

**DON PEDRO RECREATION AGENCY
BOARD OF CONTROL - DON PEDRO PROJECT
APPROVED MINUTES
August 15, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER: 10:00 a.m.

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: Ron Macedo – Turlock Irrigation District (TID)
Jesse Franco – Modesto Irrigation District (MID)
Margaret Hannaford – City & County of San Francisco (CCSF)

OTHERS PRESENT: Ryan Reis – DPRA, Department Manager
Brad Koehn – TID, General Manager
Brannon Gomes – DPRA, Recreation Division Manager
Jim McCoy – DPRA, Recreation Division Manager
Rebecca Dack – DPRA, Administrative Assistant
Sara Lima – DPRA, General Counsel

CALL TO ORDER

Director Macedo called the meeting to order at 10:00am.

MOTION APPROVING CONSENT CALENDAR *Action Item*

All matters listed hereunder will be acted upon by a single vote of the Board. There will be no individual discussion of these items unless a member of the Board or the public so requests, in which event the matter shall be removed from the Consent Calendar and considered as a separate agenda item

1. Approval of minutes of the regular meeting of July 18, 2025. Copies are on file at Don Pedro Headquarters
2. Board consideration to cancel the September DPRA Regular Meeting scheduled for September 19, 2025

Director Hannaford motioned to approve the consent calendar. Director Franco seconded the motion. Motion carries.

DISCUSSION OF ANY ACTION ITEM REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR

There were no items removed from the consent calendar.

SUNTEX UPDATE

Suntex was unable to attend the meeting. No update was provided.

2026 RECREATION AGENCY FEES PROPOSAL *Action Item*

Director Reis provided an overview of the DPRA 2026 Recreation Agency Fees Proposal. He provided a history of fee increases, noting the last increases took effect in 2022. He presented three options to the Board for consideration. Option A proposes an increase to group camping, noting this increase was presented as a 2-year phased increase in 2025 and 2026. The proposal is to increase from \$425 per night to \$500 per night. The other increases for Option A include annual permit increases at approximately 4% and the introduction of a new fee for annual permit sticker replacement at \$20 per replacement. Director Reis presented option B which proposed an increase to the group camping and introduction of the new permit sticker replacement only. Option C was presented which proposes no increases to fees but introduces the new sticker permit fee. There was discussion regarding golden mussel restrictions impacting day use and annual permit sales. Director Reis noted staff recommendation is to approve Option A, noting approximately \$50,000 additional revenue would be recouped with the increases.

Director Hannaford motioned to approve Option A and Director Franco seconded motion. Motion carries.

2026 DPRA BUDGET WORKSHOP

Director Reis provided a brief overview of the Fund 2 budget. He noted the capital for debris boom is at \$100,000 and the O&M at \$752,054. He also provided a comparison of the past several years.

Director Reis provided a summary of the proposed O&M expenses for 2026. He noted the overall increase is 2.4% from the 2025 budget. He highlighted some of the larger increases which include \$59,000 for labor and benefits, \$25,000 in retail operations, \$21,000 for additional advertising and PR, \$20,000 for the fireworks barge repair and an additional \$16,000 in miscellaneous O&M changes. Director Reis noted that DPRA staff consolidated funds in some accounts to simplify accounting and tracking. He noted staff wants to look at better communication options with customers, including better email systems for allowing opt-in and opt-out of communications.

Director Reis provided an overview of the proposed DPRA retail operation noting it will be a pilot program at the temporary visitor center to scale upward with the new visitor center growth. He noted this will help create demand and brand recognition which will help in revenue generation. He noted the intention is to sell souvenir type items. Director Reis noted staff will focus on inventory tracking and management and has plans to sell items at the International Sportsmen's Expo, as well as expand to other tradeshow throughout the year. He noted the plan is to begin the operation in 2025.

Public member, Bob Lynar, asked if the Agency would be selling online. Director Reis noted that at first sales would only be in person as staff would have to look into online due to the amount of inventory required.

Public member, Ross Swett, asked about number of visitors at the visitor center daily. Mr. Gomes noted it depends on the season.

Director Hannaford inquired if there is a way to quantify the benefits of advertising. Director Reis noted looking at revenue growth, customer testimonials, and visitation, with 2025 showing an 11% growth. He noted that cannot all be attributed to advertising. There was discussion of focus areas in advertising to increase exposure as well as partnering with Tuolumne County Visitors Bureau and iHeart media to look at impressions to see how that may quantify.

Public member, Bob Lynar, inquired about the Agency's expenses to service houseboaters. Director Reis noted most of the cost is attributed to labor for inspections, the insurance collection, registration, etc.

Director Reis provided an overview of the draft recurring capital budget, noting \$700,000 is the expected cost of transitioning from a rear-loading garbage truck to a front-loading garbage truck. He stated the current truck 2010 is near end-of-life, the style is being phased out making replacement parts difficult to source. He also noted when the truck is broken down, the cost for outside services is \$56-60/dumpster which can equate to more than \$20,000 a month during the busy months. Director Reis noted the recommendation from TID fleet is to transition to a front-loading truck which is the most common, easier to service and source replacement parts, and staff can retrofit the current dumpsters to accommodate a rear-loader, so new dumpsters would not be required. He noted the overall draft budget for 2026 recurring capital is \$1,585,000.

Director Hannaford inquired about CARB requirements and Director Reis noted that TID handles that for the Agency.

