Livermore Area
Recreation and Park District
An independent special district

Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

MINUTES

September 30, 2026
5:00 p.m.

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

Directors Present:	Directors Jan Palajac, James Boswell, Vice Chair Maryalice Faltings, Chair Philip Pierpont
Directors Absent:	Director David Furst
Staff Present:	Jill Kirk, Community Services Manager (CSM) Marc Roberts, Land Agent / Planner (LP) Rene Venus Dalusong, Executive Assistant to the General Manager
District Counsel:	Andrew Shen, Esq. with Renne Public Law Group
Others Present:	Larry Bird, David Lunn

1. **CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**: Chair Pierpont called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. All Directors were present except for Director Furst. Chair Pierpont led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT**: Chair Pierpont opened the public comment period.

   a) Written public comment was received from Richard Quigley asking that the Board consider a 30- to 60-day extension of the public review process to include missing existing trail maps in the draft Parks, Recreation, and Trails Master Plan (Supplemental Item 2a).
   b) Written public comment was received from Lynnette Olson concerning Max Baer Dog Park's maintenance, including overgrown grass, a missing garbage can, and large holes caused by dogs digging. Olson asked the Board to consider posting a sign to discourage digging. (Supplemental Item 2b).
   c) Written public comment was received from Peggy Hughes about Max Baer Dog Park. Hughes raised concerns about watering, mowing, unclear park closure information, and slow responses from LARPD staff to park users' questions. Hughes also asked the Board to consider a permanent restroom instead of the portable toilet (Supplemental Item 2c).

   No further comments were received, and the public comment period was closed.

3. OPEN SESSION DISCLOSURE REGARDING CLOSED SESSION ITEMS 4.1 (Gov. Code, § 54957.7)

Chair Pierpont announced that the LARPD Board of Directors would convene a Closed Session to discuss item 4.1. Closed Session was convened at 5:03 p.m.

4. CLOSED SESSION

4.1 **Conference with Real Property Negotiators (Gov. Code, § 54956.8)**
Properties: Assessor Parcel Nos. 099A-1610-001-09, 099A-2300-004-06, 099A-2310-003-01, 099A-1501-003-07, 099A-1504-002, 099A-2300-003-03, 099-0850-005-05, 099-0625- 002-02, 099-0500-001-03, 099-0625-002-01, 099A-2310-002-00, 099- 0600-001-07, 099-0600-001-08
Agency Negotiators: Mathew L. Fuzie, General Manager and Marc Roberts, Land Agent / Planner
Negotiating Parties: City of Livermore, Wente Bros. (dba Wente Family Vineyards/Wente Family Estates), Wente Land & Cattle Company
Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment

The acquisition is intended to be part of the City's Open Space Conservation Program, which works with property owners to acquire land for open space, habitat and watershed protection, and non-motorized passive recreational opportunities.

5. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION; REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION (Gov. Code, § 54957.1)

The Board of Directors returned from Closed Session at 5:37 p.m. Chair Pierpont stated that no reportable action was taken.

6. CONSENT AGENDA (Motion):

3.1 Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting on September 9, 2026.

MOTION:
Moved by Director Palajac, seconded by Director Faltings, approved Consent Agenda Item 3.1 as submitted by the following voice vote:

AYES:	Directors Palajac, Boswell, Faltings, and Chair Pierpont (4)
NOES:	None (0)
ABSTENTIONS:	None (0)
ABSENT:	Director Furst (1)

7. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

4.1 **Authorization to Accept Wente Ranch for Ownership and Maintenance as a Regional Park**

The Board discussed approving the resolution expressing its intent to accept the purchase of Wente Ranch. LP Roberts requested revisions to Attachment 1, as follows:

a) Resolution Title: Change "A Resolution Supporting the Acquisition of the Wente Ranch Property and Agreeing to Own…" to "A Resolution Supporting the Acquisition of the Wente Ranch Property."
b) Whereas Items: Delete the first "Whereas" clause: "Whereas, on July 25, 2023, the City…"

c) Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved: Revise Item 3 from "The Board agrees to own the Wente Ranch property; and" to "The Board agrees to own the Wente Ranch property should negotiations and funding lead to a successful acquisition of the property."

Chair Pierpont opened the public comment period.

a) David Lunn spoke in support of the proposed acquisition of Wente Ranch.

No further comments were received, and the public comment period was closed.

