

**DON PEDRO RECREATION AGENCY
BOARD OF CONTROL - DON PEDRO PROJECT
MINUTES April 10, 2015**

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

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: Michael Frantz – Turlock Irrigation District (TID)
Mike Williams – City & County of San Francisco (CCSF)
Paul Campbell – Modesto Irrigation District (MID)

OTHERS PRESENT: John Davids – Modesto Irrigation District
Dave Jigour – DPRA, Division Manager, Lake Operations
Chris Collett – DPRA, Division Manager, Campground Operations
Bill Flanagan – DPRA, Division Manager, Maintenance
John & Monica Cox – Private Houseboat Owners
Gary Raynor – Private Houseboat Owner
Justin Kenyon – Private Houseboat Owner
Larry & Ruthell Matteson – Private Houseboat Owners
Steve Vilas – Private Houseboat Owner
Keith Lynar – Private Houseboat Owner
Joe & Phyllis Farenkamm – Private Houseboat Owners
Bob & Susie Lynar – Private Houseboat Owners

MINUTES

The Don Pedro Board of Control approved the minutes of the March 13, 2015, Board of Control meeting as written.

MONTHLY FISCAL REPORT

Compared to January, 2014, all categories of revenue were equal to or up for the month of January with the exception of all types of annual permits, hook-up sites, lakeshore camping, reservation fees, and WiFi fees. It was also noted that the utilities item listed under miscellaneous fees reflects an annual payment for the powerhouse and the powerhouse employee housing utilities. Their previous annual utility payment was received in February of 2014. With reference to February, all categories of revenue were up with the exception of annual vehicle and boat permits, lakeshore camping, and miscellaneous fees. Projected revenue for the month of January was \$290,479 and actual revenue was \$162,925. January's revenue combined with sponsor contributions totaled \$300,588. Projected revenue for February was \$159,764 and actual revenue for the month of February was \$82,170. Actual revenue including sponsor contributions totaled \$157,886. Projected expenses for the month of January were \$174,287 and actual expenses were \$169,165. The projected February expense was \$217,860 and actual expenses for February were \$179,060. Board Member Campbell asked what percentage of the expenses was attributed to payroll. Agency Director Russell answered that she will get the information for him. Actual revenue, year to date, was \$245,095 and actual revenue year to date including sponsor contributions was \$458,463. Actual expenses, year to date, totaled \$348,225 leaving a balance of \$110,238. There were no Capital expenses in January. Capital expenses for the month of February totaled \$10,452 and were associated with campsite and restroom renovations, wastewater valves, ADA upgrades, ice machine purchase, and electronics/communications projects.

LOW WATER BOAT LAUNCH ALTERNATIVES – Information Item

In response to questions raised at the March Board of Control meeting, Campground Operations Division Manager, Chris Collett, presented further feasibility information regarding the low water launch alternatives at Harney Lane and Kanaka Point, and the widening of the Fleming Meadows launch ramp. Mr. Collett shared that at current day use fees, it would take 15 to 28 years of lake levels between 720' and 640' above sea level to reach a return on investment for construction of a low water ramp at Harney Lane or Kanaka Creek. It would take 5 to 9 years of lake levels between 600' and 713' above sea level to reach a return on investment for widening the Fleming Meadows ramp below 711' elevation.

Mr. Collett also explained the contractual obligations to provide recreation as a condition of the FERC license and to operate and maintain the developed recreation facilities per the Davis-Grunsky Grant contract. Neither obligation requires the Agency

to build additional facilities when current facilities are rendered unusable due to significant fluctuations in the lake.

A fee comparison survey from July, 2014, was reviewed in response to a question regarding the competitiveness of DPRA's day use fees. DPRA's fees are at or near the average fees charged at the twenty comparable facilities in California and at or slightly greater than fees charged at the four neighboring lakes.

Discussion took place regarding the various options, cost recovery, and lake elevations.

LOW WATER OPERATIONS PLAN – Information Item

Dave Jigour, Division Manager for Lake Operations, explained how the projected 2015 low water levels will affect operations on the lake. Mr. Jigour reviewed a forecast of lake elevations graph showing that Don Pedro Lake is currently projected to reach a low of 640' elevation in October, 2015. Director Frantz further explained that the graph shows the likely outcome based on the current operating plan, but Don Pedro Lake could go as low as 612' if the City and County of San Francisco (CCSF) who has the legal right to divert water, needs to do so. Some discussion took place regarding lake levels, irrigation procedures, and general water management. Staff has installed a banner at the Wards Ferry Bridge warning boaters of downstream shallow water, floating debris, and possible debris boom closure. 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. As the lake elevation recedes, the debris booms will be moved downstream to remain accessible at lower water levels. The unimproved launch ramp at Moccasin Point campground will remain open until approximately 696' elevation. Staff will remove mud, sediment, and debris from old Hwy. 49 and assess to determine if it is safe for public lake and eventual river access later this year. Several 5 mph buoy lines will need to be relocated to accommodate the projected 2015 lake elevations. Lake Ops staff will continue to patrol for and mark shallow and emerging navigational hazards and remove debris. Mr. Jigour shared topographical maps of the lake showing the adjustments being made to the locations of low water houseboat mooring lines, houseboat marina, and the Lake Don Pedro Marina. As the lake elevation recedes, staff will be removing debris and mud from the Fleming Meadows Launch ramp, and installing temporary anchors and cables that will be needed to maintain the public boarding floats.

