

GREATER BOCA RATON BEACH & PARK DISTRICT
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
March 7, 2022

The MEETING took place at the Swim & Racquet Center and was also conducted virtually through the Zoom platform. The meeting was called to order by CHAIRMAN Erin Wright at 5:15 p.m.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Craig F. Ehrnst
Steven M. Engel
Robert K. Rollins, Jr.
Susan Vogelgesang
Erin Wright

CHANGES TO AGENDA:

PUBLIC REQUESTS:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS BOARD MEETINGS:

MOTION was made by Commissioner Vogelgesang and seconded by Commissioner Engel to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on February 22, 2022, at 5:15 p.m.

Discussion:

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Ehrnst	Yes
Commissioner Engel	Yes
Commissioner Rollins	Yes
Commissioner Vogelgesang	Yes
Commissioner Wright	Yes

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

REGULAR BUSINESS:

1. DeHoernle Park Maintenance Facility Discussion

The City has requested \$2,025,000 from the District for the DeHoernle Park Maintenance Facility project, 30% of the anticipated construction cost. The City anticipates that the District's 30% of annual operating costs will be \$19,770. The District has \$2,025,000 in a Reserve Fund pending approval of the project. If approved, the money will be transferred into a fund allocated for this project.

Commissioner Engel inquired about the District's legal ability to cap the project.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Engel and seconded by Commissioner Ehrnst to take \$2,025,000 out of the reserve fund and allocated it to the DeHoernle Park Maintenance Facility project. This project is approved with a cap of \$2,025,000. No additional funds will be put towards the construction of this project.

Discussion:

Commissioner Rollins stated that he does not support the project. He believes that the size and scope of the project are too large, the final costs are too uncertain, and that \$7,000,000 is an egregious amount to ask the public to spend on a facility.

Commissioner Vogelgesang inquired if the District can ask the City to obtain three bids for this project; if the City has the same type of restraints and conditions that the District has when they do an RFP; if the District has any say if the City chooses a contractor that has a higher bid and if the District can ask the City to scale down the project to cut costs. She would like to ensure that the bids that are awarded are compatible with the best possible standards.

Commissioner Engel clarified that the motion included a “cap,” and that the District can lower its contribution at its discretion if the necessity arises.

Commissioner Rollins asked the Board if they all will adhere to the cap of \$2,025,000 if the City requests additional funds for this project. The Board unanimously agreed that they will adhere to the cap of \$2,025,000 for this project.

Commissioner Wright inquired if the District’s 30% allocation is based on the total end cost of the project.

Commissioner Ehrnst supports the project with a cap. He believes that the City has the best interest of the taxpayers.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Ehrnst	Yes
Commissioner Engel	Yes
Commissioner Rollins	No
Commissioner Vogelgesang	No
Commissioner Wright	Yes

MOTION PASSES 3-2

2. YMCA Agreement

In December 2021, the Board awarded a bid to the YMCA for the Operator of the James A. Rutherford Community Center to operate a summer camp program out of the community center. Director Harms presented the agreement with the YMCA for the Board’s consideration. The agreement term is for one year. If the YMCA would like to add additional programming beyond the summer camp, they would need Board approval by amendments to the agreement.

Discussion:

Commissioner Rollins thinks that the YMCA is a fantastic organization and is thrilled to partner with them to do summer camps for the community. He noted that this agreement was originally designed for summer camp related activities using the James A. Rutherford Community Center. Commissioner Rollins clarified for the record that adult and youth sports leagues affiliated with the YMCA are not within the scope of this agreement and are not to be permitted to use the athletic facilities at Patch Reef Park.

Director Harms noted that in section 3.7 of the agreement the use of the playground, walking trails, and open green space does not require pre-approval. Camp activities taking place on turf fields, tennis facilities, and other athletic facilities must be scheduled and approved.

Commissioner Vogelgesang wants to make sure that the community has as many open fields as possible and thought it was very helpful that the agreement states the YMCA cannot sublease or assign the usage of the fields or the Community Center.

