

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

January 12, 2011

A Moment of Silence was held for the victims of the shooting in Arizona.

FLAG SALUTE

Mike Limbaugh led the Pledge of Allegiance

CALL TO ORDER

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

ATTENDANCE

BOARD PRESENT: Limbaugh, Hamilton, Swanson, Chandler, Gregg
BOARD ABSENT: None
STAFF PRESENT: Camara, Thomas, Woods, Hamm

COMMUNICATIONS

WRITTEN COMMUNICATION

1. Association of San Bernardino County Special Districts January 24, 2011 Membership meeting.
2. Newspaper article, Daily Press, December 3, 2010, "Thousands attend Christmas tree lighting".
3. Newspaper article, Daily Press, December 3, 2010, "Big fish stories aren't tall tales at Hesperia Lake".
4. Newspaper article, Hesperia Star, December 7, 2010, "Santa Comes To Town".
5. Newspaper article, Hesperia Star, December 7, 2010, "Big fish stories are no tall tales at Hesperia Lake".
6. Newspaper article, Daily Press, December 11, 2010, "Many come together to remember".
7. Newspaper article, Hesperia Star, December 14, 2010, "Hamilton is named park board president".
8. Newspaper article, Daily Press, December 15, 2010, "Man rides stolen ATV across golf course".
9. Newspaper article, Daily Press, December 18, 2010, "Holiday golf cart parade returns to Hesperia golf course".
10. Newspaper article, Hesperia Star, December 21, 2010, "Holiday on the greens".
11. Newspaper article, Daily Press, January 1, 2011, "Looking Back at 2010".

ORAL COMMUNICATION

None

CONSENT ITEMS

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

- A. Approved Minutes for the Regular Meeting, December 8, 2010.
- B. Approved Claims.
- C. Accepted written staff reports.
- D. Authorization to advertise for bids: None

PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

MR. WOODS: This evening, Steve Hamm will be doing the presentations and proclamations for the tree-lighting ceremony.

STEVE HAMM: The first category will be the high school volunteers from Oak Hills High, Sultana High and Hesperia High School. They helped us out with serving the hot chocolate and the kettle corn. Oak Hills High School, the Interact Club, Janelle Vicario, the president.

(Applause)

Flo's Kettle Corn is here. Flo donates her time, and is reimbursed for supplies.

(Applause)

Next, we have the Girl Scout Troop 782 of Hesperia. They collected gift cards for Support Our Troops campaign, and they also had greeting cards that people could fill out there, and then they sent them to our troops.

(Applause)

Spark of Love was there from the San Bernardino County Fire Department, Jason McLaughlin is here with

(Applause)

Hesperia Fire Explorers, Post 152 helped with crowd control and a number of other things.

We do have Parker Smith. There were four young men, Joseph Rillera, Pablo Avilez, Parker Smith, and Eric Carrell.

(Applause)

And the fire department helped us out in getting Santa Claus over to the event and dropping him off, Barry Fox is here, he's the division chief.

(Applause)

The reserve deputy sheriffs are not here tonight, but they always help us out at all of the events. And the C.O.P.'s helped with traffic flow and Santa's tent and general security.

We'll move to the entertainment portion of the event. The first choir was Hesperia Christian School, and we have the choir director for the school Kerissa Clutters here.

(Applause)

Next, is Hesperia High School choral department, Amanda Graley is the director; she's not here. Shenanigans -- we have Alina Hamerick, she is the director. Beverly Williams is one of the assistants, and Kimberly Williams is one of the four singers.

(Applause)

First Baptist Church Children's Choir was there; it's also called Creative Expressions, Amanda Tate is the director, and a couple of the choir members, Savana Morck and Danyin Morck are with her.

(Applause)

This year, we had a soloist her name is Mercedes Robinson. She is a senior at Hesperia High School, and she was the winner of the High Desert Idol 2008.

(Applause)

MR. HAMILTON: On behalf of the Board of Directors, I want to thank all of you for making it such a great evening. It was another great event that the park and the city and everybody put on together. We are going to take a short recess, and so if some of you would like to leave, you are welcome to leave. If you want to stay, you are welcome to stay. We are just going to take a few minutes to take a break.

MR. CAMARA: And I want to thank everybody, too, from the management staff. We always say we couldn't have done it without you; the truth is, it wouldn't have happened without you, so thanks a lot.

Meeting Recessed at 7:15 p.m.

Meeting Reconvened at 7:19 p.m.

