

**HESPERIA RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING**

May 11, 2011

FLAG SALUTE

Director Swanson led the Pledge of Allegiance

CALL TO ORDER

The Hesperia Recreation and Park District Board of Directors Regular Meeting was called to order by Director Chandler at 7:00 p.m., at Lime Street Park Community Center, located at 16292 Lime Street, Hesperia.

ATTENDANCE

BOARD PRESENT: Swanson, Chandler, Gregg
BOARD ABSENT: Limbaugh, Hamilton
STAFF PRESENT: Camara, Thomas, Woods, Hamm

COMMUNICATIONS

WRITTEN COMMUNICATION

1. Association of San Bernardino County Special Districts May 16, 2011 Membership meeting.
2. Newspaper article, Daily Press, April 14, 2011, "Teeter-Tottering Teens".
3. Newspaper article, Hesperia Star, April 19, 2011, "Spring Kids Fishing Clinic".
4. Newspaper article, Hesperia Star, April 19, 2011, "Fun, Sun and Baseball!".
5. Newspaper article, Hesperia Star, April 19, 2011, "Opening Day".
6. Newspaper article, Hesperia Star, April 26, 2011, "\$2 million federal grant jump starts Hesperia rail spur project".
7. CARPD Communicator, April 2011.

MR. CAMARA: You have a replacement financial sheet for the golf course; I don't believe there's anything else.

MS. THOMAS: Just the chamber mixer and the junior high school gym groundbreaking.

MR. CAMARA: And then Lindsay gave me this from Mr. Chandler and Lindsay's trip to the Sacramento legislative days. The Sacramento Bee -- it has an article about the County of Sacramento having difficulties financing their parks, and they're actually considering forming a special district to take over their parks, they did a survey, and 73 percent of the people were in favor of additional tax to help fund a special district for parks. I think it's interesting because in the heart of Sacramento right now the special districts tend to be the scapegoat of legislators up there, and they constantly point at special districts as examples of governments that need to be made bigger and merge with the other agencies. And yet when Sacramento

itself has trouble, what are they doing? They're looking at a special district to bail them out, so I thought that was interesting.

DIRECTOR SWANSON: I think that's very significant. I'm glad to see that.

DIRECTOR CHANDLER: How many of you in the audience know what a special district is? Basically the way I look at special district is that it's a district (government) that's actually requested by the people in the community for a specific purpose. In other words our park district -- is a special district. To me, what is really unique about a special district is that it's comprised of people who work for the district that have special talents. So what's really special about these districts is that they are specific to people who know how to do business. They're professionals. That's what's special about special districts. So when these folks come on board to work at this district, they have their hearts and soul into this business. That's why they're so special because they do such an excellent job. I think that politically in the future you're going to hear some people come out against special districts because there's going to be a process in which, I think, the state will probably look towards managing special districts a little bit differently or even possibly getting rid of them all together to save money.

DIRECTOR SWANSON: You're also going to see impacts in the programs that are offered. You notice that programs that are offered by Apple Valley and Victorville get funded less and less and less as the economic situation worsens. And we've been able to protect our programs and keep our prices down, and we have that option as a special district.

MR. CAMARA: If they want to dissolve a special district in order to save money, really what they're doing is they're dissolving a special district and using their money to help balance their budget. And the only way you can do that is by eliminating some services and that's the part they don't tell you. So yes, they can, indeed, balance their budget. However, it's going to be at the expense of something else. How many people realize that Hesperia Park District has been around since 1957 and I guess that says it. The other interesting thing is we were the only government up here until the water district was formed a few years after -- I think it was a few years after that the Hesperia Water District was formed. And we're the original streetlight district. We're the original weed abatement detention district, although there wasn't any money for some of those things. But so it goes back pretty far. We were voted in by the people with a special tax to operate, so there's very few of us left -- very few here in Southern California. There's quite a few in Northern California.

ORAL COMMUNICATION

None

CONSENT ITEMS

MOTION: It was moved by Director Chandler, seconded by Director Swanson and carried unanimously to approve Consent Items A through D:

- A. Approved Minutes for the Regular Meeting, April 20, 2011.
- B. Approved Claims.
- C. Accepted written staff reports.
- D. Authorization to advertise for bids: None

PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

DIRECTOR CHANDLER: Proclamations and presentations.

MR. McANULTY: Well, as you may know, we had our Cars and Cures on April 9th last month. Despite the cold weather and a mini tornado, it was a very successful event. Unlike other events that the park district does, we don't control the whole thing. We have two different groups that help run the Cars and Cures event. I'd first like to recognize and thank the Over the Hill Gang Apple Valley chapter, and Dale Burke from the City of Hesperia is here to accept that recognition right now.

(Presentation made.)

MR. McANULTY: We wound up with eighty-five cars, not including club cars. And last year it was right at a hundred. There was rain and even snow the night before the event, some of these car owners don't want to take their vehicles out in weather like that. The second group is the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life Hesperia. I have two people I'd like thank.

One is the chair person for the event. And I'm sorry, Danielle, what's your official title?

MS. POLLIARD: Relay manager.

MR. McANULTY: The relay manager. She manages all the relays for all this area -- Apple Valley, Victorville, Big Bear, and Hesperia -- and is that all?

MS. POLLIARD: Apple Valley/Victorville area, yeah.

MR. McANULTY: Tracy Moyer, the event chair, and Danielle Polliard. Thank you so much.

DIRECTOR SWANSON: Another fabulous event. Thank you for doing this with us.

DIRECTOR GREGG: Thank you very much.

(Presentation made.)

MS. POLLIARD: Tracy was our event chair last year and then this past year. And this year she had a co-chair, Michelle Franquez, who will be our event chair for the 2012 Relay. We have lots of teams that are already committed to coming back, so it is going to be a great 2012 year. Last year we had 24 teams. This year we had 35 teams with an average of 15 people per team. There were 105 survivors and 55 caregivers despite the weather. If you remember in 2009, that was our lowest year that we had which was \$12,000. Last year we exceeded any numbers that Hesperia had ever seen, hitting \$50,000. The American Cancer Society set a goal for 2011 for \$52,000. This year the relay itself set a goal of 58,000 and they exceeded that of over \$61,000. Amazing job. And teams say they are coming harder for next year and already going to start working, so I can only picture that that number is going to completely grow for next year. So to see a \$50,000 increase in two years is just amazing. And the community support that we're getting and, of course, your support -- we definitely can't do it without you. So to say thank you to you, we would love to present you with the event shirts. As well as the event programs. And then a certificate saying thank you as well as our disc of pictures that were taken during the event. And our final thank you, of course, we would like to present you with our vase of love and hope and everything.

DIRECTOR GREGG: Thank you so much.

DIRECTOR SWANSON: Beautiful.

(Presentation made.)

DIRECTOR CHANDLER: Thank you so much.

MS. POLLIARD: Thank you. I do want to give a special thank you to JP who was out there; he was incredible. He helped us with everything that we could possibly imagine and was there

throughout the cold and everything, so I just want to say, definitely, if you can please let him know that we really appreciate everything that he did.

MR. WOODS: We will pass it along.

MS. POLLIARD: Thank you.

MR. HAMM: Good evening, Board. I'm Steve Hamm, and I'm here to recognize Hesperia Kiwanis Club. So here to represent them is Roxanne Williams. Come on up. They did two events for us. The first is the Spring Kids Fishing Clinic held on April 9th. The club shows up before 7:00 on a Saturday morning to help check in the kids, do the fishing poles, the doughnuts, the coffee, the hot chocolate and everything, so they help out doing that. (Presentation made.)