Chris Collett, Division Manager for Campground Operations, explained how low lake levels will be affecting 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 that have closures. Staff is currently focusing on full fire prevention with herbicide application, weed eating and brush clearing. Staff will also be re-evaluating access to, and increase parking at, the unimproved launch ramp at Moccasin Point. Parking areas in Fleming Meadows will be prepared for campers as they will be redirected from Blue Oaks and Moccasin Point. Staff will also facilitate special parking to assist mobility impaired customers and shuttle service is also being planned. Fleming Meadows launch ramp traffic control duty and comprehensive traffic control will be continually assessed and attended to as use requires. Lighting will be installed at the launch ramp for after dark launch and retrieval, additional signage will be installed regarding water conservation, and for specific low water related issues. Informational handouts will also be available at the entrance stations. Current operations information will be posted on the DPRA Website, reservation system and Facebook page. The TID Public Information specialist will assist with media releases. The Board was also informed that due to operational safety and concerns, DPRA will not be able to produce the 2015 Fireworks Show.

Bill Flanagan, Park Maintenance Division Manager, explained that both the Fleming Meadows and Blue Oaks water intakes will remain under water during the 2015 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 at Blue Oaks and Moccasin Point with staff continuing to monitor the facilities to ensure readiness for use as needed. DPRA maintenance staff and equipment will be used to prepare alternate water access and launch ramps at Moccasin Point and Fleming Meadows. Solid waste collection will focus on high use areas such as the Fleming Meadows launch ramp, Lake Don Pedro Marina, and the swimming lagoon. Staff will also increase monitoring and maintenance of the swimming lagoon including water treatment supplies, grounds cleanliness and water filtration system. Due to water conservation efforts, the Maintenance staff has made some adjustments to the swimming lagoon operations such as retention of the 2.2 million gallons of water, addition of pre-filter screens and reduction in frequency and number of backwashes. Adjustments have also been made to the duration and frequency of irrigation at the swimming lagoon, group camp and the visitor center. Staff has decreased response time to leaky showers, toilets, and hose bibs. More waterless urinal installations are planned.

RESOLUTION NO. 2015 - 001

RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE DON PEDRO RECREATION AGENCY’S PLAN TO ACHIEVE THE STATE MANDATED REDUCTION IN WATER CONSUMPTION

WHEREAS, the Don Pedro Recreation Agency (DPRA) is permitted by the State of California to operate a small water system at Fleming Meadows Recreation Area and a non-community water system at Blue Oaks Recreation Area that serves recreation users of the Don Pedro Recreation Area, and serves the employees in the employee housing areas, offices and other structures that are operated by TID and the authorized concessionaire; and

WHEREAS, the State Water Resources Control Board has adopted on March 17, 2015, emergency regulations for statewide urban water conservation that includes small water systems such as the DPRA water system at Fleming Meadows and Blue Oaks; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to these regulations, DPRA must comply, no later than May 11, 2015, with the outdoor irrigation limitations as defined by the State or to implement its own mandatory water conservation plan that is designed to achieve the State mandated reduction in water consumption; and

WHEREAS, the DPRA has in place the DPRA Regulations and Ordinances, TID Employee Housing Agreements and Concession Lease Agreements to enforce compliance with applicable laws;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Don Pedro Recreation Agency Board of Control that DPRA will develop, implement and adjust as necessary a plan designed to achieve the mandatory reduction in water consumption as defined by the State Water Resources Control Board.

Moved by Board Member Campbell, seconded by Board Member Williams, that the foregoing resolution be adopted.

Upon roll call the following vote was had:

Ayes:	Board Members Frantz, Williams, Campbell
Noes:	Board Members None
Absent:	Board Members None

The Chairperson declared the resolution adopted.

I, Carol Russell, Secretary to the Board of Control of the DON PEDRO RECREATION AGENCY, do hereby CERTIFY that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of a resolution duly adopted at a regular meeting of said Board of Control held the 10th day of April, 2015.

Secretary to the DPRA
Board of Control

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

There were 501 new reservations made in March, 2015, which is 56 more than were made in March, 2014. Year to date, 996 new reservations have been made compared to 1,033 for the same time period in 2014. This is 4% less reservations than were made through March of last year.

All houseboat permits have been renewed for 2015.

The vegetation spraying has been completed for the year.

The recreation staff is busy with mowing and weed-eating.

The entrance station hours of operation have been expanded and some seasonal employees have been hired to supplement regular staff.

The houseboat permit that was revoked late last year has been offered to the third person on the waiting list and there are still eight additional people on the list.

Two houseboat owners from Lake McClure have purchased DPRA permitted houseboats in order to transfer the permits to their houseboats that are currently dry-docked at Lake McClure. DPRA staff has inspected both boats in preparation for their move to Don Pedro. Two additional Lake McClure houseboat owners have also inquired at DPRA with similar intentions.

The Blue Oaks Boat Launch Facility grant contract has been signed. The project will include removal of the asphalt roadway and replacement with concrete, addition of concrete to the large dirt parking area below the high water mark, addition of concrete to the launch ramp shoulders, installation of a new boarding float, and construction of a new restroom above the high water mark. This phase of the contract has \$300,000 in funding and allows DPRA to begin the planning and permitting phase of the project. It will then be followed by a subsequent grant request to receive funding for completion of the construction phase. Successful granting of the funds for the construction phase will allow construction to begin as early as 2017.

DPRA has been awarded \$23,000 in funding from the California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways to reimburse costs associated with the Quagga and Zebra mussel prevention program at Don Pedro Lake. The funding will allow ongoing Quagga and Zebra mussel prevention program activities, additional formal vessel inspection days at the recreation areas and periodic use of a mussel inspection dog for inspections.

There was 4,000 pounds of trout planted the last week of March and a similar truckload was planted on Tuesday of this week.

MATTERS TO THE GOOD

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Due to no further business, the Board adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol Russell
Secretary to Board of Control

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