RESOLUTION: Moved by Director Palajac, seconded by Director Faltings, adopted Resolution No. 2852, as amended, supporting the acquisition of the Wente Ranch property, by the following roll call vote:

AYES:	Directors Palajac, Boswell, Faltings, and Chair Pierpont (4)
NOES:	None (0)
ABSTENTIONS:	None (0)
ABSENT:	Director Furst (1)

8. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS (No Action Required)

DC Shen explained the election process and a possible future ballot measure on Board term limits. Key points included:

- California Government Code Section 53077(a) allows the Board to propose term limits, but voters must approve them.
- Any term limits would apply only going forward and would not apply after the fact.
- The measure must appear on a regularly scheduled election ballot. The next eligible election is March 7, 2028.
- The Board must follow legal rules when communicating with the public about a pending ballot measure.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a) Director Palajac reported attending the September 15, 2026, Facilities Committee meeting with Chair Pierpont. The Committee received an update on the Sports Stack Pilot Program and short-term improvements at May Nissen Swim Center and agreed to $11,000 in pool repairs, with the facility closed for 10 days. The Facilities Committee agenda was included in the Board agenda packet.

b) Director Boswell reported attending the September 14, 2026, Finance Committee meeting with Director Palajac. The Committee received an update on the Fiscal Year 2025-26 audit, Surplus Assets Sales, and monthly financials. The Finance Committee agenda was included in the Board agenda packet.

c) Director Boswell reported attending the September 14, 2026, Personnel Committee meeting with Director Furst. The Committee reviewed and provided feedback on the General Manager performance evaluation policy, received Human Resources updates on 2026 medical and healthcare rates, and Financial Awareness Month. The Personnel Committee agenda was included in the Board agenda packet.

d) Director Boswell reported attending the September 21, 2026, Alameda County Subcommittee on Trails, where they discussed trail updates.

e) Director Palajac reported attending the September 14, 2026, LARPD Foundation meeting. The group discussed the Giving Tree Program. They will update the tree through 2026, then pause the program.

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/MATTERS INITIATED/ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE DIRECTORS:

a) Vice Chair Faltings shared concerns she saw posted on social media about Max Baer Dog Park, including trash and grass that needed mowing. CSM Kirk said staff had already addressed the issues.

b) Director Boswell briefly talked about the 11,000 acres of unincorporated land northeast of the District's service area. Chair Pierpont said the item will be discussed after the Parks, Recreation, and Trails Master Plan is approved.

11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/MATTERS INITIATED/ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE GENERAL MANAGER: Acting General Manager Jill Kirk announced her retirement, with her last day in the office scheduled for this week.

12. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 6:16 p.m.

APPROVED,

Philip Pierpont
Chair, Board of Directors

ATTEST:

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

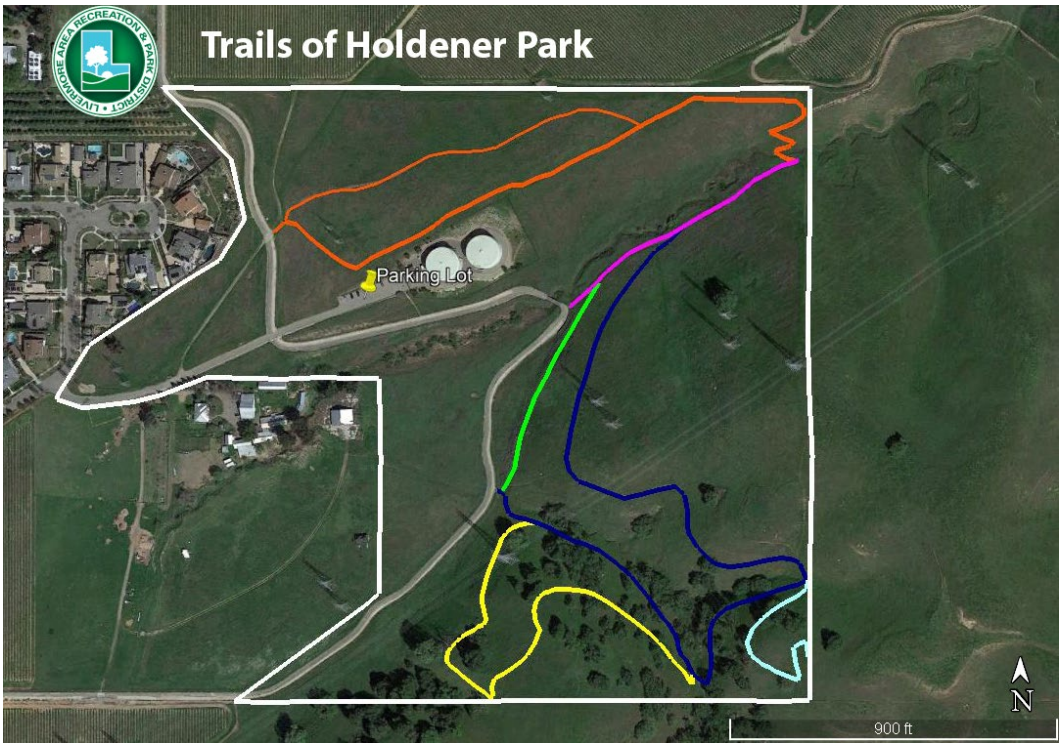
/Rvd

From: RICHARD QUIGLEY
To: Public Comment
Cc: Rene Venus Dalusong
Subject: Fwd: requesting the board consider a 30 -60 day extension of the public review process
Date: Monday, September 21, 2026 3:01:15 PM
Attachments: image.png