MR. HAMM: And then the following weekend, they helped with opening baseball day, they helped do the barbecue for the kids.

MR. WOODS: Our final presentation is a result of the Maple Park opening on April 2nd.

MR. WOODS: When we started to plan that event, one of the first phone calls I made was to Jeff Steinbock with Hesperia AYSO, and I told him what we were looking to do and that we needed his support to get some kids out there and have them be the first ones to enjoy the park that we built for them to use. Jeff said, "No problem; let me make a few phone calls." And you were all there, so you saw the kids that they had got out there that day. It was a great event, and without Jeff's help to do that, we wouldn't have probably had as many participants out there on opening day, but he just made it -- the event even more successful than it was if we had done it by ourselves, so I would like to recognize Jeff Steinbock. (Presentation made.)

MR. STEINBOCK: On behalf of all the kids and the volunteers, thanks so much. I got so much feedback from them the excitement and the -- and over 2,000 participants in our league here. It is just phenomenal. And it should be us thanking you for your guys' leadership and your hard work, so I know a lot went into that, so thanks so much.

MR. WOODS: And the final person wasn't able to be here because she's at her soccer practice is Rebecca Lora, also with Hesperia AYSO. She's their special events coordinator, and she was able to meet with Jeff and I out on-site and take care of some of the logistical things that we needed to happen -- getting fields marked and helping getting staff there to hang-up nets and putting their goals in place and making sure that the facility looked just right, and also helping with the registration day that they did out there that day at the park. So, Jeff, if you wouldn't mind, I'm going to ask that you would give this to her on our behalf.

MR. STEINBOCK: I will. Thanks.

DIRECTOR GREGG: Before you leave, I'd like to make just quick comment. I really appreciate all of your participation in the recent events that took place for the City of Hesperia, and without community involvement like yourself, you know, we just can't do it, so we appreciate your services to the Hesperia Park District.

DIRECTOR SWANSON: We run on volunteers.

Recess at 7:18 p.m.

Reconvened at 7:23 p.m.

STAFF REPORTS

Recreation Programs

DIRECTOR CHANDLER: Staff reports. Recreation program.

MR. WOODS: Steve will be doing the recreation report for you this evening.

MR. HAMM: We'll go to the calendar first. Hesperia Civic Market and Street Fair, started tonight.

MR. WOODS: Important note on that is it's starting this year at 4:00. Last year it was at 3:00.

MR. HAMM: That goes all the way through September. The District and Pal Golf Tournament is the 21st. Lime Street pool opens on Saturday, the 28th. Movies in the park will be the second, third, and fourth Saturday of June, July, and August.

MR. WOODS: And one of the things that we're doing this year, if you're out in the community talking about this, is August 27th is going to be a people's choice night, they can go to our Facebook page and select from four movies. Whichever movie gets the most votes is the movie that we're going to show, so a little bit of interaction. It was Brandon's idea and it does two things -- gets more people going to our Facebook and to our Web site, and gives them a little bit of ownership on the program to be able to cast their vote.

MR. HAMM: If you turn to your memo for recreation update for April, highlights are on page 2. There are four new contract classes starting in June. Stroller fitness, baby explorer, photography, and derby fitness.

DIRECTOR SWANSON: Stroller fitness - do the exercises with strollers around the park?

MR. WOODS: At civic plaza, yes, we had a mom approach us about that, she has some fitness experience, it's an innovative program, so we're going to give it a shot and see how it goes.

MR. HAMM: And then on page 3 for facilities and programs, summer Kids' Kamp and Outdoor Adventure Kamp begins May 27th. On the bottom under "Other" is the high school scholarship program. Charlene would be here tonight, but she is actually at Oak Hills. They had their first seniors this year, so we are extending that to them as well, so we have Hesperia High, Oak Hills, Sultana, Mojave, Hesperia Christian, and Canyon Ridge all have winners.

DIRECTOR GREGG: Is that for all schools? All schools are eligible to apply for it?

MR. WOODS: You have to be a senior at a Hesperia area high school, and they have to live in Hesperia, and there's a 2.0 grade point that has to --

DIRECTOR GREGG: Why would it not be extended to the charter schools, and you're offering it to Hesperia Christian?

MR. CAMARA: It just never has been. I don't know that charter schools have ever had significant numbers until recently.

DIRECTOR GREGG: Is that something that we can do to send that information out to them?

MR. CAMARA: Yeah, there's no reason they can't.

DIRECTOR GREGG: So can we get that information over to the charter schools?

MR. HAMM: Uh-huh. Any other questions?

DIRECTOR GREGG: I've got a question on district marketing, and I don't know if this is the time or not, but the items that we've discussed -- I've made some general discussion items about district marketing.

MS. THOMAS: Where are you?

MR. WOODS: He's on page 3 of my recreation report.

DIRECTOR GREGG: Is that just strictly recreation for district marketing?

MR. WOODS: This is under the recreation report, so it's just --

DIRECTOR GREGG: So it's still going to be related to golf, I guess. Is that -- because it says Web site, that's why I'm commenting on it. Is there anything that we can do to boost the advertisement on our Web site for the two-for-one golf on ladies --

MR. WOODS: Yeah, we can definitely have that added.

MR. CAMARA: How does the Web site work if -- as far as putting all of our stuff that we're advertising on it like the golf course and stuff like that? Do we normally send stuff to the guy that we contract with?

MR. WOODS: The way it's supposed to work is the supervisor in charge of the program is supposed to submit anything that they want on the Web site, as far as promotions or new programs, and give that to Brandon, and they usually get it up within 72 hours.

MR. CAMARA: So if at your staff meeting, people bring the stuff they need and give them to Brandon at the staff meeting, they should be --

MR. WOODS: They don't even have to bring it to staff meeting; they can just email it to Brandon directly. Because if it's already an approved promotional item that we're doing, there's no reason why it couldn't be out, so I'm sure it's just an oversight. I will have those items added to the Web site on the golf tab.

DIRECTOR GREGG: I'm just seeing a lot of -- I mean, now that we're into the Web site area, you know, that's the means of communication nowadays, and going on that Web site myself, I just didn't see that much information that should be posted probably.

MR. CAMARA: Is the golf stuff on Facebook?

MR. HAMM: Whatever flyers come out Brandon puts it on Facebook, so it goes to both.

MR. CAMARA: So if it's not out there, he didn't get it.

DIRECTOR CHANDLER: Actually, you brought something to my mind, Kelly; do we have anything on our Web site as far as the equestrian groups and what they do? Meetings?

MR. CAMARA: Probably not recently.

DIRECTOR CHANDLER: I'm wondering if we could incorporate that on the Web site.

MR. CAMARA: Absolutely. We just have to get them to give us the information.

DIRECTOR CHANDLER: Okay.

MR. CAMARA: Bob Teran -- I'm sure he could do that.

MS. THOMAS: The Equestrian Council is the only one that ever gives us any flyers.

DIRECTOR CHANDLER: You might make contact with them and ask them if they have any information they want to put on there.

MR. CAMARA: The other equestrian programs are not typically our programs. The Equestrian Council is the only one that's ours right now.

DIRECTOR CHANDLER: Okay. So, I don't know. How do you want to work that then?

MR. CAMARA: We'll talk to Bob and put a general information sheet on it.

MR. WOODS: I'll secure that. I've been working with him on some other projects.

MR. WOODS: The two-for program is, and it's probably not where you want it -- but it is in the publication on the Web site which is downloadable or readable from the Web site. It's not an easy click, so we can get that rectified. And sometimes when you get fresh eyes on a thing, that's when you notice, "Hey, we're missing something." So I appreciate you bringing it up.