Commissioner Engel supports the agreement for the use of summer camps and understands the concerns of Commissioner Rollins regarding the space needed for the community.

Commissioner Wright was happy with the agreement and agrees that pre-approval is important for scheduling the turf fields.

Commissioner Ehrnst supports the agreement and is happy that there will be programming at the facility.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Ehrnst and seconded by Commissioner Engel to approve the YMCA Agreement, as presented.

Discussion:

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Ehrnst	Yes
Commissioner Engel	Yes
Commissioner Rollins	Yes
Commissioner Vogelgesang	Yes
Commissioner Wright	Yes

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

3. Via Verde Discussion

At a previous meeting, Commissioner Ehrnst asked Executive Director Harms to contact the Via Verde Homeowner Association for additional information on the change in the bylaws and penalties, and how it would affect the District. Director Harms reached out to Mr. John Stormont from Hawkeye Management, Inc. who provided the governing documents, association lists, and the commercial members. The District is currently an active member and pays an annual Homeowner Association fee of \$1975.00. Any pertinent correspondence from the Via Verde Association will be distributed to the Board.

APPROVAL OF PAYROLL AND INVOICES:

MOTION was made by Commissioner Ehrnst and seconded by Commissioner Engel to approve the payroll and invoices as presented, totaling \$379,587.22

Discussion:

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Ehrnst	Yes
Commissioner Engel	Yes
Commissioner Rollins	Yes
Commissioner Vogelgesang	Yes
Commissioner Wright	Yes

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Executive Director:

GBRB&PD Minutes: March 7, 2022

Pipes and Pumping project

Mobilization has begun on the Pipes and Pumping Project.

Swim and racquet center

The District anticipates that the 90% drawings for the Swim and Racquet Center will be available this week.

Patch Reef

The surveying has begun at Patch Reef Park for the new pickleball courts.

Boca Teeca

The open survey for the Boca Teeca project will be closing on Friday, March 11th.

Facility inspection software

The District is testing various maintenance software systems that will help improve records, keep track of work orders, warranties, and maintenance of the buildings. Director Harms will provide a sample report for the Board this week.

District Counsel:

Mr. Goren noted that the 2022 Legislative Session ends on Friday, March the 11th. Counsel will provide a full report on the bills that may have an impact on the District.

Commissioners:

Commissioner Vogelgesang congratulated Executive Director Harms for a job well done speaking at the Boca Raton Federation of Homeowners Association meeting last week. She did an excellent job explaining the past, present, and future of the District.

Commissioner Rollins would like to issue an RFP for Property Insurance for the District in May and inquired about the claim’s activity at District parks.

Commissioner Ehrnst requested obtaining quarterly claims reports; would like counsel to assess the salary ranges for staff, recommended keeping the lines of communication open with the City and suggested setting up a Joint Meeting with City Council.

Commissioner Wright requested that Director Harms find out when Miller Legg would have information available to share with City Council and start setting up a Joint meeting.

Commissioner Engel requested that the Tuesday, April 19th Board meeting be moved back to Monday, April 18th.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Rollins and seconded by Commissioner Engel to move the Tuesday, April 19th District Board meeting to Monday, April 18th at 5:15 p.m.

Discussion:

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Ehrnst	Yes
Commissioner Engel	Yes
Commissioner Rollins	Yes
Commissioner Vogelgesang	Yes
Commissioner Wright	Yes

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

CIP District Update -Mid-Year
Ocean Strand Update

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION was made by Commissioner Engel and seconded by Commissioner Vogelgesang to adjourn the meeting at 6:33 p.m.

Discussion:

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Ehrnst	Yes
Commissioner Engel	Yes
Commissioner Rollins	Yes
Commissioner Vogelgesang	Yes
Commissioner Wright	Yes

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED



Erin Wright

Chairman



Craig F. Ehrnst

Secretary-Treasurer