



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

REGULAR MEETING

RUSH PARK
3021 Blume Drive
Rossmoor, California

Tuesday, July 12, 2022

A. ORGANIZATION

1. CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 p.m.
2. ROLL CALL: Directors Barke, DeMarco, Nitikman, Searles
President Rips
3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Director Barke led the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. PRESENTATIONS:

a. Orange County Sheriff's Captain Gary Knutson Presents Quarterly Crime Statistics

Orange County Sheriff's Captain Gary Knutson presented a summary of Calls for Service in April, May and June 2022; discussed parking and street sweeping citations and enforcement; mentioned active investigations including residential burglaries; addressed cybercrimes and training; spoke about the possibility of installing license plate reader systems; announced a National Night Out event and reported the process for requesting vacation checks.

Discussion followed regarding compliance with street sweeping, signs, the possibility of posting no signs and not issuing street sweeping citations, the existing street sweeping compliance rate, the lack of capacity in terms of the Sheriff's Department ability to follow the sweeper regularly, to issue citations consistently, the County's control of whether or not to install street sweeping signs, communicating with County Supervisor Do regarding the topic, avoiding sign blight, privacy concerns related to license plate reader systems, protecting data, and asking the General Manager to return to the Board with a report regarding the District's option to reject street sweeping signs and requesting no enforcement.

b. Golden State Water – Ken Vecchiarelli, Orange County District

Ken Vecchiarelli, Golden State Water, narrated a PowerPoint presentation with an overview of the California drought; discussed current drought conditions; provided details of Schedule 14.1 (Water Shortage Contingency Plan); addressed current impacts to Rossmoor; spoke about current regulations and watering schedules; commented on enforcement, the tiered rate system and surcharges; noted discounts for water use monitoring devices and talked about current construction projects in Rossmoor.

Director DeMarco referenced a moratorium by the County on cutting new streets; reported the contractor cut the new streets and asked about reconstruction of the streets.

Mr. Vecchiarelli reported the streets will be slurry sealed upon completion of the project; addressed the projected completion of the project; spoke about the hydrant replacement project; noted there is not update on possible surplus properties and discussed water pressure issues.

- c. Sweeping Corp. of America – Rick De Anda, Operations Manager and Erik Klimiuk, Site Manager

Rick De Anda, Sweeping Corp. of America, offered to respond to questions from the Board; reported all trucks are equipped with GPS and cameras are being installed in them; discussed impacts of parked vehicles during street sweeping activities; addressed routes, hours of operation/duration and number of trucks servicing the District; explained the dumping process, the different types of sweeper trucks and their effectiveness and stated he will work with General Manager Mendoza to provide a specific service schedule.

- d. CR&R Incorporated – Hashem Shokair, Senior Sustainability Manager

General Manager Mendoza reported Mr. Shokair was not able to attend the meeting and introduced Chrystal Denning, Regional Vice President, for a presentation.

Ms. Denning narrated a PowerPoint presentation with an update on SB 1383; addressed transitioning to the three-cart system, the program rollout, the beginning of the source separated collection and pricing and other available programs; discussed material separation, vehicle passes and enforcement and reported on their compost give-away program and communication to residents.

B. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA - None

C. PUBLIC FORUM

Maureen Wauters spoke about the possibility of establishing a pilot pickleball program at Rossmoor Park; felt many residents will walk or ride their bicycles to the park to play, and hoped a solution can be reached that will make everyone happy.

Steve Havstad, spoke in support of installing pickleball courts in Rossmoor Park; stated that pickleball is played by participants of many ages; suggested ways to minimize impacts such as noise; noted many residents will walk or ride their bikes so that parking will not be negatively impacted; reported that tennis courts are underutilized and hoped a solution can be reached that will make everyone happy.

Ralph Vartabedian spoke regarding installing pickleball courts in Rossmoor; believed RCSD has the financial resources to do so, responsibly; noted the need to address specific concerns such as noise and parking, and referenced his written comment requesting that the Board form a committee to study the matter.

Jimmy Ton referenced a petition opposing converting tennis courts into pickleball courts; commented on the current utilization of tennis courts and stressed that if the Board approves the installation of pickleball courts, it must be done, correctly.

Rob Keates noted there is a general unhappiness about plans to convert a tennis court at Rossmoor Park into a pickleball court; expressed concerns with negative impacts such as noise and decreased property values and stressed that if the Board approves the installation of pickleball courts, it must be done, properly.