Golf Course Operations Report

MR. WOODS: We had just under 1900 rounds played in the month of April. The high schools wrapped up during April. There's one high school athlete that's still playing, and they're with Hesperia Christian School because they made CIF playoffs.

MR. CAMARA: Did that generally go okay this year?

MR. WOODS: I didn't have any -- other than the rough start that we had come up -- I think if some of the changes hadn't have occurred that did occur with some of the coaches, we probably would have had a bad season, but because there was some personnel issues that

were taken care of from schools, I think we're good. Don is going to have a meeting later this month with all the golf coaches that were down there to do a wrap-up evaluation, and then kind of set some parameters for next year's program so that it's not a last minute push on us.

DIRECTOR SWANSON: I'm really appreciative of the way our staff filled some voids there and made sure the kids were able to continue with their practice and everything.

MR. CAMARA: I have never heard of a muni course having that many teams practice at one time and play their games there. That was pretty outstanding; it really was. It's another reason to keep the golf course.

MR. WOODS: Then on the golf course we aerated and sanded all the greens. It hasn't been done for a number of years, we had to shut down half the course one day and half the course the next day and play was a little slow, but then once the sand got seeded, everybody was happy with the conditions. We also fertilized the greens at the same time. We had our pest control company out doing squirrel abatements on the course, so we were trying to knock them down before their populations exploded again over the summer, so that will probably be a twice-a-year activity that we have to do on the course. And we can't eradicate them totally because they burrow into other people's property and things, so some of them are in neighborhoods, and so all we can do is try to manage their populations. So it's going to be an ongoing battle, and I don't think we're going to win the war, but we can keep them knocked down as much as possible.

DIRECTOR GREGG: I had some concern with this area of Green Flag raceway on the Recreation report. What's going on over there, I'm showing negative 93 - when I see negative numbers, that's --

MR. WOODS: What page are you on?

DIRECTOR GREGG: Oh, sorry. There is no page number.

MS. THOMAS: It's the first page of Don's report.

MR. WOODS: He must have entered the wrong number, everything else is zeroed out.

MR. CAMARA: He apparently did not get the numbers from Wayne to put it in, and that column with the negative 93 is a formula so if other numbers were plugged in, then it would show right.

DIRECTOR GREGG: Do we have any idea of the numbers over there?

MS. THOMAS: If the staff doesn't send it in we don't have it.

DIRECTOR SWANSON: It's all over the place.

MR. CAMARA: I don't know offhand.

DIRECTOR GREGG: I'd just like to know kind of what's going on over there. I mean, I've visited that site several times, and there's nothing happening there.

MR. CAMARA: There isn't, we're reviewing the budget and its possible future right now.

DIRECTOR GREGG: And I'm addressing that issue because it is in this preliminary budget.

MR. CAMARA: Yes, it's the same as it was last year, right?

MS. THOMAS: In the budget, yes.

DIRECTOR GREGG: So -- just so I'm aware for next time, then, I'm seeing all of these negative numbers that that's some formula that's not correct or am I not perceiving it correctly?

MR. WOODS: The way that formula is supposed to work is that every participant that comes through the door, staff did a study of an impact. How many other people does that mean? So if one person is there racing -- their mom might be there with them, or their little brother might be there, but they're not actively participating, but they're still using our facility, and they're still taking up space.

DIRECTOR SWANSON: So they account for that.

MR. WOODS: Just like basketball, we might have 400 kids involved in youth basketball, but if you go there on the weekends, we could have 2,000 people over the Saturday because that's how many people come to support that. So that's that impact number. And it's probably because Don did not fill in some of the - he was supposed to take off anything that was zeroed out, and he evidently forgot to do that, so we'll double-check this and make sure that next month that the information is correct.

DIRECTOR GREGG: Yeah, because these numbers to me just don't -- they don't jive.

MR. CAMARA: As far as Green Flag goes, we're more concerned with the bottom line on Green Flag, and that's what we're going to be looking at and analyzing it. And it is in question right now as far as whether we propose to even close it, possibly. And if you recall a few months back, I indicated that we were going to do one review of it, maybe give it one more chance and remarket it differently, and if it doesn't respond, I was saying, you should probably do something else with it, see if you can't sell it or run it as a club. But we're separating the RC part of it away, not doing RC sales in this next year and just concentrating on the slot car stuff. I think it's a dying sport, and I think it's on its way out.

DIRECTOR GREGG: Do you have any proposals on when that's going to be done, I mean, as far as - I just don't want to be in the same situation that we are in the golf course just waiting an extended period of time and something else may be --

MR. CAMARA: Well, this one is in our control, so I would think we probably would get through the budget first and then go in and start working on analyzing that, so I'm going to guess July, August, in the summer is when a proposal will be brought back to the Board, probably, by Lindsay or somebody and make a decision on it. I have the new budget from Wayne. He submitted it to me on what he thought it could do, and like I said, we haven't had time to dive into it yet, but I -- I just suspect its future is limited. Its success is limited. There are only two shops left in Southern California that I know of -- ours and one other one.

DIRECTOR GREGG: And so then all these numbers in the plus and minus column or the positive and negative column are not correct?

MS. THOMAS: I would say probably not.

DIRECTOR GREGG: I see there were 1102 negative on meals and wheels.

MR. CAMARA: I would suggest you not use this form if it's going to look like this.

MR. WOODS: I think part of problem was we were out of town, and we had a bunch of activities going on, and reports were coming in late. I know I was rushed to get my reports out, so I'm sure that Don just wasn't able to spend the time on it that he needed to.

DIRECTOR SWANSON: Can you give us a revised report with the correct numbers on it?

MR. WOODS: Yes. I apologize for that. We should have caught it.

DIRECTOR GREGG: I read everything that you give me.

MR. CAMARA: You know, the reports and forms that go in this book are not supposed to be our staff material for the most part. It should be stuff that you want to see. And if there's stuff in here that we're working on that you don't need, we should either redo them or get rid of them because we're spinning our wheels for nothing.

DIRECTOR CHANDLER: I think there was a time period when we were asking questions -- how many people were at different events? I think that's why you came up with this system.

DIRECTOR SWANSON: I prefer the report that's written, and it says, "We have more people this month," or, "We saw a reduction." It gives me more of an idea than looking at a spreadsheet that, as you say, has no reference.

MR. CAMARA: Well, someone has spent a lot of time on this, if it doesn't mean very much and they spent a lot of time on it and they don't even get it right, that's a worthless report.

DIRECTOR GREGG: Well, it means something to me because I'm seeing numbers on it that I can compare it to, but the numbers just aren't matching, so if the numbers don't match then I can't accurately --

DIRECTOR SWANSON: It doesn't do anything.

MR. CAMARA: Then we should do it correctly. If you don't need this, then we should find another method of getting decent numbers.

MS. THOMAS: Well, Mike likes it, and Kelly likes it.

DIRECTOR CHANDLER: Let's talk about it when the other Board members are here.

DIRECTOR CHANDLER: Kelly, do you have any other questions?

DIRECTOR GREGG: No.

MR. WOODS: Is there any questions, is it all right if I move on?

DIRECTOR CHANDLER: Sure, go ahead.

Parks Division

MR. WOODS: Maintenance report. We did some ball field maintenance where we added clay to most of our ball fields, worked with Little League to spike and drag and do some trimming on the infields, and we're just doing more spring-type fertilization and weed abatement and those things on the maintenance. So any question on maintenance?

