Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

A meeting of the Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District Board of Directors was held electronically on Tuesday, June 16, 2020. Executive Session 5:30 pm; Regular Meeting 6:30 pm.

Present:
Felicita Monteblanco President/Director
Tya Ping Secretary/Director
Wendy Kroger Secretary Pro-Tempore/Director
Heidi Edwards Director
Ashley Hartmeier-Prigg Director
Doug Menke General Manager

Agenda Item #1 – Executive Session (A) Personnel (B) Legal
President Felicita Monteblanco called executive session to order for the following purposes:
• To consider the employment of a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, and
• To consult with counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of a public body with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed, and
• To consider information or records that are exempt by law from public inspection.
The Executive Session is held under authority of ORS 192.660(2) (a) (f) and (h).

President Monteblanco noted that the news media and designated staff may attend executive session. Representatives of the news media were directed not to disclose information discussed during executive session. No final action or final decision may be made in executive session.

Agenda Item #2 – Call Regular Meeting to Order
A Regular Meeting of the Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District Board of Directors was called to order by President Felicita Monteblanco on Tuesday, June 16, 2020, at 6:30 pm.

Agenda Item #3 – Action Resulting from Executive Session
There was no action resulting from executive session.

President Monteblanco commented on the General Manager’s annual evaluation conducted during executive session, noting that the board appreciates his leadership and character very much, especially during this challenging time in navigating a state of emergency and pandemic.

Agenda Item #4 – Election of Officers for Fiscal Year 2020/21
President Monteblanco opened the floor to nominations for board officers for fiscal year 2020/21.

Heidi Edwards nominated Ashley Hartmeier-Prigg to serve as President of the Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District Board of Directors for fiscal year 2020/21. Tya Ping seconded the nomination. Hearing no further nominations, roll call proceeded as follows:

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Ashley Hartmeier-Prigg   Yes
Wendy Kroger            Yes
Tya Ping                Yes
Heidi Edwards           Yes
Felicita Monteblanco    Yes

The nomination to elect Ashley Hartmeier-Prigg to serve as President for fiscal year 2020/21 was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

Ashley Hartmeier-Prigg nominated Tya Ping to serve as Secretary of the Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District Board of Directors for fiscal year 2020/21. Heidi Edwards seconded the nomination. Hearing no further nominations, roll call proceeded as follows:

Tya Ping                Yes
Wendy Kroger           Yes
Heidi Edwards          Yes
Ashley Hartmeier-Prigg Yes
Felicita Monteblanco  Yes

The nomination to elect Tya Ping to serve as secretary for fiscal year 2020/21 was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

Tya Ping nominated Heidi Edwards to serve as Secretary Pro-tempore of the Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District Board of Directors for fiscal year 2020/21. Ashley Hartmeier-Prigg seconded the nomination. Hearing no further nominations, roll call proceeded as follows:

Tya Ping                Yes
Heidi Edwards          Yes
Wendy Kroger           Yes
Ashley Hartmeier-Prigg Yes
Felicita Monteblanco  Yes

The nomination to elect Heidi Edwards to serve as Secretary Pro-tempore for fiscal year 2020/21 was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

Tya Ping expressed appreciation for President Monteblanco’s leadership over the course of this past fiscal year, which was the inaugural year for this board, and that she is grateful for Felicita’s experience and passion for the district.

Agenda Item #5 – Proclamation: Parks and Recreation Month
The board members read into the record a proclamation that the Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District declares the month of July 2020 as Parks and Recreation Month.

Agenda Item #6 – Budget Hearing: Resolution Adopting the Fiscal Year 2020/21 Budget, Levying Taxes and Making Appropriations
A.   Open Hearing
President Monteblanco opened the Budget Hearing.

B.   Staff Report
Keith Hobson, Director of Business & Facilities, provided an overview of the memo included within the board of directors’ information packet, noting that there are no adjustments to the approved budget being proposed by district staff this evening. Board approval is being requested of the resolution to adopt the FY 2020/21 budget, make appropriations, and levy ad valorem taxes.

C.   Public Comment
There was no public comment.
D. Board Discussion
Ashley Hartmeier-Prigg inquired how the district’s budget will reflect the continued financial impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and whether the board will need to make future amendments to the budget document in order to reflect those impacts.

- Keith replied that it is not the intent to ask the board to formally amend or adjust the budget, but that district staff is preparing alternate spending plans based on the available resources within the overall authority provided in the budget.

Heidi Edwards recognized the staff effort that went into preparing the budget before the board this evening, knowing that there is much more work ahead as we move through the pandemic and begin to reopen facilities.