Sandra Livingstone spoke in support of installing pickleball courts in Rossmoor Park; noted it is a great way to bring families together and suggested using temporary dividers, getting input from tennis players and placing hour limitations.

Sue Clark reported she has lived in Rossmoor since 1973; noted Rossmoor Park was supposed to be a school and she has seen many changes there since moving to Rossmoor; commented on impacts of the rust dust from the baseball fields; commented on the proximity of pickleball courts in Seal Beach and Cypress; opposed installing pickleball courts at Rossmoor Park; expressed concerns regarding noise, decreased property values and parking; suggested installing pickleball courts at Rush Park and stressed that Rossmoor Park does not need to be a sports complex center.

Susan Kaplan opposed plans to install pickleball courts at Rossmoor Park; commented on a prior, failed attempt to do so; reported that combining pickleball and tennis causes in-fighting between players; felt that adding pickleball would increase parking problems; reported learning that the U.S. Pickleball Association was asked to promote Rossmoor's pickleball pilot program; spoke about costs and the District's reserve account and suggested using some of that money to build dedicated, noise-mitigated pickleball courts elsewhere.

Susan Havstad voiced her support for installing pickleball courts in Rossmoor Park; noted that parks are for the entire community; spoke about possible fencing/dividers to mitigate noise; questioned the use of tennis courts by professionals and believed the District can accommodate both tennis and pickleball players.

Victor Pedroza spoke in support of special needs children taking tennis lessons at Rossmoor Park; stated the children will not be able to tolerate the noise related to pickleball and opposed converting tennis courts into pickleball courts.

Rob Kaplan (via Zoom) stated representatives from the U.S. Pickleball Association feel there is no question that the interest and excitement about having pickleball available is present, that there is no need for a trial test, that Rossmoor Park is not the proper place for pickleball, and that Rush Park is an advantage over the tight encroachment that would occur onto the existing tennis courts at Rossmoor Park.

President Rips noted the Board received a letter and several emails that will be added to the record.

There were no other public comments.

D. REPORTS TO THE BOARD

1. QUARTERLY PARKS AND FACILITIES MAINTENANCE REPORT

General Manager Mendoza gave the Quarterly Parks and Facilities Maintenance Report and discussed updates to the swings at Rossmoor and Rush Parks, installation of three new irrigation controllers, replacement of damaged playground equipment at Rossmoor Park, repair of rubberized surfacing and maintenance of walkway lights.

Discussion followed regarding the status of a reported leak and General Manager Mendoza reported that this matter has been addressed and commented on the District's water conservation efforts.

2. MONTHLY TRAFFIC SAFETY UPDATE

General Manager Mendoza presented details of the monthly traffic safety update and addressed items discussed at the recent Traffic Committee meeting including installation of two permanent radar speed signs, the Bicycle Safety event, collaboration with the City of Los Alamitos on license reader cameras, and developing an ordinance addressing parking issues.

Director DeMarco added the Traffic Committee discussed the Montecito issue and the possibility of creating restricted parking areas; and reported the Committee will be working on an ordinance to present to the full Board at an upcoming meeting.

Director Searles addressed eBike safety and reported CHP Officer Matt Musselmann encourages residents to report unsafe eBike activities.

General Manager Mendoza reported the Traffic Committee will meet in July to discuss the draft ordinance.

Discussion followed regarding developing an effective draft ordinance prior to involving legal counsel, the need for resident support, and having the Board discuss license plate readers.

3. STREET SWEEPING UPDATE

General Manager Mendoza reported he will communicate with Orange County Public Works regarding whether they have the discretion not to post street sweeping signs and possible options for the District regarding enforcement.

4. GENERAL ELECTION CONDENSED CALENDAR FOR NOVEMBER 8, 2022 FOR CANDIDATES FOR ROSSMOOR COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

General Manager Mendoza presented the condensed calendar for the November 8, 2022 elections and noted the information will be posted on the RCSD website and in the local newspaper.

Director Nitikman reiterated he will not be seeking reelection and encouraged Rossmoor citizens to run.

Discussion followed regarding extension of the filing deadline if an incumbent does not run. Legal Counsel Tarquin Preziosi will verify the matter.