Ranger Report

MR. WOODS: And then the Ranger report. For some reason -- I guess the month of April was a light month.

DIRECTOR CHANDLER: Yeah, I noticed that.

MR. WOODS: I'm assuming that the weather played a part in this. We don't have as much activity in the parks or problems, so I would -- I was shocked, and I asked Jack, I said, "Did I miss part of your report when you gave it to me?" And he said, "No, I didn't have anything else to report."

DIRECTOR CHANDLER: That's good.

MR. WOODS: So he said we're counting it as a blessing because we're sure things will pick up as the summer months approach.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

- E. **Approval of Resolution No. 11-05-1, nominating Director Kelly Gregg to CSDA Board of Directors - Seat C.**

RESOLUTION NO. 11-05-1

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE HESPERIA RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT APPROVING THE NOMINATION OF DIRECTOR KELLY GREGG TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CALIFORNIA SPECIAL DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION - SEAT C - REGION 5.

Director Kelly requested that he not be nominated for the CSDA Board of Directors.

F. Approval of Fiscal Year 2011/2012 Preliminary Draft Budget.

MR. CAMARA: This is our preliminary draft budget. The intent of this budget is to produce a document that shows the board what the district looks like right now with nondiscretionary changes made. So those are changes that we, basically, have no control of such as utility increases, insurance cost increases. So if you took the district and ran it the way it was run last year or actually run the way it exists right now, going into the new year, this is what you would have. Most agencies start with a draft budget, which is normally things that are already proposed by staff or board and is given to you. That's next month. So you get a chance to see where we are now, and talk about things you'd like to see us work on or look at prior to even giving you the first draft budget, which will put you, in most cases, ahead of the game. It's not a document that really needs approving even, other than approving to file. So it's for discussion purposes.

DIRECTOR CHANDLER: I have some questions. And -- how does this compare to last year's budget at this time?

MR. CAMARA: Well, I think I had in my manager's report some of the changes. We're a little low in some revenues areas, so we had to adjust a little bit. I would say, are some changes here and there -- revenue losses, revenue gains, personnel changes. But generally speaking, the budget is about the same, okay? As far as health, it's about the same.

MS. THOMAS: Except for the developer fees budget.

MR. CAMARA: Right.

MS. THOMAS: Because what we budgeted to receive, we did not get. So we budgeted this year for 11/12, what we got this year, which was \$25,000.

MR. CAMARA: And that doesn't affect our health because it's something -- we can work within that, but we -- the things you look at in the budget -- what I look at, I look at money that you can count on, and you use that to fund baseline costs all the time, and then you have additional revenue shifts and changes such as developer fees, assessments, and fees and things like that that fluctuate. We try to budget nonbased items with those, things that we have some control over. So that's how we look at the budget. That's one reason we don't get in trouble from year to year is because we operate that way. The cities -- bigger municipalities -- they get a lot of income one year, they put a lot of staff on, they make a lot of commitments, and then when those revenues go away, they're stuck with problem commitments. We don't -- we don't do that. So from a health standpoint, we're okay.

DIRECTOR CHANDLER: Thinking in line with a broad perspective, I know a while back what we did when the economy was strong. We did a lot of work on the infrastructure of our parks -- fences and gates and floors like that. Painting -- we strengthened everything in the infrastructure, I think. And we did a good job at that. Looking ahead -- I know this is hard for you to -- but I'm counting on your experience a lot. One subject is vehicles. Do we have a plan to replace any of our vehicles in the future -- an ongoing plan to where some of our vehicles -- are they becoming outdated, or do they need to be replaced or whatever?

MR. CAMARA: Well, we're a little different. Some agencies actually plan to replace vehicles on a regular basis. We don't do that. We analyze the vehicles as we need them. We usually buy used vehicles. I think right now our fleet is in pretty decent shape. So my guess is the next two, three years we won't have any major problems. If we do plan to replace anything, it would only be if it was needed. If something -- one of the vehicles got to a point where

repairing it wasn't worth it, but we try to keep vehicles running on the road rather than simply replace it.

DIRECTOR CHANDLER: What about further strengthening the infrastructure of the park district? Can we still do that?

MR. CAMARA: I have not seen their punch list yet. That's something that they took a look at between this and next budget in which we talk about repairs and things. And as we know, when we get extra money, we try to repair things and replace things that could also save us money, such as more efficient lighting or more efficient items when we have extra money.

DIRECTOR CHANDLER: And I apologize again, Cal, because I didn't ask you some of these questions earlier. Normally, I'll call in and we'll talk about some things. I just didn't have the opportunity. I know we've been over solar panels and things like that in the past. We've talked about that. What I was thinking to today along the lines of that, again, we have -- a lot of our facilities have flat roofs. I was wondering if we could incorporate eventually some kind of solar systems on top of our roofs. It would subsidize, you know, the electricity usage and just common usage that we have around here. Would that be cost effective, do you think, for the amount of money that we would spend on it?

MR. CAMARA: I don't think so. I think we look at this -- we look at this a lot -- we look at this periodically, and I think other than a lot of your solar panels and stuff being nice, green PR, the outlays and the return on them. I've never found them to be really worth the effort of a major investment. I don't know if Lindsay, maybe, has seen some stuff lately. But I've never believed that it is as effective as they say. If we have the opportunity and a grant comes up, I think we would do that, Bob, but I doubt that we would spend the infrastructure to do it.

DIRECTOR CHANDLER: Right. Yeah, I -- the overall cost -- it's wouldn't be cost-effective, I don't think, in the -- it would take a long time to regain that.

MR. WOODS: Well, about the time you start seeing your payback is when you have a problem. You need to replace a panel or -- the city's wind turbine has not been running for the last month, month and a half because they believe a soccer ball hit one of the blades and bent the blade and the blade is \$3,000.

MR. CAMARA: I didn't. We talked to a lot of colleagues in other parks. There's very few of these cost-cutting-saving-wonder-green things that are worth the risk for the stuff we do. Maybe if you had big ball field lights or a bunch of parking lots or something huge, it might work, but for our little things, I doubt -- you know, you get vandalized one time -- one kid on the roof with a hammer, and any cost savings you have for the next two or three years is probably gone.

DIRECTOR CHANDLER: The only thing that -- and one of the things I picked up was that the Novack center -- you have down there refinishing the floors was in your budget here somewhere. I was wondering, didn't we just do that a couple of three years ago?

MS. THOMAS: No.

DIRECTOR CHANDLER: We didn't do that?

MR. WOODS: It's probably getting closer to ten years.

MS. THOMAS: Under the maintenance buildings and grounds, it says "resurface gym floor," but that's just doing the gym floors. It's not a capital item. It's just regular maintenance.

MR. CAMARA: Our people have taken such good care of that floor. It's never been redone, and that's just amazing.

DIRECTOR CHANDLER: One final question -- and that is in regards to our availability of funds. I know we were at one time -- not too in the far past -- we were having some kind of

difficulties because of new rules, regulations came down about the -- as far as getting money out of the foundation when we needed it or something or being able to utilize the foundation the way that it was in the past. Is that still a problem?

MR. CAMARA: I'm not sure, specifically, which one you're talking about. I might have mentioned a problem about a specific account or a specific --

DIRECTOR CHANDLER: I can't remember what it was about, exactly.

