

NORTH FORK POOL, PARK AND RECREATION DISTRICT
November 18, 2024– 6:00PM
Location: District Office at 333 Miner’s Way, Hotchkiss CO 81419

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The Board of Directors of the North Fork Pool, Park and Recreation District (NFPPRD) met in person on November 18, 2024.

Board Members Present: Rebecca Ela, Dan Ihnot, Sven Edstrom, Michelle, Pagone, Scott Shishim

Others Present: District Administrator – Stephanie Bureau, Board Clerk – Ruben Santiago, Program Director - Max Heepke

I. Call to Order

Rebecca calls the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

II. President’s Review of Agenda

Agenda was approved with the addition of the hiring of a new District Administrator – under the District Administrator’s staff report.

III. Roll Call & Excuse Absent Board Members

There were no excused absences.

IV. Approval of Last Meeting’s Minutes

Sven Edstrom makes a motion to approve the minutes. Michelle Pagone seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

V. Pay Bills

Dan Ihnot makes a motion to pay the bills as presented. Sven Edstrom seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. Public Appearance

No public appearances.

VII. Presentation of Staff Reports

- Program Coordinator – Pickleball tournament issues, end of year report from Max
 - i. Soccer surveys presented results reflected positive feedback from parents. The need for certified referees, field maintenance, and desire to have some sort of end-of-year event were discussed.
 - ii. Swim lessons survey results presented also showed positive feedback from parents. We can be proud of the feedback that 100% of respondents feel their child is safer around water. The need to address scheduling challenges when asking Lifeguards to also act as Water Safety Instructors was discussed.
 - iii. Picklefest issues revolved around non-pickleball activities such as alcohol, drugs, and music being loud, which were out of the NFPPRD’s control. Those that came to seriously play arrived prior to Picklefest festival activities. Given the issues encountered the past two years, the discussion of decoupling from the Picklefest event in the future was put on the table due to liability concerns. The Board also discussed possibly hosting some pickleball events without the Picklefest organizers, focusing on playing the game rather than festival type of activities.
 - iv. Paonia Skate Park discussion revolved around addressing the holes/damage seen in photos supplied by Jay Canode. The focus to address sooner rather than later was important as to not let the damaged areas get worse. The Board suggested reaching out to Chris Straub for his thoughts on best approach. Insurance company concerns are addressed by posted sign which reads, ‘Skate at your own risk’.

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- Facilities Manager – Chris Straub
 - i. Flood mitigation projects – significant progress on mitigation, soccer field fencing moved, delays due to rain. Blading of the parking lot continues, but Chris plans to order pea gravel.
 - ii. Pool, bath house, ballfields and irrigation winterized.
 - iii. Therapy pool and wader pool consultations completed – awaiting schedule from selected contractor.

- District Administrator – Stephanie Bureau
 - i. Hiring of new District Administrator due to Stephanie resigning. The discussion revolved around duties that could potentially be separated and handled by two positions rather than one. One focusing on legal and the admin part, which is making NFPPRD are adhering to statutes, budgets in place, audits, and all statutory requirements. A second possible role for someone to handle the community outreach and pursuing grant opportunities. Stephanie agreed to outline mandatory vs. growth bullet points and assist with expanding on description of duties. Stephanie will work until the end of January, 2025.
 - ii. Met with representatives from CO Special Districts Pool and Sedgewick Claims to review current coverages and claim submission process. Identified need for inventory of all materials which are used for more than a season.
 - iii. Property and Liability renewal data submitted – may change with inventory once provided.
 - iv. Marici with Thunder Mesa Payroll Services alerted me QuickBooks once again doubled the cost of QuickBooks payroll software. If cost doubles again next November (2025), she will be unable to continue her service, and we will have to find another payroll processing solution well in advance of November 2025.
 - v. Awaiting word of approval from NC Board for revised MOU with Nature Connection provided to Jess Finnigan.
 - vi. Completed remediation to Board Agendas and Resolutions to ensure PDF compliance with accessibility standards. Remediation for Board Minutes underway.
 - vii. Requested Max create and implement a mineable feedback loop for NFPPRD programs, events/tournaments in case we need the data for grant submissions, ballot measures or marketing.

- Committee Reports (no activity this month)

VIII. Old Business

- 2025 Budget - updated and published for public comment per statute. – No comments from the public have been received to date.
- Potential land purchases – T.W. Stites will move on to another solution for his property, understanding the district does not have the resources to either outright purchase or pursue funding the property.
- Miners Trail – Sven provided update on the Miner's Trail project and addition of a bridge. Prep work does not have to be engineered since it doesn't have to go with CDOT specifications. Nature Connection teenagers and Sven can complete prep work but need to use the district's Kubota tractor. The use by Sven is covered but the tractor would technically be used off district property.

Becky makes a motion for Sven to have use for the tractor for the Miner's Trail spur to the registered property construction. Scott seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

- Flood mitigation – Becky would like to update Wendell Koontz on district's request for assistance from Delta County. Becky and Sven will meet external to this meeting.
- Crawford Pickleball Club –see new business item 'Guidelines when Requesting...'

IX. New Business

- Review draft of update for policy regarding 'Guidelines when Requesting Recreation Facility or Program Aid by NFPPRD.' The Board reviewed the draft guidelines, noting changes & updates to

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sections of the document presented. The issue of hosting events for entities outside of the jurisdiction would be handled on a case-by-case basis, but all requirements must be met.

Becky makes a motion to adopt the policy based on regarding request for recreation facility and program aid from NFPPRD. Scott seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

- Hotchkiss Home Plate – Revised MOU.
The Board discussed costs and fees should be assessed, but with a cap of \$500 annually suggested. A breakdown of costs incurred by the NFPPRD will be done to justify the fees that will be established for January, 2025.

X. **Marketing**

No activity to report

XI. **Treasurer’s Report**

Dan presents the financials.

XII. **Next Meeting**

December 9 (changed from December 16th to ensure budget is approved by Dec 15th, per statute).

XIII. **Adjourn**

Becky adjourns the meeting at 8:37PM

Respectfully submitted, Ruben Santiago, Board Clerk

Approved* Rebecca Ela Dated 12/10/2024

*Original signature on file at District Office at 333 Miners Way, Hotchkiss CO 81419