5. UPDATE ON PICKLEBALL

General Manager Mendoza referenced prior direction by the Board to implement a trial of pickleball at Rossmoor Park. He stated this will be done towards the end of July to primarily assess noise and other impacts in relation to adjacent tennis courts/players; noted an upcoming meeting with representatives of the Seal Beach Tennis Center to tap into their expertise, and reported ordering four portable pickleball nets and removable lines. It was announced that neighboring residents would be notified of the pilot program. He addressed budget considerations to convert one tennis court into four pickleball courts versus the cost to build new pickleball courts.

Director Nitikman stressed if the Board feels there is sufficient demand to build new pickleball courts, it should be done right, and there should be no removal of existing tennis courts; spoke about conducting accurate acoustical tests; noted the need to assess demand and commented on sound mitigation options.

General Manager Mendoza spoke about notifying players of the trial to increase participation and reported as soon as the budget is finalized, he will begin looking for a park consultant to develop a strategic vision for District parks, moving forward.

President Rips felt a consultant would help in this process including integrating pickleball as part of the long-range plan for District parks.

Discussion followed regarding whether the RHA/RCSD survey would gauge demand for pickleball as well as other services.

Director Searles stated he would not mind dedicating one or two days a week to pickleball at Rossmoor Park as a real-life trial, before considering building a new facility.

Discussion followed regarding whether the trial will provide new, useful information.

President Rips invited public comments on this item.

Ralph Vartabedian noted an acoustic reading will depend on the ambient noise occurring at the time of the test; wondered about how to evaluate the decibel reading results without set criteria and felt there will be a demand and the demand will grow once a pickleball court is installed. He spoke about an RHA request that RCSD do a park evaluation study in terms of who uses parks/facilities and when they are used, but believed it was never done.

Director Nitikman felt the information would be helpful and that RCSD could do a better job in getting that information.

Susan Kaplan understood the Seal Beach pickleball ambassador was approached about advertising the Rossmoor Park trial and he offered to send a blast email to all pickleball players in Orange County; questioned the need for the trial; suggested aborting the trial and that the Board consider the right way to bring pickleball to Rossmoor. She felt if pickleball is implemented at Rossmoor Park, it will be hard to take away.

President Rips commented favorably on the proposed trial as a reasonable part of the process and noted the final determinations will be made by the Board.

Director Barke suggested that if the Board moves forward with a trial, one of the trial dates should be on the weekend.

Victor Pedroza suggested that during the trials, RCSD staff check with coaches to get their feedback.

Susan Havstad spoke about the need to clarify the court reservation and payment system for both tennis and pickleball courts; agreed with Director Searles in terms of needing to study the best place to locate pickleball courts; suggested sharing with tennis players until it is determined and commented on increased traffic showing there is increased demand.

There were no other public comments.

Director Barke suggested moving forward with a pickleball trial at Rossmoor Park, including at least one weekend day and continuing discussions at the next RCSD Board meeting.

Director Nitikman agreed, as long as it is an extremely limited trial.

Directors Searles and DeMarco spoke in favor of a trial and shared use between tennis and pickleball players.

President Rips suggested that one week before the trial, RCSD staff do a count of cars parked on the street around Rossmoor Park, as well as the number of people using the basketball and tennis courts.

General Manager Mendoza suggested testing during different times during the day, several days of the week and including one weekend day.

Motion by Director DeMarco, seconded by Director Barke, to move forward with a trial of pickleball at Rossmoor Park, on specified dates, with a maximum of four days, as suggested by the General Manager and giving the General Manager the discretion to move the dates and times as he sees fit and directing the General Manager to conduct an audit of activities at Rossmoor Park the week prior to the trial, during the days and times corresponding to the days and times during which the trial will be conducted. Motion passed 5-0.

RECESS/RECONVENE

President Rips called for a short recess at 10:29 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 10:36 p.m.

E. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. MINUTES:

a. Regular Board Meeting of June 14, 2022

Motion by President Barke, seconded by Director DeMarco to approve Regular Board Meeting Minutes of June 14, 2022, as presented. Motion passed 4-0-1, with President Rips, abstaining.

2. MAY 2022 REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE REPORT

Motion by President Barke, seconded by Director Nitikman to approve May 2022 Revenue and Expenditure Report, as presented. Motion passed 5-0.