Director Reis provided an overview of the 2026 Capital Improvement Plan projects. He noted that projects are still in the design and engineering phase and expects to start bids for construction in 2026 which will use the funds in the reserve allotted for these projects. Due to the schedule, DPRA will not be requesting funding from the districts for 2026 Capital Improvement Plan, as the funds in the reserve account are currently sufficient. Staff and TID Engineering will reassess the projects in 2026 to determine what contributions may be needed to continue projects from the Capital Improvement Plan in 2027. Director Reis noted it is anticipated to have \$4.4M in the reserve accounts by end of the year. He also noted the Blue Oaks camping shelter expected to start this year, and the costs listed are phase two for construction.

Director Reis provided an overview of revenue projections beginning with the 2025 year-end forecast of \$4,300,000. He noted the expected \$640,000 in interest is not being accounted in the forecast, as those funds have been allotted to the reserve accounts to fund the visitor center and capital improvement plan projects. He provided the 2026 projections of \$5,000,000 in expected revenue which accounts for \$4.2M in camping, day use and POS sales, \$375,000 in concessions, \$200,000 in credit card transactions, and \$200,000 in Wi-Fi revenue. He included the expected interest for 2026 for the visitor center and capital improvement plan projects is \$575,000, as some funds should be spent in 2026 from the reserve accounts and the interest rate is expected to decrease.

Director Reis provided an overview of the sponsorship contributions, providing a comparison from 2025 to 2026 contributions. He noted the agency is not seeking funding for the capital improvement plan for 2026, so the contributions will be for O&M and recurring capital, totaling \$2,621,720, distributed amongst the districts per their respective agreements.

Director Hannaford noted the City understand these investments are to generate revenue and stated she has no issues with the increase to contributions. Director Franco noted he understands the increase is necessary.

2026 RECREATION AGENCY BUDGET & SPONSORSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS PROPOSAL *Action Item*

Director Hannaford motioned to approve the 2026 Recreation Agency Budget and sponsor contributions as presented. Director Franco seconded the motion. Motion carries.

FISCAL REPORT

Brannon Gomes, Recreation Division Manager, provided projected revenue for July 2025 expected to be \$750,000 compared to the actual revenue for July 2024 at \$656,006. He provided projected operations expenses for July 2025 at \$566,806 compared to actual expenses in July 2024 at \$599,939. He provided year-to-date capital expenses so far for 2025 are \$64,711 and YTD 2024's capital expenses were \$476,513.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Reis provided an update regarding reservations, occupancy and cancellations for July 2025 compared to July 2024. Director Reis noted staff will be looking at a revised cancellation policy.

Public member, Bob Lynar, recommended the Agency look at hotels' processes which offer different rates for cancellation and non-cancellation.

Director Reis provided an overview of Bass Angler Magazine (BAM) tour for 2026. He noted with the July launch BAM reached 55M YouTube views, and the Don Pedro Pro Super60 gained 12K views. He noted BAM now ranks number three fishing channel on YouTube, ahead of Major League Fishing. Director Reis provided results of the 2025 ProAm tour with 84 competitors, with second highest participation to Shasta at 132 competitors. He noted BAM plans to schedule three tournaments at DPRA in 2026 and expects to give away a new boat for the ProAm prize. BAM has also invited DPRA to participate in a podcast to discuss DPRA.

Public member, Bob Lynar, recommended the Agency request for fish and wildlife to plant bass with all the tournaments and extra traffic DPRA has and will see.

Director Reis noted the lagoon will close for the season on October 15, 2025, with water treatment continuing in the off-season.

Director Reis provided an update regarding lake elevation projections with the most recent projects from the TID Hydrology update on June 17, 2025.

MATTERS TO THE GOOD OF THE AGENCY

Director Macedo opened Matters to the Good to the public attendees.

Public member, Bob Lynar, noted he is disappointed that Suntex is not at the meeting. He stated that Suntex sent out a survey, but the Moccasin customers did not get one because Moccasin is for sale. He noted he cannot find any information regarding the sale for Moccasin. Mr. Lynar stated there are pump out problems which were mentioned on their town hall and Brooke was going to send out an email, but it's been a month, and nothing has been sent to customers. Director Macedo encouraged the public to keep in contact with Suntex and to talk to Katie or Suntex corporate if there are issues not being addressed. There was discussion regarding customer service of Suntex and capital investments.

Public member, Susie Lynar, noted the concessionaire has always had a resident manager but the transformer at Moccasin went out and it was taken and has not been replaced. She stated Eric wanted to move a housing unit in there, but there is no power.

Director Reis noted the transformer has been replaced over six months ago and Suntex has not moved anyone in there.

Director Macedo noted there will be provisions in the contract for the concessionaire to perform to a certain standard. He noted the contract is still in negotiations.

Public member, Susie Lynar, notified the Board that the pump out at Moccasin is on its last leg. She stated it can only do two pump outs back-to-back, then must cool down for thirty minutes. She noted about a month ago, she was notified that rather than replace the pump, Suntex is going to replace all the parts. Mrs. Lynar stated that two weeks ago at Suntex's town hall, customers were notified all the parts have come in and Suntex will send out a notice when it is scheduled to be done, but they have not received any notice. Director Macedo noted staff will check on the status.

CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR *Closed Session*

Director Hannaford motioned to adjourn to closed session, Director Franco seconded motion, motion carried. The Board adjourned to closed session at 10:46am.

REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

The Board reconvened after closed session at 11:06am. Director Macedo noted no action was taken in closed session.

ADJOURNMENT

Director Hannaford motioned to adjourn, Director Franco seconded and due to no further business, the Board adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ryan Reis
Secretary to Board of Control

Copies to: Messrs. Hannaford, Mazurkiewicz, Sperry
Messrs. Fernandes, Macedo, Koehn

Messrs. Keating, Franco, Wenger