



Livermore Area
Recreation and Park District
An independent special district

REGULAR MEETING of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2024

5:00 P.M.

Robert Livermore Community Center
4444 East Avenue, Livermore, California
Sycamore Room

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Directors James Boswell, Maryalice Faltings,
Philip Pierpont,
Vice Chair Jan Palajac, Chair David Furst

DIRECTORS ABSENT: None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Mathew Fuzie, Linda VanBuskirk, David Weisgerber

DISTRICT COUNSEL: Andrew Shen, Esq. with Renne Public Law Group
Gary Bell, Esq. with Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley, PC

OTHERS PRESENT: None

1. CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Chair Furst called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. All Directors were present. Chair Furst led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** Chair Furst opened the public comment period. There were no speakers, and the public comment period was closed.

3. CONSENT ITEMS:

- 3.1 Approval of the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting on February 7, 2024;
- 3.2 Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting on February 14, 2024.

Public Comment: Chair Furst opened the public comment period. There were no speakers, and the public comment period was closed.

MOTION:

Moved by Director Palajac, seconded by Director Boswell, approved the Consent Agenda by the following voice vote:

AYES: *Directors Boswell, Faltings, Palajac, Pierpont, and Chair Furst (5)*

NOES: *None (0)*
ABSTENTIONS: *None (0)*
ABSENT: *None (0)*

4. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

4.1 CALIFORNIA SPECIAL DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS CALL FOR NOMINATIONS – BAY AREA NETWORK, SEAT A

General Manager Mathew Fuzie reported that the California Special Districts Association (CSDA) Elections and Bylaws Committee is looking for independent special district board members or their general managers who are interested in leading the direction of CSDA for the 2025-2027 term. The opening is on the Bay Area Network – Seat A. The incumbent, Chad Davisson, CSDM, General Manager at Ironhouse Sanitary District, is running for re-election. The deadline for receiving nominations is April 10, 2024.

Chair Furst asked if any of the Board members would like to self-nominate or nominate a fellow Director. Director Boswell nominated Chair Furst, who respectfully declined.

Public Comment: Chair Furst opened the public comment period. There were no speakers, and the public comment period was closed.

Action:

No Board action was taken at this time.

4.2 TERMINATION AND DISSOLUTION OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF LIVERMORE FINANCING AUTHORITY (GOLFA)

GM Fuzie reported that in 1989, the City of Livermore (COL) and the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARPD) entered into a Joint Exercise of Authority Agreement (JPA Agreement) that created GOLFA to acquire, construct, and equip property to be used as a maintenance service center by the City and LARPD and improvements to Robertson Park Road. The maintenance service center was financed through lease financing that was accomplished through agreements and leases between the City, LARPD, GOLFA, and other entities. In 2011, the City and LARPD fully met GOLFA's lease financing repayment obligations. GOLFA has not been used for any other purpose and can be dissolved. The proposed Termination Agreement dissolves GOLFA. It was presented to the COL City Council at its February 26, 2024 meeting. District Counsel Andrew Shen, Esq. reported and confirmed that the COL City Council approved the Termination Agreement at that meeting.

Recommendation: Staff recommended that the Board of Directors adopt a resolution authorizing the approval of the Governments of Livermore Financing Authority (GOLFA) Termination Agreement.

Public Comment: Chair Furst opened the public comment period. There were no speakers, and the public comment period was closed.

RESOLUTION:

Moved by Director Faltings, seconded by Director Palajac, adopted Resolution no. 2805, authorizing the approval of the Governments of Livermore Financing Authority (GOLFA) Termination Agreement and authorizing the General Manager to execute, on behalf of the LARPD, the Agreement with the City of Livermore, to terminate the JPA Agreement and dissolve GOLFA, by the following roll call vote:

AYES: *Directors Pierpont, Boswell, Palajac, Faltings, and Chair Boswell (5)*

NOES: *None (0)*

ABSTENTIONS: *None (0)*

ABSENT: *None (0)*

4.3 STRATEGIC PLAN

Chair Furst announced that the Board would continue its review and editing of the Draft Strategic Plan.

GM Fuzie stated that at its Special Board Meeting/Board Retreat on February 7, 2024, the Board discussed bringing the draft strategic plan back for a working session to capture edits from the Board and plan to finalize the plan for a later vote. The strategic plan has been discussed on numerous occasions beginning with a consultant on February 1, 2023, February 22, March 8, March 27, June 14, August 9, September 13, and September 20, 2023.

The Board discussed the strategic plan generally and agreed to send in any additional critiques, questions, clarifications, changes to GM Fuzie, Executive Assistant (EA) VanBuskirk, and Community Outreach Supervisor (COS) David Weisgerber to gather it all and present a redlined version at an upcoming board meeting.

Board questions/comments included the following:

- At page 9: In the Values statement, it says “adaptability” is one of our values. Then in the 2nd sentence it is referred to as “flexibility”. Those are not the same thing. Suggested staff change “flexibility” in the 2nd sentence to “adaptability” or “adaptability and flexibility”. Board consensus was yes, change flexibility to adaptability.
- At page 10 “Priorities (Areas of Emphasis)” it isn’t in the framework, but it is noted in the document. Staff to look at that and try to see if we can either build in that header earlier or change it a bit but keep the content.
- At page 19 “Appendix 1: Expectations” Suggested the entire appendix be removed. Staff should make sure that where there are RED NOTES – those need to be removed.
- At page 21 “Single-Page view of the core elements of the strategic plan” The mission shown there is the form Mission statement. The new Mission Statement should replace the former.