MR. CAMARA: I might have been discussing some assessment district issues and some -- maybe I was discussing some laws about -- some accounts you can borrow money -- some accounts can borrow -- some accounts you can lend money to other accounts, and then some of them you can't. Some of the line items you can't adjust. Maybe I was talking about something like that. But generally speaking, there's been nothing significantly changed that I'm aware of. I can tell you that I'm cautioning Lindsay over the next two years -- the three projects -- moving the arena, building the skate plaza, and the BMX track -- that we concentrate working on those and doing them effectively. Other than that, I would be careful with any other spending, especially in the first part of the year. We don't normally know about our taxes and what we're going to get until the second half of the year, so traditionally I try to put off capital expenditures that are based on future revenues until later. The other thing that the state does is if they take your money, they never take it the first half of the year. They come out with their decisions January, February when you've spent -- and if you've spent all your money, they're going to take it anyway. So it's a lot better to stay as dry as you can until after the first of the year and do all your preliminary work -- your planning, all your prep -- get that done and in the spring of next year. You know, you bounce on everything. That's the most conservative way to do it. We have some of the projects we can do because we do have a carryover -- not a large carryover, but a decent carryover in the developer fees, so we don't have to wait until the end of year to do everything, but we do have to watch how we budget our capital.

DIRECTOR CHANDLER: Basically, that's it for my questions. Kelly, do you have any questions?

DIRECTOR GREGG: Yes. I pretty much went over this a couple hours and then some. But after going over this and seeing that the economy is not going to be on fire within the near future, I just want to address some of these items. Transportation and travel -- after attending my first conference, for CARPD, it was very informative, and I kind of did a little bit of a study while I was there on participation, and I'm almost curious is that if we don't want to limit the number of people -- and I don't want you to take this wrong -- not send so many people and have the people that do attend the conferences on their choice, report back and share that information with the rest of the board in some of these instances to cut back on our transportation and travel costs. There were several districts that didn't send anybody. I actually talked to a gentleman that wasn't going to send anybody because they didn't have funding for it, and we were fortunate enough to be able to send all of our board plus our staff -- two out of our staff, so that would just be something that I would like to share there. Touching on the vehicle situation that Bob touched on just a little bit. I -- there's -- with the rising fuel costs and who knows if they're going to continue to rise, is there any vehicles that we could potentially exchange out for any fuel savings?

MR. CAMARA: You mean vehicles that we might buy a smaller vehicle for?

DIRECTOR GREGG: Correct.

MR. CAMARA: That's -- we could certainly review that. I think Lindsay probably knows more about what our vehicle situation than anybody. It would be interesting to see how many miles we've put on the vehicles?

MR. WOODS: Annually, no, because it depends on where they're -- what service vehicle. If they're just driving to a park or a couple of parks as opposed to the LMDs they're moving all day, or the mow crew moves district wide all day long. So it just depends on the crews. We have had smaller, more fuel-efficient vehicles. The problem is we need trucks that are versatile that can be used for a variety of reasons.

MS. THOMAS: We don't have trucks for each employee, so some trucks are transporting three and four employees.

MR. CAMARA: If you were given the task, Lindsay, to meet with your maintenance foremen and park supervisor to brainstorm how to cut our gas consumption by 10, 15 percent, would that be a valuable exercise for them?

MR. WOODS: It would probably be a valuable exercise for them.

MR. CAMARA: If at least to know what they think about driving.

MR. WOODS: I wouldn't be opposed to meeting with them to see what their thoughts on it are, but we have, over the last couple of years, been trying to be very efficient in making sure that when they leave the yard in the morning, they have everything that they need. If they need to go to the store, for some reason, that they hit the store when they're in that region.

MR. CAMARA: How about if we do this, then. Let's plan meeting with the foremen and the supervisor and yourselves and maybe a couple of the other managers and, number one, talk about how we use vehicles and brainstorm ideas -- everything from smaller vehicles to if we had a goal of cutting back 10 percent, let's say, how would we do it? Just for the sake of argument, and let's see what happens. And it's probably not a bad time right now to do that because of the economy and the gas prices going up, and at the very least, it might make the foremen aware to be more careful about what's going on.

DIRECTOR GREGG: You know we're budgeting \$80,000 for fuel this year -- potentially budgeting \$80,000. I don't think that is going to change.

MR. CAMARA: Well, we won't change the budget, but maybe we'll save in what we spend.

DIRECTOR GREGG: Correct. Yeah, I understand. I'm just saying that we're budgeting for \$80,000, but, I mean, gas may go to \$6 a gallon before we even know it and then . . .

MR. CAMARA: Well, that's a good point. If we cut back 10 percent, we may be just keeping our head above water.

DIRECTOR GREGG: Correct. I'm just saying that there may be ways to look at some savings in some way. You know, I -- the first vehicle that comes to my mind -- and I'm not too sure about all the district vehicles, but -- is the Suburban that you use for the mail delivery. You're using a big, huge Suburban for mail delivery for one person that if we have another vehicle to transition that, that we wouldn't be using a gas guzzler versus something more economical. I mean, you know, I'm aware that with a Kia you can go all the way to Northern California on six gallons of fuel.

DIRECTOR CHANDLER: That's right.

MR. CAMARA: To be honest with you, it's probably availability because it's one of the last ones we have left, and we don't have a Kia.

MR. CAMARA: But you're right; that's a good point.

(Discussion held off the record.)

MR. CAMARA: We do tend to have a lot of big vehicles, and you know why? Because we buy them used and those are the cheaper and safer ones.

DIRECTOR GREGG: Okay, I understand. Can we start looking at the smaller, used vehicles or just one anyway, maybe, for the mail?

MR. WOODS: Next time we have a truck or something that goes down, the Suburban is going to the LMD area because they're transporting staff and dropping them off in an area for work, so -- but I can look and see what the vehicles are going for right now, but used, economy vehicles are at a premium from my understanding.

DIRECTOR GREGG: So I don't really have too much more. A couple more issues -- or items, not issues. Sorry. Items that -- whenever you have management in positions, how many levels down do you need to go to make sure that the facilities are being taken care of as far as -- we have a supervisor and then a supervisor one, and then we have a lake manager and a store manager, and then -- I mean, those are the only -- I'm curious if the management staff that are assigned to certain areas . . .

MR. WOODS: Is there a specific area that you're looking at?

DIRECTOR GREGG: Yes, I'm actually looking at Hesperia Lakes. I know that we have a regular management person over those certain areas, right, the lake? The golf course? And those areas?

MR. WOODS: The manager of the lake supervisor-wise is Cal, and then Ed is the actual on-site lake manager. And he has an assistant manager which is Jo Geren because their operations are in operation for long days. Having two on-site --

DIRECTOR GREGG: And you know what? I actually took care of that earlier, but this position -- the lake store manager -- is a vacant position, so . . .

MS. THOMAS: Your question -- was it the golf course?

DIRECTOR GREGG: Yes, the golf course. Moving to the golf course. So we have somebody that oversees the golf course?

MR. WOODS: Correct. That would be Don Webb.

DIRECTOR GREGG: Okay. So then we have a golf professional manager, which happens to be extra help. So to me, whenever I see this, is that we have a golf professional slash manager down there. So we have Don Webb, and we have a manager, and we have a pro shop clerk, and we have a cart manager, and we have a food service, and manager, and manager. I'm asking if there's any way to combine some of the positions to where we don't have a lot of management, management, management, and you've got a couple of people working down there, and everybody else is a manager?

MR. CAMARA: Probably not because you could probably change their title and not make it sound like you have managers, but the real reality is, our golf course manager, Todd, is a minimum-wage, extra help person who teaches golf lessons. He's not your typical -- when you hear the word management. He's basically one of staff. The -- did you say a food service manager?

DIRECTOR GREGG: Well, he's your --

MR. CAMARA: He's a cook, and he schedules how many other people?

MR. WOODS: He's the head cook.