President Monteblanco complimented the accessibility of the budget document, noting that it is not common for such documents to be easily understandable, and that it reflects the values of the district.

E. Close Hearing
President Monteblanco closed the budget hearing.

F. Board Action
Tya Ping moved that the board of directors approve Resolution 2020-10 to adopt the 2020/21 budget, levy ad valorem taxes, and make appropriations. Heidi Edwards seconded the motion. Roll call proceeded as follows:

- Wendy Kroger  Yes
- Ashley Hartmeier-Prigg  Yes
- Heidi Edwards  Yes
- Tya Ping  Yes
- Felicita Monteblanco  Yes

The motion was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

Agenda Item #7 – Audience Time
Secretary Tya Ping read written testimony received into the record:

Claire Reneau, 5335 SW Menlo Drive, Beaverton, provided written testimony proposing to rename Fanno Creek Trail to Chakeipi Trail. She explained that the first known people to settle the banks of the Beaverton and Fanno Creeks were the Atfalati, a tribe of the Kalapuya Native Americans and that their name for the area was “Chakeipi” meaning “place of the beaver.” According to THPRD’s District Compiled Policies Chapter 8.05B1, the district supports consideration of renaming requests that “preserve and honor the history of the district and the communities it serves, historical figures, its Native American heritage, local landmarks, and prominent geographical locations.” She noted that we are currently at a moment in history when we are being asked to reflect on how we recognize the lives and contributions of all people, not just those of white settlers. Renaming the Fanno Creek Trail to Chakeipi Trail would provide THPRD an opportunity to honor our Native settlers’ heritage. Furthermore, the name Chakeipi Trail would restore the original name to a historically significant location in our district’s history.

- President Monteblanco commented that while there are costs associated with making such changes, it would also reflect the board’s values. She wondered whether the request would be appropriate for the board’s parking lot for future discussion.

- General Manager Doug Menke referenced the work district staff is currently engaged in with Portland State University on the topic of naming and recognitions, noting that an update will be provided at an upcoming board meeting.
Wendy Kroger added that the Parks & Facilities Advisory Committee has also been engaged on the topic of naming and cultural recognition and that she would like to have this proposal included for the advisory committee’s consideration as well.

Agenda Item #8 – Board Time
A. Committee Liaisons Updates
The board members and General Manager Doug Menke recognized the upcoming retirement of Keith Hobson, Director of Business & Facilities, and thanked him for his many years of service to the district.

Wendy Kroger noted that she has been enjoying visiting district sites, such as Greenway Park.

Heidi Edwards provided the following updates and comments during board time:
• Reflected on the Black Lives Matter movement, noting the obligation for us to respond to our Black communities and address their needs, as Black people continue to be killed and suffer racism. She hopes that the district will call out the need to recognize not just people of color, but Black individuals who live within Washington County, and that we are making sure to be welcoming and supporting them in our services.
• Although the Nature & Trails Advisory Committee has not met recently due to the current state of emergency, they have been involved in the Clean Water Services easement request under the board’s consideration for approval this evening and she is looking forward to seeing that project move forward.
• Recognized the public testimony received this evening suggesting the consideration of renaming our trails to represent the native people of this land and what it meant to them.
• The Tualatin Hills Park Foundation released a statement this week in support of the Black Lives Matter movement, as well as diversity, equity, inclusion and access, and the foundation’s dedication to its mission of Access for All.

Tya Ping provided the following updates and comments during board time:
• She recently registered her children for summer camp programs and is excited that the district is able to offer these services and looks forward to seeing how they grow in spite of the complications posed by the pandemic.
• Echoed Heidi’s comments regarding the district’s commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion and access, noting that she hopes the board keeps momentum in moving forward and working with community leaders to determine the best ways to serve populations in need.

Ashley Hartmeier-Prigg expressed gratitude for the continuation of Centro de Bienvenida during this challenging time, noting that it reflects the board’s values and commitment to the community and that she looks forward to seeing how it will grow in the future.

President Monteblanco provided the following updates and comments during board time:
• Expressed appreciation for staff’s efforts in bringing summer camp registration to fruition this past weekend, and for maintaining the district’s trails and outdoor spaces that are being so heavily used right now.
• Referenced the board’s upcoming work session regarding Park Patrol on July 22.
  ✓ General Manager Doug Menke confirmed that a work session has been scheduled to discuss the district’s Park Patrol services, along with the System Development Charge Methodology Update currently in process.
  ✓ Holly Thompson, Communications Director, provided an overview of new ways the district is exploring in making space available for the community to express themselves and their views of solidarity. District staff are working with community
partners on ideas, including painted rock gardens and expression walls at various park sites. Additional information will be provided at the work session.