- Also on page 21: Under Values – the last word “collaborative” should read as “collaboration”

Action:

No Board action was taken at this time, but Chair Furst suggested fellow Board members turn in their edits/comments to GM Fuzie with a copy to COS Weisgerber and EA VanBuskirk no later than Friday, March 1st.

5. INFORMATION ITEMS (No Action Required)

None.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a) Director Pierpont reported on his attendance, along with Director Boswell, at the February 26, 2024 Finance Committee meeting. Its agenda was included in the Board agenda packet. Chair Furst asked if there will be an update to the Board on the Financial Objectives for FY23-24. GM Fuzie responded that this was a report on the workplan for the year including such items as the Chart of Accounts, a budget tool, etc. He further reported that the long-awaited effort to restructure the District’s chart of accounts was completed at the end of February. Staff will now be able to begin work on many of the finance goals and objectives that have, up until now, been hindered by the need to update the relatively ineffective chart of accounts. Some of these objectives include the implementation of the fixed assets and purchasing modules in the Great Plains accounting system, automation of Cal Card processes, and the implementation of a new budget tool.
- b) Chair Furst, along with Director Palajac and GM Fuzie, attended the February 22, 2024 Intergovernmental Committee meeting. Its agenda was included in the Board agenda packet. During the meeting, the COL announced the cancellation of the 4th of July event for this year, including the fireworks show. The decision was based on several reasons, such as 60% of the last event’s attendees being from out of town, resulting in traffic congestion. Moreover, the significant presence of Fire and Police Department officers at the event led to understaffing issues across the rest of the city. Director Palajac mentioned that although there will not be an evening event, the COL plans to organize something during the day, without fireworks. GM Fuzie added that although LVJUSD Superintendent Chris Van Schaack was absent, he intended to discuss his vision for the necessity of childcare for both employees and the community.
- c) Director Faltings reported her attendance at the February 27, 2024 Community Gardens meeting. There was a good turnout, including staff and approximately 25 existing plot renters. The focal point of the discussions revolved around the establishment of a new satellite community garden at Mocho Park, which is set to offer 20 regular plots and 2 ADA-accessible plots. (A copy of the plot map and agenda will be attached to the minutes.) GM Fuzie informed the group that the COL presented plans for a community garden in the Springtown area, with the intention of handing over the responsibility for LARPD to manage the proposed facility. Chair Furst suggested this item go to the Facilities Committee meeting.
- d) Director Pierpont was not able to attend the February 20, 2024 Livermore Downtown, Inc. meeting due to family illnesses.
- e) Director Palajac reported on her attendance at the February 20, 2024 meeting of the Alameda County Agricultural Sub-committee on Trails. She mentioned the presence of

a representative from the Tri-Valley Conservancy and highlighted her prior attendance at another meeting. During the session, the committee provided updates on their progress and discussed potential financial support they could offer. The conversation also delved into exploring various avenues through which the committee could receive assistance in addressing gaps in their initiatives.

Public Comment: Chair Furst opened the public comment period. There were no speakers, and the public comment period was closed.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/MATTERS INITIATED/ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE DIRECTORS

None.

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/MATTERS INITIATED/ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE GENERAL MANAGER

GM Fuzie made the following announcements:

- a) The 33rd Annual Alameda County Special District Association Dinner is scheduled for Thursday, March 21, 2024 at the Wedgewood at Redwood Canyon Golf Course, 17007 Redwood Rd, Castro Valley. The guest speaker will be Sarah Anzia, PhD and Author Professor of Public Policy and Political Science at the University of California at Berkeley. Topic: "Interest Groups in Local Government: Political Activity and Influence" Doors at 6pm, with dinner at 7pm.
- b) On February 21st GM Fuzie was re-appointed to the CAPRI Board of Directors.

9. OPEN SESSION DISCLOSURE REGARDING CLOSED SESSION ITEM, PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957.7 AND DESIGNATION OF BOARD CHAIR AS THE AUTHORIZED AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE FOR ITEM 10, PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957.6

Chair Furst announced that the LARPD Board of Directors would be convening into Closed Session to discuss the item listed as 10.1 on the agenda. There was no objection from the Board to designating Chair Furst as the Agency Designated Representative. Open Session was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

10. CLOSED SESSION

- 10.1 CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR (Gov. Code section 54957.6)**
Agency Designated Representative: Chair David Furst
Unrepresented Employee: General Manager

11. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION; REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION – PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957.1

The Board came out of Closed Session at 7:10 p.m. and Chair Furst announced that there was no reportable action. Chair Furst then adjourned the meeting without a vote and by unanimous consent.

12. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

APPROVED,



David Furst
Chair, Board of Directors

ATTEST:



Mathew L. Fuzie
General Manager and
Ex-officio Clerk to the Board of Directors

/Lvb