MS. THOMAS: He orders the food.

MR. CAMARA: It's probably terminology more than anything. Don as a supervisor is not supposed to be a hands-on person for the facility. Basically, the people there should run it day to day. Todd, the cart guy, and the cook -- they should be able to handle all their areas.

Don's supposed to be a general supervisor in charge of several different facilities. The golf course is under him. So the sound of it might sound misleading to you, but they're certainly not management-strong down there. You could change their title, and you would have the same positions, if that's what you mean. They don't supervise a whole lot of people. They have the title because they're ultimately responsible for who's scheduled, but they certainly aren't your traditional-type managers.

DIRECTOR GREGG: That's just -- yeah, I just -- whenever I came across those, I had the concern with some of these because whether you can say that they're not necessarily doing that position or not, typically people will take the idea that they're a manager, and they'll use this portion to --

MR. CAMARA: And you're right. Manager is probably not a good term for what these people do, because they work hourly, which means if Todd and -- if you tried to combine one person to, let's say, do the food service management and do the golf course management, and you have one person, they couldn't do it because these people physically work eight hours a day, each one of them. So you couldn't have one person replace them and go and cook and go and work the store. That's why I think it's misleading.

DIRECTOR GREGG: Yeah, I'm aware of working management.

MR. CAMARA: So I don't -- so no, I don't think so.

DIRECTOR GREGG: So they're more supervisors than management?

DIRECTOR CHANDLER: Well, I think it's just the system you become accustomed to, and it's worked in the past.

MR. CAMARA: Well, you have one manager in this district, and that's me, as far as I'm concerned. I don't think anybody else should have manager behind their name. I think it should all be coordinator or technician. Technical terms, really, would probably sound better because I think Kelly has got a point. If you put manager behind everybody it's horribly misleading because the food service manager is not a food service manager. He is a cook.

MR. WOODS: He's the head cook.

MR. CAMARA: He should be a cook. And Todd should be the manager of the golf course; that's the only manager you really have. The pro shop is contracted out, so you don't even really have a pro shop -- a sales manager, but . . .

DIRECTOR CHANDLER: No, but I've been around here long enough, I understand the system. I understand how it works. So to me, when you say manager, I know what you're talking about. And I think that you have been accustomed to using that term, so you fill those slots. And I think that's -- I mean, that's okay. Maybe we should look at it and later on or --

DIRECTOR GREGG: Well, it's not really that they're accustomed to it because everywhere else, except for the golf course. It's the golf course issue that I'm worried about because I know people, and people tend to have the idea that if you put management behind their name, that they will -- they will have a tendency to say, "I am your supervisor." Okay? Or, "I am the management here."

DIRECTOR CHANDLER: I look at that in an entirely different way.

DIRECTOR GREGG: But you asked me for my opinion. And I'm giving you my opinion on what's going on here. I think that we have too many people that are management in this one pyramid, so that's where I'm going with this.

MR. CAMARA: Well, they're not managers, and if the name's a problem, we can change that, but they're not managers.

DIRECTOR GREGG: Okay.

MR. CAMARA: They might feel good being called a manager.

DIRECTOR GREGG: They might be, and they may use the power that they are the manager --

MR. CAMARA: If they like being called a manager.

DIRECTOR GREGG: -- and that's my concern.

DIRECTOR SWANSON: I had some questions about the golf course as well. I noticed that the foundation picks up the cost of staffing; correct? How does that work?

MR. CAMARA: The foundation is the funding mechanism, that's all.

DIRECTOR SWANSON: And how does that -- interact with the city? Do we use those funds to offset the costs that are generated -- I'm sorry. Do we use those funds to -- are those addressed in any way by the profit that is incurred by the golf course, if any?

MS. THOMAS: Everything is paid out of the foundation.

MR. CAMARA: Except for -- well, personnel.

MS. THOMAS: Personnel funding is transferred from the foundation.

MR. CAMARA: Personnel is in the general fund but all money that's collected from the golf course goes into the foundation under the golf account, and then it reimburses the district for the personnel expenses.

MR. CAMARA: But as far as cost accounting goes, there's a separate cost accounting on all the revenue from the golf course.

MS. THOMAS: That's the reports that you get.

MR. CAMARA: We don't get any money from the city.

DIRECTOR SWANSON: Right. And that's my point in this. We provide the personnel that have the expertise that is making the golf course work for the city. We are providing the personnel and the systems that make the lake work, which is the city property. I'm making the point that that is not from funds that the city provides to us. We do that in our own way, with our own facilities, with our own expertise, with our own people, with our own --

MR. CAMARA: No, there's nothing that comes out of the city's account.

DIRECTOR SWANSON: I just wanted to make that -- I just wanted to make sure.

MR. CAMARA: They don't pay for things, and we reimburse them. There's none of that.

DIRECTOR GREGG: I think she's referring to the fact that one of the city council members said that the city needs to stop being a sugar daddy, and pretty much the majority of that was all directed at the school district and park -- that we were tapping into this big sugar daddy city. Which is truly not the case.

DIRECTOR SWANSON: It is definitely not the case.

MR. CAMARA: Look at this; you have Civic Plaza, five acres, developed by the city. We operate it. They spent \$4.4 million on a five-acre park; we operate it 100 percent ourselves, basically. They provide the water. It's a joint project, both our signs are out there, and yet we're paying for half the park; right?

DIRECTOR SWANSON: Right.

MR. CAMARA: Okay. Go to Maple -- same situation. Now you have Maple city property also. We build the entire park on it -- our cost. We maintain it entirely -- our cost, even the water. And you have two logos on it -- a joint facility. Handled completely differently. Why aren't they paying for half that park? If it's a joint park? Maple Park, Civic Park -- city property. We build and maintain it. We -- basically we build and maintain Maple. Same situation at Civic, and yet we're expected to pay for half of it.

DIRECTOR SWANSON: No. And I will keep referring to those kinds of issues over and over again on our public record to make sure that perhaps, eventually, we may be able to educate those who are ignorant.

MR. CAMARA: We pay our own way, and the cost of the golf course as far as the money going in and out is accounted for. And Don is not part of that. He's part of our general supervisory staff, he's not a golf course budget, but everybody else is - the golf pro, the cooks, all those people.

DIRECTOR SWANSON: Okay.

DIRECTOR GREGG: And my last item and I'll be done is I don't know exactly what this project manager contract is at --

MR. CAMARA: Which one?

MS. THOMAS: Bob.

DIRECTOR GREGG: It's budgeted at 520 hours a year. I mean, I couldn't -- can you give me some idea of --

MR. CAMARA: He was our liaison to our commercial and residential questions when it came to streetlights because he's handled streetlights probably before I got here. When he retired, we just kept him on primarily to handle all outside questions and requests for additional streetlights. He's the guy that goes out and looks at locations. The people call him with how to get a streetlight, what to do, how to apply for one. So he's been on for a long time.

DIRECTOR GREGG: I'm just curious. I mean, is that something that we can change to a -- to hire him as a consultant versus having him on --

DIRECTOR SWANSON: You want to make him a manager?

DIRECTOR GREGG: -- the paid site? Well, he's already a manager. He's a project manager.

MR. CAMARA: I'll talk to you about that one.

DIRECTOR GREGG: Okay.

DIRECTOR SWANSON: I have two things. And -- is there anything else you wanted to say?

