

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
APPROVED MINUTES

June 5, 2009

DIRECTORS PRESENT: President Erik Henrikson, Vice President Dan Wilkins
Directors Ron Treabess, Lou Reinkens, and Judy Friedman

STAFF PRESENT: Cindy Gustafson, General Manager
Alan Harry, Director of Development & Public Information
Tony Laliotis, Director of Utilities
Matt Homolka, District Engineer
Tony Soares, Legal Counsel via telephone
Ginger Charlton, District Clerk

A. CALL TO ORDER – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Henrikson called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. Mr. Bolton led the audience in the Pledge.

B. LAKE FOREST BOAT LAUNCH

1. Revised Rates for Season and Year-Long Parking Passes
2. Options to Address Budget Shortfalls: Modifying Hours / Levels of Service; Augmenting Operating Budget from Reserves; Other Funding; TRCD's Role

Mr. Bolton said that staff has been attempting to coordinate efforts with TRPA, TRCD, and WCB, accommodate the boating public, save tax dollars, protect the lake, increase revenues to help offset costs, keep the public informed, and trying to get other tasks done as well. He said that the Board's direction has been to wait to charge launch fees until the contract with the WCB is signed and that's where we are right now.

Mr. Bolton reported that WCB originally said we would receive the signed amendment during the week of June 1st. Today they switched it to the middle of next week. Once we have the signed amendment, it will go back to them and then to the Department of General Services for review. It will then take about 4-5 weeks to finalize and come back to us for final approval. That timeline is new to us. Based on this information, staff is recommending implementing a parking pass that would be honored as a launch pass when the approval comes through.

Director Friedman asked if staff knew about General Services needing to review the amendment or if it was new information. Director Wilkins said that the revisions to the contract with WCB regarding launching fees at Lake Forest were slowed down as a result of the allegations of wrongdoing that were made to WCB by Jan Brisco. Mr. Bolton said that initially he was told that the Executive Director could have possibly made the decision but, when a community member challenged the issue, WCB felt they needed to send it to General

Services. Mr. Bolton said that staff is recommending the following pass prices for both residents and non-residents of TCPUD this year:

DAY PASS	\$ 10
SUMMER SEASON PASS	\$140
YEAR LONG PASS	\$195

Director Treabess suggested charging the regular price at the launch, but allow locals to go to Rideout to get a discount.

Mr. Bolton said that the punch card is not recommended for this year since it's getting so late that the value is close to the season pass.

Mr. Bolton and Mr. Dykstra reviewed the operating results for the boat ramp and campground for the past five years. The 2009 budget projections with various launch fee scenarios were reviewed and questions were answered by staff. Various staffing ideas were discussed, including cutting operation hours. Mr. Dykstra ran the projected budget with the ramp hours being 5:00 am – 11:00 pm Friday, Saturday, and Sunday; 5:00 am – 8:00 pm Monday through Thursday.

A gentleman named Roger asked about the flood lights at the ramp and suggested that they face down and be turned off late at night. Mr. Adamson said that they are on a switch and the intention is to have them shine downward and be turned off when not in use. He said that at night it's very dark there and some light is needed for the employee in the kiosk to be able to see when someone is coming. Mr. Bolton said that he would like Roger to be able to let Mr. Adamson know if there is a problem in the future. Roger also asked about the plan for routing boats into the driveway. Ms. Gustafson said that she would get him a copy of the plans.

Mr. Riva asked if the money that is currently being paid for parking will be credited towards the season passes. Staff confirmed that it would.

Susan Bennett said that there is a big need from visitors to have a staff person down at the water and it's virtually impossible for the person running the kiosk to be at the water, too.

Beth Erickson said that she lives in Lake Forest and boats often. She said that the cost increase is prohibiting her boss from going boating on Fathers' Day and she just wanted to express her thoughts. She also said that the tag was stolen off their boat and she wondered if there could be a more official tag from TRPA. Ms. Gustafson said that she believes that the new seals supposedly show when they have been tampered with. Ms. Erickson also voiced her opinion that waterskiing is better in the evening while the water is glassy and she wished the hours could be later.

Director Wilkins said that he is supportive of staff's recommendations. He is discouraged because the original plan would have reduced the subsidy by \$25,000 and would have provided a higher level of service over the summer. He feels it is unfortunate that we couldn't have implemented what we originally wanted to and provided a greater service to the community. Director Wilkins made a motion to approve the revised rates recommended by staff for season and yearlong parking passes for Lake Forest Boat Ramp. The motion died for lack of a second.

Director Treabess said that he believes it is a good idea for summer passes to be good through September. He feels that we ought to simplify this and just have one fee for the

rest of the year (\$195). Regarding hours, he feels that Monday through Thursday the hours should be 6:00 am – 9:00 pm to make it fair to all boaters. Ms. Gustafson said that we serve a lot more people between 5:00 – 6:00 am than we do from 8:00 – 9:00 pm. Mr. Adamson agreed. Mr. Bolton added that the morning hour issue is that WCB owns the ramp and their main charge is for fishermen out on the water.

Brian Kane said that there isn't enough flexibility for changing operating hours due to weather and lake level. Ms. Gustafson said that part of the reason the season pass was lowered was due to those issues and she thanked him for his input.

Director Friedman said that she was shocked that the District is subsidizing this item so much and asked at what point we stop because we can't afford it.

Motion to approve the revised rates recommended by staff for season and year-long parking passes for Lake Forest Boat Ramp with the addition that we give staff some flexibility to make staff level decisions to adjust or reduce hours if activity levels are waning: Wilkins/Friedman/4-1 with Director Reinkens voting no.

C. PUBLIC FORUM

Susan Bennett asked why cars can't park in the empty space next to the ramp. Ms. Gustafson said that the owners of the property and the neighbors said no to requests for parking there ten years ago, but she will continue to ask.

Director Friedman asked if we can continue to charge a launch fee after the inspections end. Mr. Bolton said that we have a contract with WCB and they would have to change it.

Director Treabess said that if the Board is going to have special meetings, things need to be able to be discussed thoroughly. He felt that this meeting was rushed and Board members were not allowed to make their comments.

D. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Erik Henrikson, President

Ginger Charlton, District Clerk

Prepared by Ginger Charlton