 90721 zip code and the over-taxation of residents.

Maureen, via Zoom, referenced a previous presentation by CR&R regarding the three-container system; expressed concerns with the multiple number of collection trucks driving through the District; suggested they avoid collections near schools during student drop-offs and pick-ups and noted increased wear-and-tear on streets because of the increase in the number of collection vehicles.

There were no other public comments.

D. REPORTS TO THE BOARD

1. DISCUSSION WITH GENERAL MANAGER REGARDING COORDINATION OF SCHEDULE FOR ROSSMOOR COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT CONTRACT RENEWALS

General Manager Joe Mendoza presented the report; provided details regarding Policy No. 3091; discussed the contract renewal process; spoke about providing increased transparency and addressed scheduling the review of contracts and renewals at an Organizational Committee meeting prior to items being brought before the RCSD Board.

Director Rips suggested reviewing the renewal date for the West Coast Arborist contract to be sure it is correct on the schedule.

2. MONTHLY TRAFFIC SAFETY UPDATE

General Manager Mendoza presented the report; discussed traffic and parking issues on the Montecito corridor; noted a Traffic Committee meeting will be scheduled for August 5, 2021; reported experts from other agencies will be invited to talk about portable radar speed feedback trailers and noted an upcoming meeting with Orange County Public Works to discuss permanent radar speed feedback signs to be installed on Montecito Road and St. Cloud Drive. He added that the Highway Patrol encourages residents to contact them at 714-892-4426 with concerns about parking and speeding issues.

President Barke asked to include the CHP number on the RCSD website as well as the non-emergency number for the Orange County Sheriff's.

3. UPDATE ON SECURITY MEASURES FROM ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION ETHNIC STUDIES FORUM ON JULY 27, 2021

President Barke reiterated the OCBOE has chosen not to hold the event in Rossmoor due to the prohibitive cost of additional security and that their application had been withdrawn. He noted there is no need for an update on security measures as the event has been cancelled.

Director Rips expressed interest in discussing the matter further; reported he was disappointed in the actions taken by the Board at the last special meeting.

Director DeMarco noted it is a divided topic and felt it was unreasonable to have the same meeting twice in the same hall.

Director Rips stated he did not understand how the RCSD Board could justify cancelling one forum and not the other.

Director Nitikman cautioned all Board Members against personal attacks on other Board Members.

E. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. MINUTES:

- a. Regular Board Meeting of June 8, 2021
- b. Special Board Meeting of June 22, 2021

2. REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE REPORT – MAY 2021

Motion by President Barke, seconded by Director DeMarco to approve Consent Calendar, as presented. Motion passed 5-0.

F. PUBLIC HEARING

1. PUBLIC HEARING: FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 PROPOSED FINAL BUDGET

General Manager Mendoza introduced the item; discussed steps in considering the process; addressed the public hearing notice; listed recommendations and deferred to Accountant Ken Pun for the budget presentation.

Ken Pun, Accountant, presented details of the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 proposed final budget; pointed out significant changes from the previous year and discussed total revenues and expenditures.

In reply to Director Searles question regarding increases in salaries, General Manager Mendoza discussed the need for additional staff to provide better service during weeknight and weekend hours – times that were previously unstaffed while facility usage was high; spoke about the return of some employees from furlough; reported increased rentals and renovation of fields and noted the need for staff coverage. Director Searles noted a reduction in salaries/trees and General Manager Mendoza offered to look into that issue further.

Director Nitikman stated there has been an increase in staffing for trees over the last few years and questioned the decrease in salaries/trees. He noted there is a 31% increase in administrative salaries from the 2020/2021 approved budget and felt there should be a drop in administrative salaries as the accountant position was eliminated and the Board has not authorized any additional positions. Additionally, Director Nitikman expressed concerns with increases in legal services.

In terms of legal services, General Manager Mendoza stated it is a good projection with some of the issues the RCSD will be taking on such as local control, street sweeping, the Montecito parking issue and unanticipated legal fees related to COVID-19.

In response to Director Rips question, Mr. Pun noted the contract for accounting (\$60,000) is shown under contract services and stated administrative salaries includes the salaries of the

General Manager, the Administrative Assistant, the General Clerk, and the Administrative Clerk.

Mr. Pun noted there may be a classification issue.

In reply to President Barke's inquiry, General Manager Mendoza reported the Board has until the end of August to approve the budget.

President Barke suggested tabling this item to the next regular Board meeting and ask the Budget Committee to review the budget and return with a report with clarifications and recommendations.

Mr. Pun continued with his presentation of the budget.

Discussion followed regarding salaries for the Recreation Department, streetlights, Rossmoor Park operations and maintenance expenses and staying flexible relative to trees.

President Barke opened the public hearing.

There were no public comments on this item.

