

DON PEDRO RECREATION AGENCY  
BOARD OF CONTROL - DON PEDRO PROJECT  
MINUTES September 13, 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: Walt Ward – Modesto Irrigation District  
Tou Her – Turlock Irrigation District  
Jim Smith – Forever Resorts Regional General Manager  
Dave Jigour – DPRA, Division Manager, Lake Operations  
Bob & Susie Lynar – Private Houseboat Owners  
Joe & Phyllis Farenkamm – Private Houseboat Owners  
Larry & Agatha Swanson – Private Houseboat Owners  
Ross & Linda Swett – Private Houseboat Owners  
Keith Lynar – Private Houseboat Owner

#### MINUTES

The Don Pedro Board of Control moved to approve the meeting minutes of August 9, 2013 as written.

#### MONTHLY FISCAL REPORT

Actual revenue for the month of July, 2013, was \$446,854. Projected revenue for July was of \$535,938. Compared to July, 2012, revenue categories associated with day use vehicle, annual vehicle permits, lake shore camping, reservation fees, and miscellaneous revenues were up. Revenue through July, 2013 was \$1,715,090 compared to \$1,706,909 for the same time period in 2012. Actual expenses for July were \$310,412. The budgeted expense projection was \$313,720. Capital expenses for the month of July were \$1,193 and were associated with the purchase of the Automated External Defibrillators (AED).

#### MATTERS TO THE GOOD

Private houseboat owner, Bob Lynar, stated that according to the Revenue Tracking/Comparison the concessionaires' revenue is declining. Mr. Lynar pointed out that while the MPM revenue is 1% higher than last year it still doesn't account for the 15% mooring rate increase. Mr. Lynar asks how this could be the case and he's concerned that no one is checking or monitoring the reported revenue.

Houseboat owner, Larry Swanson, stated that he would like to have better parking at the private houseboat marina. He said that it is very difficult to get down to the marina and would like access to the private houseboat marina improved. Discussion took place regarding alternative access provided by Lake Don Pedro Marina staff and possible improvements to the existing terrain.

Houseboat owner, Agatha Swanson, reported that there is an ongoing problem at the private houseboat marina regarding dog feces. Dog owners at the marina are not picking up after their pets.

Board member, Larry Byrd complimented the LDPM staff on the great job done recently when a private houseboat was sinking.

Houseboat owner, Ross Swett questioned the placement of the blue stripe on the marinas' mooring buoys. Mr. Swett is concerned that they are not visible at night. DPRA Division Manager of Lake Operations, Dave Jigour, stated that the marina is complying with California Boating Law.

Discussion took place regarding how complaints that are brought forth during Matters to the Good of the Agency are handled.

#### 2013 CAPITAL ROADWORK PROJECT DEFERRAL

DPRA Director, Carol Russell, presented a request to the Board to defer part of the 2013 Capital Roadwork Project. The deferral of \$212,600 in roadwork would allow DPRA to leave the funding in the Operating Account to offset the projected 2013 revenue shortfall.

After some discussion, the Board unanimously approved the request.

#### 2014 RECREATION AGENCY BUDGET

Agency Director Russell reviewed the draft 2014 O&M and Capital budgets with the Board. The draft included funding two vacant ranger staff allocations, an increased contribution from the sponsoring agencies to offset the capital program costs and to fill the gap created by the projected revenue shortfall, and no proposed user fee adjustments. Discussion included justification for filling the allocated staff vacancies along with the operational impact of the Affordable Care Act. After much discussion the Board unanimously approved the 2014 Recreation Agency Budget as presented.