DIRECTOR GREGG: I don't think so. The only other thing I want to say on this budget is when I started looking at this budget, I had a conversation with a gentleman, and he pretty much presented his theory to me as this, and I truly learned something with this, is if I ask you to hand me your wallet, and you give me your wallet and say, "I trust you to do what you're supposed to do out of there." I can truly say that this district would accurately account for your wallet. Okay? That's what I was put in this position to do is to make sure, from my point of view, is to make sure that we're doing everything that we can to be aboveboard. And going through this, I see the only issue that I'm pointing out is that, there's not deep issue, it's just a concern, is, can we cut some costs because of the undetermined economic downturn that we're facing? So when I throw things out about the cars -- I'm not aware that, you know, that it may cost \$7,000 for a smaller car and would we save \$3,500 on fuel? And I'm just using some analogy on that. So on that note those were the items that I came across that I said to myself is, "Okay, can we do any kind of cost savings? Do we need management titles?" I'm not necessarily saying cut positions, I'm just saying that we have to account for every dollar that we take out of the taxpayers' wallets, so that's what I'm looking at.

MR. CAMARA: If you compare apples and apples with this district and you go across the street to Apple Valley or Victorville and you compare what they're doing, you're going to be very proud of the district. You know what doesn't show here is when you look at our maintenance costs, if you were to go to Victorville and look at how much gas they spend for the same amount of parks they maintain, you're going to find we are way under them. If you

go to Victorville and find out how many man-hours and cost per man-hours they have per acre of parks, we're probably a third of theirs. The real benefit to our district is when you start comparing how much we're saving because when you just look at our budget, it doesn't give you the picture of what we really do for the money we spend. That's the harder part to put your finger on. But as far as us putting down what we spend, we've always done that. And you know we have nothing to hide. But again, our true value comes when you compare us, Kelly, to other agencies, that -- how cheap it is to do stuff.

DIRECTOR CHANDLER: Rebekah, do you have any questions?

DIRECTOR SWANSON: I don't have a question; I have just an observation. It was dismaying to me that on our -- the first page of our draft budget, we have a \$30,000 anticipation that we're going to have that much in vandalism. And I think Cal mentioned that -- I think it was Maple, the Maple opening that we could put out another beautiful park for the money that we pay, due to vandalism and graffiti and loss.

MR. CAMARA: Yes, not us. I meant the community -- the police, the -- All of it.

DIRECTOR SWANSON: All of the cost put together.

MR. CAMARA: Yes.

DIRECTOR SWANSON: And seeing that on there just -- and knowing that we never let vandalism or graffiti stand in our way. We just, you know, quietly fix it and move on, which is the best way to handle it. I'm just dismayed that we have to put an amount in tens of thousands of dollars in anticipation that we're going to have to deal with that. But in that also, I know that if there's anything that's broken or destroyed or marked or in any way, our guys are right on it, and that prevents more damage from occurring. I think if we let even a day go by for any of these things -- and I haven't seen -- and maybe you guys can maybe speak to this -- I haven't seen an increase in the vandalism and graffiti, which makes me happy. But you guys can probably give me more illumination about that. Just looking over the reports, it looks like it's maintained about the same. But if -- because we're so vigilant about it, I think that prevents further damage from occurring. It just makes me sad. You know, we live in a wonderful community; 99.9 percent of the people who live there are good, honest, hard-working people. It's just dismaying to me that we're looking at such a large amount in vandalism as just the course of -- just the cost of doing business.

DIRECTOR CHANDLER: That's right.

MR. CAMARA: Well, you know I used to be real proud that we never used to put a dime under anything in the budget that said vandalism. And we had to start doing that a few years ago. However, with that said, again --

DIRECTOR SWANSON: We have more facilities too.

MR. CAMARA: I do not believe we really have that much vandalism in this park district comparatively.

DIRECTOR SWANSON: Oh, absolutely. And I put a large amount of that in our prevention with Jack and with our facilities' managers.

MR. CAMARA: I think that helps a little. But you know what I think one of the biggest things about this district that we don't have a lot; we've always been an activity-oriented district, which means we've never built a picnic area out in the middle of nowhere. It's always been a ball field or a soccer field. And it's built, not just to sit there and get general use; it's built there to get programmed use. And I think when you program things and you get them using it, there's a little bit of buy-in, you get more --

DIRECTOR SWANSON: Pride.

MR. CAMARA: You have more activities.

DIRECTOR SWANSON: Community pride.

MR. CAMARA: Because look at the areas that we have vandalized; they're like the Paseos.

DIRECTOR SWANSON: They're areas we did not plan.

MR. CAMARA: The leisure parks. They get hit hard. That's a city mentality when they do that. You know, one of the things it does -- when the city plans Paseos and landscapes things, we maintain them with an assessment from the subdivision, and we can almost guarantee you, we can tell as soon as it's planned which ones are going to get vandalism and which ones aren't because they're usually these leisure things that they plan. So they cost us money to build, they cost us money to maintain, and they usually get hit hard. So, if we stay with the district's philosophy of building activity parks, we'll have less vandalism, but it's here.

DIRECTOR GREGG: That total -- \$30,000 in vandalism -- that's total budgeted?

MS. THOMAS: For the general fund. There's some in the Assessment District Number 1 also.

DIRECTOR GREGG: I want to just reflect back on the conversation that I was having earlier is, I see all of these numbers here, and I get what all these numbers mean, and after some more in-depth detail on this is because you see \$35,000 budgeted for something, is not necessarily what we're spending on that.

DIRECTOR SWANSON: It's approximate.

DIRECTOR GREGG: And so I want to commend the staff on saving some money, and I understand that you guys do a great job on that. I'm just saying if there's one more dollar we can save for the taxpayer or ten more dollars or fifty more dollars or a hundred more dollars, then we look better to the -- to the people that we're actually representing. So I commend you on savings, and I'd like to find out what we did budget for vandalism last year and what was spent for vandalism last year.

MS. THOMAS: For this year we budgeted 35,000, but it's -- it's less because I moved Maple Park from the general fund to the Assessment District.

DIRECTOR GREGG: Okay. And then --

MS. THOMAS: So it's the same; it's just in different spots.

DIRECTOR GREGG: And then to possibly help you out, I mean, if the maintenance staff can be real diligent on, you know, factoring in the cost that if it's vandalism, that that gets charged out. Then we can start getting a real, accurate account. Look, \$30,000 is not a lot of money in vandalism. And I know it sounds like a lot of money, but I know that we budget about \$10,000 a year for one facility.

DIRECTOR SWANSON: We? In Big Bear?

DIRECTOR GREGG: In Big Bear.

MR. CAMARA: Well, my gut feeling is we have no more vandalism this year than we had last year; is that pretty close?

MR. WOODS: We've had single acts of vandalism that exceed \$10,000. And that's what we've seen the reduction in is the large-scale vandalism. The minor stuff -- hey, they do a little bit of spray paint here. It's that -- they break the water faucet, those types of things. We're not seeing the mass destruction that we saw during the building boom. When all the people were moving up here from down the hill, we were getting major vandalism on a regular basis.

DIRECTOR GREGG: That's one cost of business that you're not going to get around. It's going to be there in any form, small or medium to large, and I mean, you know, the price of doing business.

(Discussion held off the record.)

DIRECTOR GREGG: And I truly believe that once we get a couple of these other projects up off the ground, as far as i.e. skate park or bike track, bike park, whatever we're doing -- I think a lot -- sometimes they're over there grinding with their boards or grinding their bikes or whatever they're doing, and I think once we get these projects that Cal's got in the works going, I think that that's probably going to allow, in my -- my opinion is that it would probably alleviate some of the vandalism because the kids are going to be doing something they want to be doing or something that there is to do versus out terrorizing the city.

DIRECTOR CHANDLER: Do you want a motion from us, or what do you want?

