

DON PEDRO RECREATION AGENCY
BOARD OF CONTROL - DON PEDRO PROJECT
MINUTES October 11, 2013

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
Larry Byrd – Modesto Irrigation District

OTHERS PRESENT: Roger VanHoy – Modesto Irrigation District
Joy Warren – General Counsel, Modesto Irrigation District
Tou Her – Turlock Irrigation District
Dave Jigour – DPRA, Division Manager, Lake Operations
Chris Collett – DPRA, Division Manager, Campground Operations
Bob & Susie Lynar – Private Houseboat Owners
Joe & Phyllis Farenkamm – Private Houseboat Owners
Larry & Agatha Swanson – Private Houseboat Owners
Linda Swett – Private Houseboat Owner
Keith Lynar – Private Houseboat Owner
Jeff & Laurie Muller – Private Houseboat Owners

MINUTES

The Don Pedro Board of Control moved to approve the meeting minutes of September 13, 2013 as written.

MONTHLY FISCAL REPORT

Actual revenue for the month of August, 2013, was \$300,123. Projected revenue for August was of \$339,863. Compared to August, 2012, all revenue categories were up with the exception of day use boat, tent camping, lake shore camping, reservation fees, and miscellaneous revenues.

Staff reviewed concessionaire revenue as reported and questioned during the September Board of Control meeting. The revenue received from the concessionaire in June, 2013, reflected the adjustments to the houseboat mooring fees that took effect that month.

Year to date revenue through August, 2013 was \$2,015,212 compared to \$1,998,715 for the same time period in 2012. Actual expenses for August were \$248,833. The budgeted expense projection was \$261,434. Year to date revenue exceeds expenses by \$110,334. Capital expenses for the month of August were \$7,769 and were associated with roadwork and the purchase of the Automated External Defibrillators (AED).

MATTERS TO THE GOOD

Board Member, Larry Byrd, introduced Modesto Irrigation District General Manager, Roger VanHoy, and MID General Counsel, Joy Warren, who were present for the meeting.

Private houseboat owner, Laurie Muller, asked when the next moorage increase will take place. Board Chairman Frantz asked that she leave her name and phone number with Agency Director Russell so that she may respond to her question. Mrs. Muller also stated that she believes that the “dock inspection people” should not access the private houseboat marina by boat, but should come down the hill like the houseboat owners do in order to see what access is like.

Private houseboat owner, Keith Lynar, suggested that since New Melones Lake is closed due to the federal government shutdown, DPRA should do more advertising to garner some of their displaced boaters.

Private houseboat owner, Joe Farenkamm, stated that he would like to see the Agency operate the houseboat mooring.

CAMPGROUND OPERATIONS 2013 SEASON REPORT – Information Item

Division Manager, Chris Collett, summarized the 2013 season for the Campground Operations Division. He shared a compilation of statistics which included a comparison of visitor use in 2013 to visitor use in 2012. Mr. Collett stated that overall visitor use was down approximately 10.7% during the regular season, April thru September. Mr. Collett added that mid-week campground use was more impacted while weekend use remained busy. The Rim Fire which broke out in August and continued to burn thru September also impacted visitor use.

Mr. Collett stated that the campground division operated the 2013 season with a 20% reduction in seasonal staffing, one unfilled Ranger I position, an unfilled Chief Ranger position, and a Ranger I who was out most of the season on medical leave. Mr. Collett reviewed an incident synopsis which categorized the number and types of incidents and enforcement issues to which the Ranger staff responded in 2013. He shared the computerized DPRA operations tools including the incident report system, the program used to manage the campsite occupancy and to collect fees, the back office of the public WiFi system and the program used to manage the surveillance systems at the campgrounds. He also briefed the Board on staff activities in 2013 and gave a glimpse into activities planned for 2014.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

There were 225 campsite reservations made in September, 2013. This amounts to 44 less than were made in September, 2012. The total reservations, year to date, exceeds last years' total through the month of September by 83.

Several items that were brought up during last month's Board of Control meeting were reviewed by staff. These included complaints of dog problems at the Private Houseboat Marina, difficult access to the Private Houseboat Marina, and the mooring buoy appearance. Lake Don Pedro Marina (LDPM) General Manager, Jim Smith recently sent a letter to private houseboat marina customers regarding complaints of dog problems. Moorage customers were reminded of the LDPM Moorage House Rules as it pertains to pets and that non-compliance could jeopardize that policy. The Board was informed that non-compliance is also a violation of DPRA Regulations and Ordinances.

Parking and access to the Private Houseboat Marina falls under the guidelines of the LDPM Concession Lease Agreement. Due to the nature of the terrain, providing vehicle access during low water levels would require extensive engineering and construction. It would be very costly and subject to the CEQA and several permitting processes.

DPRA staff has reviewed the applicable Mooring Buoy Regulations and has determined that the newly painted LDPM and MPM mooring buoys meet the State's requirements and are not in conflict with markings prescribed by the United States Coast Guard. The location of the blue band on all of the newly painted buoys is in compliance with the law.

DPRA continues to plan and prepare for impacts resulting from the Rim Fire. The fire is now out, although pockets within the fire perimeter are still burning. Staff has ordered tuff-boom material for placement across the reservoir in the Tuolumne River canyon during significant weather events affecting the Tuolumne River watershed. Signs are on order for placement at all lake entrances, ramps, marinas, Wards Ferry Bridge, and on the deployed boom itself. An information letter will be sent out in the next week to the Moccasin Point Marina and its mooring customers regarding the potential impacts and DPRA's plan to help mitigate the impacts.

A flock of geese have taken up residence at the Fleming Meadows Swimming Lagoon again this fall. The lagoon has been closed for the season and hazing of the geese with the "zon gun" has been initiated.

DPRA maintenance and campground operations staff have been working on pruning trees at Fleming Meadows and the remaining capital projects are also underway. Those projects include the installation of two transformers, restroom roof and beam replacement, and roadwork at Fleming Meadows.

A response to the letter sent by DPRA to Forever Resorts requesting an amendment to their Moorage License Agreement was received and copies were available for handout.

CLOSED SESSION

On motion of Byrd, seconded by Williams, the Board adjourned to Closed Session. Board Member Byrd recused himself and MID was represented by General Manager VanHoy.

Upon reconvening, Board Chairman Frantz reported the following action taken in Closed Session:

As moved by Williams, seconded by VanHoy, Agency Director Russell was directed to respond to the Forever Resorts letter of October 4, 2013.

MOTIONS PASSED

On motion of Williams, seconded by VanHoy, the following motion was adopted:

2013-10-08 The Board voted unanimously to direct Agency Director Russell to respond to the Forever Resorts letter of October 4, 2013.

ADJOURNMENT

Due to no further business, the Board adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol Russell
Secretary to Board of Control

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