President Barke closed the public hearing.

Motion by Director Nitikman, seconded by Director DeMarco to forward the matter to the Budget Committee including review of the overall budget, administrative salaries, legal fees, streetlights, and trees and continue this item to the next regularly scheduled Board meeting. Motion passed 5-0.

2. PUBLIC HEARING: APPEAL OF GENERAL MANAGER ISSUANCE OF USER PERMITS TO ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION TO UTILIZE RUSH PARK AUDITORIUM TO HOLD ETHNIC STUDIES FORUMS ON JULY 27, 2021, AND AUGUST 24, 2021

President Barke stated since the item has been revoked, there is no reason for the public hearing.

It was noted the appeal fee will be returned to the petitioner.

G. RESOLUTIONS

1. RESOLUTION NO. 21-07-13-01 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ROSSMOOR COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT ESTABLISHING THE ANNUAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE TOTAL AMOUNTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 FOR THE ROSSMOOR COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

Motion by President Barke, seconded by Director Nitikman to continue this item to the next regularly scheduled Board meeting. Motion passed 5-0.

2. RESOLUTION NO. 21-07-13-02 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ROSSMOOR COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT'S REJECTION OF GOVERNMENT CLAIM

General Manager Mendoza presented a brief report.

Motion by President Barke, seconded by Director Nitikman to waive full reading of and adopt RESOLUTION NO. 21-07-13-02 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ROSSMOOR COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT'S REJECTION OF GOVERNMENT CLAIM.

The motion carried 5-0, with the following vote:

AYES:	Directors Nitikman, Rips, DeMarco, Searles and President Barke
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	None

ORDINANCES - None

H. REGULAR CALENDAR

1. CONSIDERATION OF CONDUCTING AN EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOP ON LOCAL CONTROL

General Manager Mendoza presented details of the report.

Director Nitikman suggested reaching out to the community to gauge interest; stated he envisioned several workshops on the topic and noted the importance of having two-way communication and getting community input.

Director Rips recommended formally reaching out to RHA and schedule the date with them to ensure they are part of the workshop.

Director DeMarco discussed managing contracts; noted the need for information to understand provisions; stated the first step is community buy-in and asked for information regarding how to obtain local control with options.

Director Nitikman suggested holding a workshop at 6:00 p.m., next month, right before the regular Board meeting to discuss the process.

Director Searles spoke about having educational forums available to the entire Board and not held in committees.

President Barke invited public comments.

Nia Hartman suggested holding an educational forum for the community on the budget and another to review RCSD goals and whether RCSD is working on those goals prior to workshops on local control.

Dave Vandervoet, via Zoom, spoke about the flood control channels and mosquitos and reported sending emails to the County and RCSD but noted there has been no response.

President Barke asked General Manager Mendoza to speak with Mr. Vandervoet regarding the matter.

There were no other public comments.

President Barke requested inviting a representative from the Community Services District Association to the next Board meeting.

Director Nitikman asked the General Manager to provide possible dates, subjects, and approaches for the Board to consider.

I. GENERAL MANAGER ITEMS

General Manager Mendoza provided an update on the Caltrans sound wall; discussed the recent First Annual Foodie Festival; addressed upcoming movie nights and concerts; spoke about sales tax and zip code issues and hiring a legislative advocate; talked about athletic fields and street sweeping routes and schedules, and announced Los Alamitos is considering asking RCSD to pay a portion of crossing guard funding.

J. BOARD MEMBER ITEMS

Director Nitikman discussed an upcoming Library Book Sale by the Friends of the Library; reported the Library is currently in operation; referenced a flier from CR&R regarding the new waste and recycling program; noted e-waste includes anything with a battery but batteries are categorized as household hazardous waste and must be disposed at special collection sites in Anaheim or Irvine and suggested that CR&R work on drop-off procedures for Rossmoor residents, as part of their waste and recycling program.

It was noted that used batteries can be dropped off at any Home Depot.

Director Searles thanked Supervisor Foley for inviting him to a recent Mayor's Breakfast; spoke about funding for arts and nutritional programming; thanked the public for participating this evening and announced upcoming shredding events.

Director DeMarco discussed the possibility of installing pickleball courts in Rossmoor parks and spoke about the importance of hiring a legislative advocate.

K. GENERAL COUNSEL ITEMS

Legal Counsel Tarquin Preziosi recommended no Closed Session tonight.

L. CLOSED SESSION

1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL

Consideration of discipline or dismissal of a public employee.
Government Code Section 54957(b)(1).

Motion by Director DeMarco, seconded by President Barke, to cancel Closed Session. Motion passed 5-0.

M. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by President Barke, seconded by Director DeMarco, to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:45 p.m. Motion passed 5-0.

SUBMITTED BY:

Joe Mendoza
General Manager