MR. HAMILTON: We would like to reconvene.

MR. WOODS: Can I have one more minute for a proclamation. We don't know how it happened, but it happened, and we don't want to send the gentleman away. We have Tom Kirk from Hesperia Kiwanis Club, and the Hesperia Kiwanis every year helps with decorating the tree at the corner of C and Main. Tom's Kiwanis boss told him to come here to be recognized tonight, and we did not want to send him away without recognizing him.

STAFF REPORTS

Recreation Programs

MR. WOODS: Don is not here, so if you have any questions on the recreation report, I'd be happy to look at that. One change that he did make to the forms was any of the programs that are seasonal; he's removed them and will only show them on the report during the season that they function. So like aquatics will only be shown May through September, so that way you don't see a lot of blank area or zeros on the reports. Any questions on the recreation report? We had good attendance at the cart decorating parade from the Board and foundation board. We had some community people that participated, so it was a good event. And of course, we had our tree-lighting event, and it was very successful. Thousands of people were there, and the weather was cooperating this year. Everyone was having a good time. It was ideal conditions, and so we appreciate your support on those. Any questions on the recreation report?

Golf Course Operations Report

MR. WOODS: Moving onto golf course operations, a couple of things I would like to highlight on the golf course is, we did have some closures on the course due to the weather, snow and rain, and we also had some further closure on the back nine because of some erosion that occurred during the storm. We worked with SCGA to assign getting temporary handicaps for that hole. It's now a PAR 3, and we have rerouted the golfers around that area so that they have a safe area of travel.

MRS. SWANSON: How long is that going to continue, Lindsay?

MR. WOODS: We met with the city, and they are saying that they are going to get started on it as early as the end of next week, but they have a lot of other pressing issues around town, roadways and things like that, so I think they need to still look at their schedules. It's workable the way that it is now, and the golfers are happy, as long as the handicap adjustment has been made.

MRS. SWANSON: Okay. So you are not hearing anything negative about, "We are not going to golf here until it's fixed"?

MR. WOODS: No, we are not hearing that. We were just glad that we got the path rerouted so we could get that open. Golf promotions -- the January and February golf promotion is unlimited golf and driving range access weekdays after noon for \$25. They will have to pay cart fees that are associated. And we've just been doing cleanup on the course and things after the storm. So any other questions about the golf course report?

Parks Division

MR. WOODS: Moving on to the maintenance and ranger report. We had our December district-wide staff meeting. Staff enjoyed themselves. It's always a good time to get them together and get to see each other and share stories and get to meet new people because we don't always get to see everyone that's out in the field. And with the weather and everything else, we are doing inside maintenance and doing spring cleaning in the winter, those types of things so we don't have staff out in the elements during the bad weather. Any questions about those two reports? All right. Thank you.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

E. Review Temporary Building Rental Fee Reductions.

MR. CAMARA: This is the item I talked about in my manager's report last month, we wanted to run a short special for public relations, as well as fill some of our rooms and rental areas that are a little slow right now. The Board wanted to review that proposal at a board meeting with the possible intention of extending it more than a few months or reducing the rate a little more than I had proposed. As I mentioned, I felt comfortable going with 25 percent for, maybe, a three-month period, but any more than that, I would rather have the Board make a recommendation and approval, so therefore it is before you. We will advertise the changes as a promotional item and hopefully get some response on it. We believe we will. So you can either go with the 25 percent longer than three months and maybe take it out to June or July or go with a heavier rate. The rooms and facilities that I gave you are the primary ones that we would like to fill. Many of our other rooms with classes and programming -- if we advertise a special, we might go beyond its capacity because they are fairly well used now. These are the ones that we have some gaps in.

MR. LIMBAUGH: Do you have regular people that rent these certain times of year? So like, this year, you know that on March 15th, someone is going to rent Percy Bakker. They have already signed up for it. Some of them are annual things that happen?

MR. CAMARA: Yes, some of them are annual.

MR. LIMBAUGH: So based on that, this really won't affect the revenue?

MR. CAMARA: Not really.

MR. LIMBAUGH: But it may pull in enough to make a difference?

MR. CAMARA: I'm not sure we'll make a lot of money with the special, but we'll definitely have some goodwill, and we do have some vacancies, so it's good for the community, good for us. And it's not being done to generate revenue per se.

MR. LIMBAUGH: More participation?

MR. CAMARA: Yes. We hate having rooms sit there.