MR. CAMARA: You can just receive and file.

DIRECTOR SWANSON: Okay.

DIRECTOR CHANDLER: Okay.

MR. CAMARA: Now, you know if you have any ideas, you guys have these. If you want to call us if something comes to your mind or something you want us to work on, let us know. There are two aspects to the budget. There's a political side of it, and there's the practical side of it. I don't want to ever give you the idea that our staff doesn't try to be cost-conscious because we do. We're very proud of beating other people we're compared to. But there's also a political reality, and that is, the board of directors -- you need to be involved, and if there's an issue that you're concerned about and a statement you need to make, then you need to make that because the political side of the budget is also very important. I mean, the part you bring about the golf course is a perfect example -- the perception of what you call the managers.

DIRECTOR CHANDLER: Well, actually I'm glad you brought that up because very quickly I want to mention something that -- you know, Lindsay and I did go to a special district conference in Sacramento, and I think that any opportunity -- if these folks have a chance to go up there, they should go. Because I think it's an integral part of their position. I really believe that, and it kind of clarifies things a little bit in their position. So maybe next year you could -- if we -- as soon as we hear about this thing, the next conference, we could plan ahead to make sure that they have the time off to go and go up there with you and attend that conference because it's well worth going to. It's a really good experience.

DIRECTOR GREGG: I would totally agree with Bob that the fact that going to conferences and gaining information is critical in this situation. I just -- I don't agree with the fact that sending a large group to, these conferences that could cost the taxpayer an excessive amount of money, when those people going to those conferences could come back and report and share the same information with the rest of staff or board that didn't attend. And if it was an alternate -- you know, an alternate sending -- I don't know how you want to look at it. Also, I was looking at one other thing that I did miss is the fact that I don't know what the policy is or procedure is or whatever, but if we send two male staff down to an overnight conference, do we need to spend \$600 for two rooms for the night, or would it be commonly mutual between the two staff members that went down there to share one room. I'm just looking at all the aspects of travel and budgeting, and that's where we're at.

DIRECTOR CHANDLER: Okay. Let's go to general manager reports. Cal?

SPECIAL REPORTS

General Manager

MR. CAMARA: I think we've covered just about everything. Lindsay reported that the Val Shearer Arena is going smooth. It's probably going to take a couple more weeks.

MR. WOODS: It's got to be done by the second week of June because there's an equestrian event.

MR. CAMARA: It probably will be. What did I say about the -- oh, I just -- as far as the golf club course goes -- I just mentioned that everybody knows they've started the process to evaluate it and several years down the road, I'm sure they'll make a decision. And I think we talked about the budget. I just wanted to point out that I think being able to start paying Civic Park back as well as the skate plaza, the BMX track, to move the arena, I think in a down economic time, and we're sticking with what we said we were going to do, I think that's fantastic.

DIRECTOR CHANDLER: That's a good plan.

MR. CAMARA: I talked to so many other colleagues, especially cities where they're cutting back -- Victorville is cutting back 70 percent of their recreation park budget. Now, just look at our budget. Chop 70 percent out of that, and tell me what you're going to cut.

DIRECTOR SWANSON: Programs.

MR. CAMARA: You know? So I think we should be proud of this budget. The sad thing is, is because of the wide range of attitudes about governments being in trouble, there's -- it's hard to convey this to the public that the budget is well-managed. And this budget should be fine, at least for the next two years, even if we run into a few more problems with the economy moving down a little bit. If you get into another three or four years of constantly coming down, you might have to start taking a look at some things, but for a while, the budget is okay.

Board Member Reports

Recreation Foundation -Chandler/Gregg

DIRECTOR CHANDLER: You've seen your report as far as the Recreation Foundation.

DIRECTOR GREGG: Just in touching base with a couple of board members, they seem real interested in attending the majority of the events that they were able to, along with the regular board that they're invited to. Did that come out right?

DIRECTOR SWANSON: They like going to things they're invited to.

DIRECTOR GREGG: They're showing heavy interest in joining this board in attending events that we are invited to, and again, I'd like to make sure that any event that board is invited to, that it gets extended to the Foundation Board as well.

MR. CAMARA: And Rachel has been doing exactly that. There's been several that you have been invited to that they haven't gotten notice to, and we made sure we forwarded it to them.

DIRECTOR SWANSON: Thank you.

Tri-Agency - Chandler/Swanson

DIRECTOR CHANDLER: The Tri-Agency meeting. Rebekah?

DIRECTOR SWANSON: Well, we were all there. I just want to reiterate again that I believe that our staff has done an exemplary job of bringing the golf course back from the dead, and I hope for its continued improvement, but I also hope that the community sees it as an asset. And any asset is an investment in the surrounding community, not only the community that touches that particular place such as community that touches the golf course, but also the larger community as a whole -- the benefits from having such a place. You don't have to live next to the library to appreciate it and feel proud of your community for having one, and not being a golfer myself does not reduce my enjoyment in having the pride of the private place that would have such an asset within it. I'm glad that we have some plans for that that make sure that we are not a drain on the city's resources simply by existing. And I'm glad we're

contributing a healthy thing to this community, regardless of those who seem to be ignorant of our effectiveness.

DIRECTOR CHANDLER: Thank you very, very much.

Safety and Security - Chandler/Hamilton

No meeting held.

Personnel Committee - Hamilton/Limbaugh

No meeting held.

Golf Course Ad Hoc Committee - Hamilton/Limbaugh

Directors Hamilton and Limbaugh are not here tonight to make their report.

Skate Plaza and BMX Ad Hoc Committee - Chandler/Hamilton

No meeting held.

Other Related Business

MR. CAMARA: Rebekah, I want to say something. You congratulated the staff for the hard work at the golf course, and I can tell you that there are glitches down there that could be done better, but I wish the other two board members were here to hear me say this. One of the reasons we're fairly successful at what we do is you guys as a board -- and even Kelly who is a brand-new board member. I meant that from the standpoint he doesn't know how we operate yet entirely. He's learning quickly. The point I'm trying to make is you guys allow us to manage things, and you allow us to use our creativity. Not a lot of places do that. A lot of places put their fingers in absolutely everything, and they fail. So for years I've said that about this board. You guys have allowed us to do things -- and thank goodness we've got it right sometimes.

DIRECTOR CHANDLER: You know I'm going to add to that, Cal. One of my greatest pleasures is to see people who love what they do, do it. And I feel it's our job to allow you the freedom to do those things, to be creative, to be innovative, and you do those things. And I mean, it really makes me feel really good to watch you guys do what you do best. It really does. It reminds me so much of when I was in the fire service. I used to love doing what I did. And I used to train in all kinds of different things, and they would allow me to change things and manipulate things around, move things around to make things work better, and I really appreciated that from the people that I worked for and worked with when I was in the fire service. And I get a great, great deal of pleasure watching you folks get so delighted at something that's really affiliated with park work and park district in our community. It really means a lot to me.

MR. CAMARA: Well, it has been really good. And you know, when I tell people that -- I say, "You know, it's really nice because my board of directors have always allowed me to be creative and do things." The first thing that comes to their mind is, "Oh, yeah, they just let you do whatever you want." No, that's not what I mean. I don't mean that at all. I mean, when I make proposals, you believe in those proposals, and when you back them or don't back them, you support -- you support us -- have supported us all the time. And it doesn't mean you don't agree with something, or you don't turn us down. That's not my point. But this board has been very good. You don't fight in public.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by declaration by Director Chandler at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cal Camara, General Manager

Rachel Thomas, Admin, Op Mgr.