F. PUBLIC HEARING

1. FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 PROPOSED FINAL BUDGET FOR THE ROSSMOOR COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

General Manager Mendoza presented details of the report; discussed tennis and ballfield revenue and uses; addressed expenditures including an election expenditure; spoke about an increase in janitorial services expenditures and requested direction and approval of the final budget.

President Rips reopened the public hearing.

There were no public comments and President Rips closed the public hearing.

Discussion followed regarding considering a 7% salary increase for RCSD staff versus a 4% salary increase versus a one-time bonus.

President Rips expressed support for compensating staff in a higher manner (7%) considering what they have been asked to do and the increases in services and programs provided by RCSD.

Director Searles commented on two vacant positions and expressed support for a 7% salary increase as he felt it will increase the District's chances of filling them.

Discussion followed regarding the two vacant positions, attracting and keeping the best people possible, adjusting salaries based on job descriptions and recommendations from the General Manager, the increased rate of inflation, adjusting positions that are currently underpaid,

Director Barke stated he would support a 4% raise and 3% bonus and revisiting the topic next year.

Discussion followed regarding having General Manager Mendoza approach the Board if adjustments to specific salaries at competitive rates are needed.

Discussion followed regarding giving a 7% COLA to General Manager Mendoza. It was stated that the General Manager's salary is considered in October when his employment agreement is reviewed.

Directors Barke and DeMarco felt there should be a consensus on the budget.

Director Nitikman noted there is complete consensus on every part of the budget, except one.

Motion by President Rips, seconded by Director Nitikman, to accept the budget with a 7% COLA. Motion passed 3-2, with Directors Barke and DeMarco opposed.

G. RESOLUTIONS

1. RESOLUTION NO. 22-07-12-01 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ROSSMOOR COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT ESTABLISHING THE ANNUAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE TOTAL AMOUNTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 FOR THE ROSSMOOR COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

Motion by Director Nitikman, seconded by President Rips to waive further reading and adopt RESOLUTION NO. 22-07-12-01 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ROSSMOOR COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT ESTABLISHING THE ANNUAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE TOTAL AMOUNTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 FOR THE ROSSMOOR COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT. Motion passed 3-2 as follows:

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

ABSENT: None

ORDINANCES - None

H. REGULAR CALENDAR

1. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION RE: APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT NUMBER ONE TO AGREEMENT FOR LEGAL SERVICES FOR THE ROSSMOOR COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

Legal Council Tarquin Preziosi recused himself from this item and left the meeting.

General Manager Mendoza presented the staff report.

Discussion followed regarding comparisons of legal rates from other municipalities, and the last time there was a rate adjustment.

Motion by Director Barke, seconded by Director DeMarco to approve Amendment One to the agreement for legal services for the Rossmoor Community Services District. Motion passed, 5-0.

I. GENERAL MANAGER ITEMS

General Manager Mendoza announced the upcoming Shakespeare in the Park events, discussed training on the Black Mountain Software, addressed staff recruitment, and noted the Farmers Market continues to be well received.

J. BOARD MEMBER ITEMS

Director DeMarco commented on recruitment of vacant positions and spoke about the possibility of outsourcing some of the tasks such as social media marketing.

General Manager Mendoza spoke about the need to increase participation in the District's resident database.

Director DeMarco commented on the Water District construction project noting he does not like how they are tearing up newly paved streets.

Director Searles expressed his appreciation to those participating in the meeting; commented positively on the recent Foodie Festival and urged residents to email the District with concerns.

Director Barke commented positively on the Foodie Festival; expressed disappointment a greater effort was not made to come to consensus regarding the budget, and discussed an upcoming CJPIA Risk Management Conference in Santa Barbara.

President Rips noted he would not attend the CJPIA Risk Management Conference as the event scheduled is during Yom Kippur.

K. GENERAL COUNSEL ITEMS

Legal Counsel Tarquin Preziosi had not items to report.

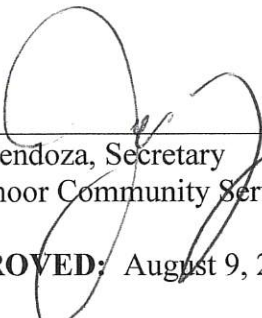
L. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by President Rips, seconded by Director Barke, to adjourn the regular meeting at 11:45 p.m.
Motion passed 5-0.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ROSSMOOR COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT



Jeffrey Rips, President

Joe Mendoza, Secretary
Rossmoor Community Services District

APPROVED: August 9, 2022