MR. LIMBAUGH: And given if we reduce the rate, this does not imply a subsidy by the park district.

MR. CAMARA: Correct.

MR. LIMBAUGH: Okay. So whether we charge \$500 or \$400, it doesn't cost us anything if they show up?

MR. CAMARA: There's a point in which there is a cost. 25 percent cuts into our range a little bit. If you went 50 percent, that might be subsidizing it a wee bit. If you did it for a short period of time, that wouldn't hurt, but we wouldn't want to do that for an extended period.

MR. LIMBAUGH: We've done this in the past?

MR. CAMARA: On occasions.

MR. LIMBAUGH: Does it work?

MR. CAMARA: I think it will in this economy.

MR. HAMILTON: Cal, have we had some unscientific survey from you and the staff, and have we had people say people are not using the facility because the costs are too high?

MR. CAMARA: I think when we know we have rentals down, and we know the economy is down, I think the obvious answer is people are lacking a little bit of money, so we are going to do this and really see what happens.

MS. THOMAS: But the receptionists usually get two or three calls a day asking about rates and rentals, and we have people that come in all the time, so there are people looking. It's just, I think, the cost.

MR. CAMARA: The assumption can be made they are cutting back where, maybe, they would want to do this. Now, the facilities, we're cutting back 25 percent, and I've mentioned that there are other things that go along with that facility that may or may not be cut back as well. It might be chairs or things like that, so we are going to make the whole package look better, but I didn't want to give you every nut and bolt that's going to be cut back on.

MRS. SWANSON: How far ahead of time are we able to book the golf course at this moment?

MR. CAMARA: Well, if we had a rental for a year out, we'd rent it out.

MRS. SWANSON: So maybe if we get a few more bookings that may help us to extend?

MR. CAMARA: Do we have any long-range tournaments, any beyond four or five months next summer?

MR. WOODS: We've had a few that have talked to us.

MR. CAMARA: We do have an event planner, and hopefully, this particular item hopefully will start generating some interest.

MRS. SWANSON: Thank you.

MR. HAMILTON: Any other discussion?

MR. CHANDLER: If we are talking about the golf course, now might not be a bad time, Cal, to mention what we talked about today at the Tri-Agency meeting, about us having a booth set up at the -- was it for weddings or something like that? What is that?

MR. WOODS: The High Desert Bridal and Quinceaneras Expo will be on the 29th at the fairgrounds.

MR. CAMARA: We have a booth.

MR. WOODS: A booth that will be promoting the golf course venue, as well as Percy Bakker and our other facilities.

MR. CAMARA: So this is good timing.

MR. WOODS: It will be a good time to roll out these prices and maybe entice some business.

MOTION: It was moved by Director Limbaugh, seconded by Director Swanson and carried unanimously to reduce facility rentals fees 25% until June 30, 2011 for the following facilities as presented:

- Percy Bakker Community Center
- Rick Novack Community Center
- Lime Street Park Community Center
- John Swisher Community Center
- Hesperia Golf Course Banquet Rooms

SPECIAL REPORTS

General Manager

MR. HAMILTON: Next is the general manager's report.

MR. CAMARA: We've covered some of the golf course, and this would probably be a good time to bring up that we are adjusting some of our restaurant times. Lindsay, do you want to report on that?

MR. WOODS: What we've done was we've tracked the patronage at the golf course and the restaurant, and what we've decided to do is, most of our people that are dining there in the middle of the week are golfers or golf-related, and they seem to gravitate towards the lounge, so instead of having a server that's in the lounge area and a server that's in the restaurant, we've cut back on staffing a little bit, and we are going to keep the restaurant portion closed but still have food service in the lounge area, and that will allow us to rent the facility out as well for special business meetings, whether it's lunch or breakfast, which we've had a couple of calls from people that want to do that. As business builds, we can always open it back up. But at this point, the business is not there enough to keep both of the facilities available. We will be open on the weekends. The restaurant will be open on Saturdays and Sundays for breakfast and lunch in the restaurant, as well as in the lounge.

MR. CAMARA: Also, what wasn't mentioned in regards to the golf course and that water damage, the reason that hole was changed to a PAR 3 was because of the access to get to the tee because of the damage. That may very well be opened up prior to -- is that going to be opened up prior to -- if we get it filled in a little and create an avenue for them to get to the tee, are you going to move it back even though the damage may not be done?

MR. WOODS: Yes.