---------- Original Message ----------
From: RICHARD QUIGLEY [redacted]t>
To: David Weisgerber <dweisgerber@larpd.org>, Mathew Fuzie <mfuzie@larpd.org>, Marc Roberts <mroberts@larpd.org>
Cc: [redacted], James Boswell <jboswell@larpd.org>, [redacted], Steven Dunbar [redacted], Andrew Turnbull [redacted], Diana Roberts [redacted]
Date: 09/18/2026 1:50 PM PDT
Subject: requesting the board consider a 30 -60 day extension of the public review process
Hi David
Thank you for the 90% master plan and trails map asking for public comments. Much of the plan seems to promote public good and I can support, however the planned trails map I believe needs help and is an important component of the master plan process. The map clearly does not show many existing trail and I would request their inclusion for public understanding.
I have listed some of the missing existing trails from web available data searching, leading me to believe the map needs fixing before adoption on 10/14. **I am requesting the board consider a 30 -60 day extension of the public review process to get the needed missing existing trail maps included**
Thank You
Happy Trails
DQ

Sycamore Grove Park Trail Map

Livermore Area Recreation and Park District
https://www.larpd.org › sycamore-grove-park-trail-map
Map of Sycamore Grove Park highlighting trails, entrances, parking areas, and picnic spots. *Sycamore Grove Park Trail Map*.Read more



AllTrails
https://www.alltrails.com › trail › california › brushy-pe...
Brushy Peak and West Side Loop i*s considered a moderate hike that covers 4.5 mi*, with an elevation gain of 754 ft. It takes about 2–2.5 hr to complete. Moderate ...Read more
4.6(2,205)
Distance: 4.5 miles
EBRPD Web enabled trail maps of:
Brushy Peak Brushy Peak Regional Preserve (PDF)
Del Valle Diablo Foothills Regional Park (PDF)
Ohlone Ohlone Wilderness Permit Map (PDF)
Shadow Cliffs Shadow Cliffs Regional Recreation Area (PDF)
Iron Horse Iron Horse Regional Trail (north) (PDF) (1,179 KB, opens in a new tab)
Iron Horse Regional Trail (south) (PDF)
Los Vaqueros CCWD trails-

- All Trails – Los Vaqueros Reservoir and Watershed

City of lLivermore
Available Trail and Map Resources

- **City Bikeways & Trail Network**: View and download the official Bikeways & Trail Network PDF Mapprovided by the City of Livermore engineering department. [1]

- **Interactive GIS Trails**: Explore real-time trail routing via the Bikeways and Multi-Use Trails Web Mapon the city's open data hub. [1]

From: Lynnette Olson
To: Public Comment
Subject: Max bear dog park
Date: Monday, September 28, 2026 1:40:18 PM

I've been going to the park for many years. Now though the park hasn't been mowed for a couple of weeks, there were 2 garbage cans, now there is 1. There were holes big enough to trip and fall and get hurt which only appeared in the last month. The holes were filled in with sand and 2 days later the dogs that were digging came again and drugged them up again. Myself and another lady filled them in today. How long that will last who knows. Is there anyway, maybe a sign, suggesting person who owns these diggers stop the digging. Really love our dog park just want to keep it up.
Sent from my iPhone

From: Peggy Hughes
To: Public Comment
Subject: MAX BAER DOG PARK
Date: Tuesday, September 29, 2026 3:51:50 PM

Since I am unable to attend the September 30th Board meeting, I would like to submit these public comments regarding Max Baer Dog Park:
I and my dog, along with our friends, have been daily visitors to this dog park for many years. This summer, and especially lately, there have been issues. Sometimes if Eric is there we will let him know about things - the faucet was broken, the service gate needed adjusting so small dogs can't get out, and he immediately took care of things.
But this summer the park would go for weeks without being watered resulting in a field of low dry weeds (but the crew would still show up to mow, even though there was no growth to maintain). When we would ask any crew working there why there was no watering, they would tell us they are concentrating on watering the fields for sporting events like the Little League World Series.
As Livermore property owners and LARPD tax payers and voters, we find this objectionable. We understand you want to present the best facilities for these events, but what about us? We aren't in a drought year, so why can't both happen? Don't we deserve nice grounds as much as anyone else who uses the park?
On September 14th, we were there when dirt was delivered as part of the Community Service projects on 9/19 (to fill holes in the field). Great idea!
But then on Tuesday, September 15th, we arrived to find the park locked with a sign saying "closed for maintenance". No effective dates, so phone number to get more info, <u>and no one there working on the park.</u>
I called 925-373-5700 to get more information, got a recording, so left a message with my phone number. <u>No one ever called me back.</u>
Same thing Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, no one there doing anything. A friend called twice during that time, and finally got a call back. She was told the park would open at noon on Saturday.
We were there on Friday when it was unlocked at around noon.
My point being, we can't get information, we're lucky if someone calls us back, and most importantly, the park was closed with no work going on.
The park is now being watered, it's really green, but now no one is mowing it (hopefully tomorrow?). I would have thought that would have been part of the plan during the week of "maintenance" but no. It gets mowed when it isn't needed when you don't water, but isn't getting mowed when necessary.
We love this park; this is our social gathering place for us and our dogs. All we ask for is some maintenance, and providing basic information and customer service to your constituents.
Well, we would love a real restroom instead of a porta potty, but I'll let that go for now!
Sincerely,
Peggy Hughes