

DON PEDRO RECREATION AGENCY
BOARD OF CONTROL - DON PEDRO PROJECT
MINUTES April 11, 2014

CALL TO ORDER: 10:00 a.m. Don Pedro Recreation Agency

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: Michael Frantz – Turlock Irrigation District
Mike Williams – City & County of San Francisco
Roger VanHoy – Modesto Irrigation District

OTHERS PRESENT: Tou Her – Turlock Irrigation District
Chris Collett – DPRA, Division Manager, Campground Operations
Dave Jigour – DPRA, Division Manager, Lake Operations
Bill Flanagan – DPRA, Division Manager, Maintenance
Bob & Susie Lynar – Private Houseboat Owners
Ross & Linda Swett – Private Houseboat Owners
Keith Lynar – Private Houseboat Owner
Joe & Phyllis Farenkamm – Private Houseboat Owners
Heather Victoria – Private Houseboat Owner
Agatha & Larry Swanson – Private Houseboat Owners
Joe Vojvoda – Private Houseboat Owner
Dennis Lewis – Private Houseboat Owner
Zack Drake –Wakeboarder

MINUTES

The Don Pedro Board of Control moved to approve the meeting minutes of March 14, 2014 as written.

MONTHLY FISCAL REPORT

Actual revenue for the month of February, 2014, was \$90,992 and actual revenue including sponsor contributions was \$113,243. Projected revenue for February was \$166,360. Compared to February, 2013, all revenue categories were down with the exception of lakeshore camping. Actual expenses for February were \$200,736. There were no capital expenses for the month of February.

2014 LOW WATER OPERATIONS PLAN – Information Item

DPRA Staff presented planned operations changes in preparation for the 2014 low water conditions. DPRA Director Russell compared 2014 monthly lake elevation projections to 2013 lake elevations. The comparison showed that the lake elevation in 2014 will be significantly lower and it will be the first time since 1977 that the lake elevation will drop to 641'. The Board was also informed that due to operational safety and concerns, DPRA will not be able to produce the 2014 Fireworks Show.

Dave Jigour, Division Manager, Lake Operations, explained how low lake levels will effect operations on the lake. The Lake Operations staff will continue to monitor and contain floating debris in the Tuolumne River Arm with the use of the debris barrier booms. Staff will be assisting with the preparation of an alternative shallow draft vessel launch site on old Hwy. 49 at Moccasin. Staff will also be relocating all regulatory buoy lines, floating restrooms and courtesy docks, and overseeing the Waterski Club's relocation of the slalom course to a low water location. Mr. Jigour shared a topographical map of the lake near the dam showing the locations of low water houseboat mooring lines and an added floating houseboat pump-out facility. Mr. Jigour also described how the low water will provide an opportunity to pick up trash and other debris from areas normally submerged by the lake.

Chris Collett, Division Manager, Campground Operations, explained how low lake levels will be effecting operations within the campgrounds. Mr. Collett reviewed camp area and launch ramp closures at Moccasin Point and Blue Oaks campgrounds. Staffing will also be reduced within these areas. Staff is currently focusing on full fire prevention with herbicide application, weed eating and brush clearing. Overflow parking areas in Fleming Meadows will be prepared for campers as they will be redirected from Blue Oaks and Moccasin Point. Launch ramp duty and traffic control will be continually assessed and attended to as use requires.

Bill Flanagan, Park Maintenance Division Manager, explained that both the Fleming Meadows and Blue Oaks water intakes will remain under water during the 2014 low water year. Mr. Flanagan added that while flows to the Moccasin Point and Blue Oaks waste water treatment facilities will decrease, the Fleming Meadows facility has sufficient capacity to handle the increased activity due to higher usage. Water and power will be shut off in closed areas with staff continuing to monitor

facilities to ensure readiness for use as needed. Staff will also increase monitoring and maintenance of the swimming lagoon including water treatment supplies, grounds cleanliness and water filtration system. DPRA equipment will be used to prepare alternate water access and launch ramps from currently submerged sections of roadway.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

There were 459 campsite reservations made in March, 2014. This amounts to 233 less than were made in March, 2013. The total reservations year to date is less than last years' total through the month of March by 576. Overall reservations for February and March are lower than they have been in the last six years. Campers may be putting off making reservations because they are waiting to see what the lake level does.