MR. CAMARA: So we do have the option, once we are able to route the carts back to the original tee, to open it back up to the original PAR and eliminate the PAR 3, so even though that damage may take a while to fix, eventually we will have the option of changing the tee positioning. Lime Street Park, I've reiterated here because you may have been expecting to see something on the Agenda in regards to the arena relocation and the proposal for the BMX track and some numbers on the skate plaza. We are still working on that package to bring back to the Board as a recommendation, so we may or may not have it put together by next Board meeting, but we are still working on that. It's in process. Storm damage -- we had very little storm damage to the park system, other than the golf course. And the HCP property, as I've indicated there, their property was upside down more than we were willing to pay. I wish we would have known that up front, but they really wouldn't tell us. They wanted to know what our offer was to begin with. However, that property is not going anywhere, and the property owner knows that someday we will eventually, when the market comes back and we are in a position to develop in that area, that we will look at their property again. So they do want to sell it. They just are not in the position right now based on the appraisal. And the maintenance yard, as you can see here, we entered into an agreement with the state to lease the fire station, and we were eventually going to buy it from them for the market value, which, at that time, was about \$200,000, which was a good deal then, but it isn't so much a good deal now, so we are now looking at allowing the lease to run out and relocating our maintenance yard to the Calhoun area at HCP, so we would have a west-side yard at HCP and a south yard located at the lake. Strategically, this is okay. It doesn't harm our maintenance program at all. It does mean, though, we may be abandoning the fire station property. That's our intention now. We haven't made contact with the State. We'll see if anything else develops. It may or may not. If it does, we'll bring it back to the Board.

MR. LIMBAUGH: If you got an appraisal for that property, what would it appraise at because the lot on the other side of the RV guy just sold? He just bought it actually. I don't remember what he paid for it. He told me, but I forgot, so you have a comparison. If they could get it down below, you know a reasonable amount. It's a nice piece of property. Is the church the next property?

MR. CAMARA: The grange hall.

MR. LIMBAUGH: Does anybody ever use that grange hall?

MR. CAMARA: It's used.

MR. LIMBAUGH: Okay.

MR. CAMARA: If you remember, once, I was interested in eventually purchasing that whole block. It would have been a nice little facility to have. It's just not turning out that way with dollars. Our developer fees are down, and staff is looking at the fire station as, let's say they cut it in half to \$100,000 and let's say that's a good deal. Do we want to spend \$100,000 on that at this time when we really could utilize the Calhoun property and the lake property and not have to spend the \$100,000? That's where the balance is. I put it on here for us to talk about. If it's something you would like to have an ad hoc committee look into a little further, to talk about it a little more, we could. For cost effectiveness at this point, I don't know that we'd want to jump on it. It's not going to go anywhere. They may open it up to the private market, but who knows? It was fine when the times were good, but now that the times are tough -- let me put it this way: If we weren't in that building and that building came up for 100-, \$200,000, I don't believe we would consider it, okay?

MR. LIMBAUGH: But it is central to our facilities.

MR. CAMARA: It is.

MR. LIMBAUGH: We have had the maintenance facility out at the lake before, and that means they'd have to drive on that crappy road all the time out to there. Then the other one at HCP -- I guess it's closer to the assessment districts, which is nice. I mean, that would make a lot of sense because you have a lot of the maintenance crews there, but then you have two facilities for maintenance.

MR. CAMARA: It's a balancing issue. Now, like I say, if you think it's worth looking into and you want to give us an ad hoc committee, I'd be glad to sit down with a couple of people. We can look at the pros and cons and see if we want to bring it up again.

MR. WOODS: We have almost outgrown that facility. When all the staff is there, vehicle-wise, we are outgrowing it.

MR. CAMARA: That's the other issue. We are growing. The truth is, we wanted that because it was a good deal. We would have had a maintenance yard there, but we still would have eventually located another satellite yard at Calhoun. I mean, we would have done that anyway.

MR. LIMBAUGH: The better place would have been the one on E.

MR. CAMARA: Yes. Absolutely.

MR. LIMBAUGH: What's in there now?

MR. HAMILTON: Private storage, trucking, or somebody bought it.

MR. LIMBAUGH: How about the lumber place on E? It's vacant. It's been vacant for years.

MR. HAMILTON: He paid \$3 and a half million. I met with him trying to buy it. It was too much money.

MR. LIMBAUGH: \$200,000 for that piece of property is probably not a good deal.

MR. CAMARA: Not for us.

MR. LIMBAUGH: Because if we are outgrowing it already, then it just becomes a shove and push, and we are throwing money at it.