#### LETTER TO FOREVER RESORTS REGARDING MOORING AGREEMENT

As requested by the Board of Control at the August Board of Control meeting, Agency Director Russell drafted a letter to Forever Resorts requesting consideration of an amendment to the Moccasin Point Marina and Lake Don Pedro Marina Moorage License Agreement. The letter highlights the mooring customer's concerns that there is very limited acceptance of responsibility on behalf of Forever Resorts in the event of a failure of Forever Resorts' equipment at the marinas on Don Pedro Lake. The letter requests Forever Resorts to consider amending the Moorage License Agreements in an effort to help resolve the concerns of the moorage customers. Discussion took place and it was agreed that the letter should be addressed to the Operations Manager in Arizona as spelled out in the Concession Lease Agreements instead of the Regional General Manager, Jim Smith.

The Board unanimously approved the letter as written, but to change the addressee to their Operations Manager in Arizona with a "cc" to Jim Smith at Lake Don Pedro Marina.

#### DIRECTOR'S REPORT

There were 724 campsite reservations made in August, 2013. This amounts to 53 less than were made in August, 2012. The total reservations year to date exceeds last years' total through the month of August by 127.

A fatality occurred at the lake on the afternoon of August 13, 2013. An 87 year old male fell into the water while stepping from a small boat onto a houseboat. DPRA staff provided support for the Tuolumne County Sheriff's Department and recovery was made that evening.

The Rim Fire broke out on the south side of the Clavey River canyon on August 17<sup>th</sup>. The fire is currently at 255,560 acres and it continues to burn with a projected containment date of September 20<sup>th</sup>. The DPRA webcam was linked on firefighter blogs as a place to see the current appearance of the fire. Recreation activity over the last two weekends of August and the first weekend in September was significantly impacted by the smoke and the fire. DPRA anticipates an inflow of eroded soil and vegetative debris to the lake this coming winter and for many years to come.

Lake Operations Division Manager, Dave Jigour presented the DPRA Tuolumne River Floating Debris Management Program. He explained how DPRA's equipment such as tug boats, wire rope, spikes, and rope clips are used for corralling and removing large amounts of floating debris and that DPRA will be ready to respond to impacts from the Rim Fire.

Facility use revenue over the Labor Day weekend was down 13.3%. Prior to the start of the Rim Fire, camping reservations showed campgrounds at 99% capacity. The week after the start of the fire, DPRA began receiving cancellations and actual campground occupancy for the holiday weekend fell to 89% occupancy on the peak camping night.

Roadwork at Fleming Meadows will begin next week. In preparation, DPRA staff is currently trimming limbs in the "H" and "D" areas and removing the damaged asphalt pathway in "D" area.

The Lake Operations staff continues to address lake elevation changes with the movement and replacement of regulatory buoy lines, courtesy docks and their anchors, and hazard markings.

Dornbusch Associates has been selected to perform the Marina Rate Comparability Analysis work as required by the MOU between DPRA and Forever Resorts. The firm has substantial experience in performing marina feasibility and comparability work for public agencies and is set to complete the work by November 15<sup>th</sup>.

The majority of the seasonal staff has been laid off. Several seasonals have been retained thru September to assist with weekend campground activity and some will assist with project work through October.

DPRA staff has been working with the US Post Office (USPS) and the Tuolumne County Assessor's office to confirm the addresses for DPRA facilities along Bonds Flat Road so that they are consistent with GPS addresses and website maps such as Google, Yahoo, and Mapquest.

The DPRA Free Fishing Day took place on September 7, 2013, in coordination with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's Free Fishing Day. No license was required by the State and DPRA did not charge for vehicle day use. A total of 14 vehicles took advantage of the incentive.

#### MOTIONS PASSED

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

2013-09-05      The Board voted unanimously to approve the 2013 Capital Roadwork Project Deferral.

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

2013-09-06      The Board voted unanimously to approve the 2014 Recreation Agency Budget.

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

2013-09-07      The Board voted unanimously to approve the Letter to Forever Resorts Regarding Mooring Agreement with the addressee changed from Jim Smith, LDPM, to the Operations Manager in Arizona with a "cc" to Jim Smith at LDPM.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Due to no further business, the Board adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol Russell  
Secretary to Board of Control

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