A Ranger I candidate has been selected to fill the vacancy left by the promotion of Ranger Denton Sturdivan to Chief Ranger. The candidate will begin on May 1st, providing successful completion of pre-employment and background checks.

The Fleming Meadows swimming lagoon is nearly full. It will open on April 15th, just in time for Easter weekend activity.

The mowing and weed eating of facilities is underway.

Staff is taking inventory of boats other than houseboats that are moored or stored in the recreation areas to ensure they have purchased their 2014 annual permits.

During a weather event on March 31, 2014, the Moccasin Point Marina experienced slack in a mooring line and the gangway pulled away from the shore and into the water. The houseboat mooring line between winch platforms A-2 and A-3 broke causing two houseboats on that section of the line to collide with two houseboats east of the break. Marina personnel responded on both events making repairs and contacting houseboat owners to address any damage that may have occurred from the break.

A question raised at the March Board of Control meeting regarding emergency response at the Lake Don Pedro Marina (LDPM) dock during low water was addressed. Access of emergency equipment by land will continue to get more difficult in all areas of the lake as water recedes. Access by water to the launch ramp will continue to be the most efficient in the event of a medical emergency. Marina managers will be providing training for their private houseboat marina customers in the operation of the firefighting equipment on the dock and a firefighting vessel will continue to be moored at the LDPM for response on the water. DPRA staff has firefighting equipment on board their emergency response vessel as well. LDPM and DPRA staff will meet jointly with State and County emergency response personnel to plan for low water response and to coordinate call-out lists for DPRA and concessionaire staff.

LDPM staff is correcting a problem with the angle of the private houseboat marina. The gangway has been out of alignment with the access pathway greatly affecting transition from the shore onto the gangway.

All written documentation from houseboat owners regarding the Mooring Rate Comparability Study is being forwarded to Dornbusch Associates. Several members of the audience asked what the process will be regarding implementation of the finalized report. Board Chairman Frantz asked Tou Her, TID Assistant General Manager, Water Resources, to explain the process. Mr. Her explained that Mr. Dornbusch will not be making another presentation of the study and that the presentation at the March Board of Control meeting was done as a courtesy. Mr. Dornbusch had stated at the end of his March presentation that he would take all of the houseboater comments received in the next thirty days into consideration for the final report. Mr. Her explained that once the finalized report is submitted it will be implemented. Chairman Frantz added that the finalized report should be received within thirty days of the close of the comment period.

MATTERS TO THE GOOD

Roger VanHoy, MID General Manager, stated that MID will be looking at the houseboat owner comments and responses to the Mooring Rate Comparability Study.

Houseboat owner, Ross Swett asked if Forever Resorts is rescinding the MOU and if the Board is currently working with Forever Resorts on an exit strategy. Chairman Frantz responded that Forever Resorts is here to stay for the duration of their contract.

Houseboat owner, Bob Lynar, stated there were two line breaks at Moccasin and would like to know if there is any concern about hardware failure. Mr. Lynar also asked if any prep work is being done for the Moccasin Point Marina low water relocation.

Houseboat owner, Keith Lynar expressed a desire to have DPRA operate the marinas at Don Pedro Lake.

Several houseboat owners requested copies of the houseboat owner comments that were submitted to Dornbusch Associates. They also expressed interest in receiving a copy of the completed Mooring Rate Comparability Study.

A question was asked about rate incentives from the marina for dry storage. DPRA Director Russell replied that LDPM Manager, Jim Smith had told her that they are providing mooring for all of its customers' houseboats and so there is no need for incentives to encourage dry storage.

A question was asked about allowing small watercraft to be side-tied to their houseboat due to the low water effects on storage and launching. Lake Operations Division Manager, Dave Jigour explained to the Board that the marina's Moorage Contract does not allow houseboat owners to leave small watercraft side-tied to their houseboat but that he would inform the marina of their request.

Chairman Frantz reminded those in attendance that the May, Board of Control meeting will be on May 16th at CCSF's Hetch Hetchy Administrative building at Moccasin.

ADJOURNMENT

Due to no further business, the Board adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol Russell
Secretary to Board of Control

Copies to: Mr. Williams
Messrs. Frantz, Hashimoto, Macedo, Her
Messrs. Campbell, Davids, VanHoy