MR. CAMARA: If we had the developer fees coming in like we did when we were looking at this, we would probably go ahead and buy it because it's a good property to have, but right now, I do not believe it would be on our priority list to buy that and not build something -- do something else.

MR. HAMILTON: The lease runs out, what, May 31st, so when do you tell them that we are not going to continue?

MR. CAMARA: Well, depending on how you reacted tonight, it might be pretty quick.

MR. HAMILTON: The reason why, I'd be curious to see what their response is.

MR. CAMARA: Exactly. The way it is right now, this is what we are doing, but that could change depending on their reaction, like "make us an offer" or something like that. You never know.

MR. HAMILTON: Just speaking as one of five members of the Board, I would like to say that we are leaving there, and we are, and see what kind of response we get.

MR. CAMARA: Well, we'd always do that. We'd always do that. I'm more concerned with your overall view of abandoning it. If it occurs and we abandon it, are you comfortable with that?

MR. HAMILTON: Can I just ask all of you to respond on that? What are your thoughts on that, Kelly?

MR. CHANDLER: I think that's an appropriate thing to do, wait for them to respond back.

MR. HAMILTON: What do you think?

MR. GREGG: I think we should let them know as soon as possible so he can bring it back to the Board.

MR. HAMILTON: What about you?

MR. LIMBAUGH: I'd like to see next meeting or the meeting after, staff come back with a recommendation, "We have the maintenance operation currently centered at the Yucca Street facility. We are not going to renew the lease there, and we've already informed the State. They want too much money for the property. We are going to diversify the maintenance facilities now and put them back out at the lakes and Hesperia Community Park," and then ask us to give you, you know, "Okay. That's good. Go do it."

MR. HAMILTON: Yeah. Are you guys comfortable with that? Yeah, let's try that.

MR. LIMBAUGH: I was going to talk about this in the next thing. Right now, we are in pretty good shape money-wise because we don't have any huge financial thing we are going to spend a whole bunch of money on within the next year, so if we wanted to buy that property, we could easily afford it. It's not like we need to fire people or cut benefits or do some drastic action, but keep in mind that we are not so sure we will go unscathed with budget reductions and tax increases. Our developer fees will probably come to a grinding halt, I would say, within two years unless the economy comes around. We are getting trickles and stuff like that, but it's not enough to do new capital investments. Right now, the way it looks through November, we have almost \$2 million in monies that we could spend on something or save.

MR. HAMILTON: But where are we in terms of what we are paying the city?

MR. LIMBAUGH: Right. We still owe the city, and we've said we will pay them something. I'm not so sure -- they have got so many problems that they are not really looking at us right now. As long as we keep saying, "We are going to build a skate park, and then you don't have to pay us back right away." We talked about paying them 250,000 this year. We have yet to receive 250,000 in developer fees.

MS. THOMAS: We have gotten 16,000 so far this year.

MR. LIMBAUGH: But we do have a lot of carryover money that we haven't identified what it was going to be spent on. One of the things we did was 250,000 for paying back Civic Plaza.

MR. HAMILTON: What's our status on Maple cost-wise?

MR. LIMBAUGH: Maple -- we are pretty much done paying for Maple. The retention has to be paid. Is that 10 percent? So it's a hundred and something thousand.

MR. CAMARA: The reason I had this on there is to get your reaction because if it was my decision, I would probably let it go and split things up and not worry about it. I don't know if down the road it makes a huge difference, but if you need to talk about it, we should talk about.

MR. HAMILTON: I think what Mike suggested, it seems like the whole board would like to have you bring that back next month. The only question I have, once we leave there, what do you think the State, if they put it on the market, what would go there?

MR. WOODS: They had interest by a private businessman last time that maybe had an auto mechanic shop or some type of light manufacturing.

MR. HAMILTON: What's the zoning?

MR. CAMARA: It's commercial. I don't believe it's retail. I think there's going to be a lot less interest this time.

MR. HAMILTON: I would think so too. It's good to know that that's who kind of was semi-interested.

MR. LIMBAUGH: Who could we contact to see if they would give it to us?

MR. CAMARA: We tried.

MR. LIMBAUGH: They said no?

MR. CAMARA: Yes.

MR. WOODS: Even if we called them tomorrow, I can't guarantee you that they would have an appraisal or offer back to us by May. I mean, it took six or eight months the first time.

MR. LIMBAUGH: Who would they send to throw us off the property if we stayed there?