Agenda Item #9 – Consent Agenda
Wendy Kroger moved that the board of directors approve consent agenda items (A) Resolution Authorizing Application for a Transportation and Growth Management Grant for Planning and Design of Westside Trail Segment 14, and (B) Resolution Authorizing Amendment to the Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District Retirement Plan Fiduciary Responsibility Delegation Charter. Tya Ping seconded the motion. Roll call proceeded as follows:

Ashley Hartmeier-Prigg   Yes
Heidi Edwards       Yes
Tya Ping           Yes
Wendy Kroger    Yes
Felicitia Monteblanco     Yes
The motion was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

Agenda Item #10 – New Business
A. Intergovernmental Agreement with Clean Water Services for Easements at Tualatin Hills Nature Park
Bruce Barbarasch, Nature & Trails Manager, introduced Brad Crement, Senior Engineer with Clean Water Services, to provide an overview of easements being requested by Clean Water Services (CWS) in order to expand the capacity of an existing sewer line that runs along Cedar Mill Creek through the Tualatin Hills Nature Park. Construction is proposed to start in summer 2021 and is expected to last for two construction seasons, concluding in fall 2022.

Bruce and Brad provided a detailed PowerPoint presentation regarding the proposed project, a copy of which was entered into the record, and which included information on the following:

- Integrated Sanitary Sewer / Natural Resource Enhancement Project
  - Existing sewer line will be capacity-deficient by 2025
  - 4,900 linear feet of sanitary sewer upsized from 36-inch to 48-inch diameter
  - Detailed alternative analysis to select alignment
  - Improved maintenance access
  - Improved stream resiliency
  - Invasive plant management and revegetation

- Public Outreach
  - Collaborated directly with THPRD and other stakeholders on project development
  - Significant public outreach determined best location for new sewer line, including input from Nature & Trails Advisory Committee and Friends of the Nature Park
  - Minimize disturbance to nature and park users
  - Overlap with stormwater management approaches

- Impacts to the Tualatin Hills Nature Park
  - Requires new permanent and temporary easements
  - Impacts several trails and boardwalks, isolating segments of the park
    - Trails will be closed during construction
    - CWS is working with THPRD to relocate some boardwalks to keep critical paths open
    - Eleven acres of disturbance
  - Defined maintenance routes with improved infrastructure to support vehicles

- Intergovernmental Agreement Key Points
  - Exchange easements for boardwalk improvements
    - Each boardwalk that is impacted will be rebuilt to current THPRD
standards, including the use of new pultruded plastic decking, at no cost to THPRD
  - Full replacement of impacted areas to current standards
    - Habitat restoration, replanting, monitoring, and maintenance will be completed on impacted natural areas and maintained for a period of five years or until area meets performance standards, whichever is greater
  - Keep trails accessible during construction
    - CWS is responsible for all permits, visitor safety measures, and public communications / detours
  - Improved accessibility for sewer maintenance

Bruce and Brad offered to answer any questions the board may have.

Wendy Kroger encouraged the maximum amount of public signage and education regarding the project, including the environmental and community benefits, and inquired about the status of the permits for the project.

- Brad provided an overview of the permits being sought, noting that the permit applications have been drafted and are under internal review. They hope to have most permits approved by the end of the year.

Heidi Edwards expressed appreciation for the amount of interagency collaboration and public outreach on this project, including with the district’s Nature & Trails Advisory Committee.

Ashley Hartmeier-Prigg inquired whether there would be any public access by the time the first project season ends in winter 2021 and before the second project season begins.

- Bruce replied that some areas will be closed for the duration of the project, but the Big Fir Trail, which connects the east and west portions of the park, will be rebuilt in the first construction season. Trail users accessing the park via the light rail station will also be able to do so throughout the duration of the project.

President Monteblanco expressed appreciation for the commitment to the environment and public that exemplifies the wonderful partnership between THPRD and CWS.

Ashley Hartmeier-Prigg moved that the board of directors approve the easements, intergovernmental agreement, and associated documents with Clean Water Services and authorization for the general manager or designee to execute the necessary documents to facilitate the project. Heidi Edwards seconded the motion. Roll call proceeded as follows:

- Wendy Kroger  Yes
- Tya Ping  Yes
- Heidi Edwards  Yes
- Ashley Hartmeier-Prigg  Yes
- Felicita Monteblanco  Yes

The motion was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

Agenda Item #11 – Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.