MR. CAMARA: We'll contact them. We'll see.

MR. HAMILTON: Okay. Any other questions regarding the general manager's report?

MR. LIMBAUGH: I just have one about the golf course financial report. The play wasn't too bad for the month that you reported, but the restaurant, maybe that prompted you to curtail a little of the restaurant time, but when they buy supplies -- and I'm not a restaurateur, so I don't understand the business, but when we buy food at home, and believe me, we probably buy as much as your restaurant, but between the two of us, we just throw it away. Do you buy food and have storage enough so that if you do buy, let's say, like that lovely dinner we had over the Christmas holiday, if you bought prime rib, would you save those roasts if you bought them one month and then roll them over another month where you might not have to buy \$6,000 worth of food supplies or food-whatever-they-call-them and you only have to buy 2,000 so that number you are looking at is for supplies; is that correct?

MR. WOODS: We are trying to get staff to order a little better for us, but what they are seeing is when they order in bulk, they get better pricing, but then you also have to look at your food waste, if you have any, so we are trying to get that balanced out right now, and we've had some changes in the kitchen staff. Don is working on getting those things ironed out right now.

MR. CAMARA: That's a very good point because if you look at the supply cost, it actually supports a lot more revenue than what shows, so you definitely have part of that supply cost being carried over.

MR. LIMBAUGH: I mean, this is not a traditional business for this park district, and so we are getting our feet a little bit wet in this situation -- maybe a lot wet, so I understand that, but maybe this month, the food purchases won't be as much, but then the revenue may be down again. You know, like if you buy a bunch of soda, you know, if you don't drink the soda, you are not going to throw it away.

MS. THOMAS: And it depends on when the invoices hit, too; that's how we generate this report. So really, if we did one quarterly or, you know, at six months, it would be a better shot to see because it's more averaged out.

MR. LIMBAUGH: I would imagine most restaurant organizations like Red Lobster or Olive Garden, they are all computerized, so they know based on what is ordered -- they have trends.

MR. CAMARA: Exactly.

MR. LIMBAUGH: Like around a certain time of the year, everybody orders parmesan whatever, so they send them 40,000 of those prepackaged or whatever, and we don't have that, so once you've been there for a long time, you'll get a better handle on -- be more economical about what you buy and what's used.

MR. CAMARA: Or if we had more experience, we wouldn't give you a cost of what the invoices are, we would break them up in percentages of what was actually used. The other thing is, when we did this restaurant, our intention really was to gear up and get ready to do banquets and weddings because that's where there is more profit. The city wanted us to actually try to open up the restaurant and see how that goes, so we are trying that.

MR. LIMBAUGH: And they know better than us.

MR. CAMARA: And we really believe if we get the banquet business going, we are going to be more comfortable with that.

MR. LIMBAUGH: We have a meeting next week for the golf course advisory. We haven't had one since when? October?

MR. HAMILTON: November.

MR. LIMBAUGH: And so we'll be able to report more at our next meeting.

MR. HAMILTON: That's the 18th.

MR. LIMBAUGH: Have we had any more -- it was over the holidays, so we probably didn't do much with the city?

MR. CAMARA: Not really.

MR. LIMBAUGH: The city talked about doing this survey about what the people of Hesperia want.

MR. HAMILTON: That was in Mike's report.

MR. LIMBAUGH: Today?

MR. HAMILTON: No, in Mike's written report in the flyer.

MR. LIMBAUGH: They are hiring a consultant to do a touchy-feely about the golf course; is that right? Or are they using their own staff?

MR. CAMARA: No. They are hiring a consultant.

MR. LIMBAUGH: What kind of consultant?

MR. CAMARA: The same one that did the tax thing. I don't know. But I can tell you, based on the way we are running this, we are not running the golf course on a whole in the red, we are recouping our money, and we are running it at no less than break even. The issue is going to come down, if the city keeps it as an 18-hole golf course, we are still going to deal with the water issue one day. That's the big thing we haven't got a feel for yet.

MR. HAMILTON: Do we have any idea what --

MR. LIMBAUGH: Does that \$10,000 water bill have something to do with the golf course? It was \$10,000.

MR. CAMARA: \$10,000?

MS. THOMAS: That's gas, electric, and water.

MR. LIMBAUGH: That's all of them together?

MS. THOMAS: Yes. That's all utilities.

MR. LIMBAUGH: Okay. How much of that is water?

MR. CAMARA: Well, it's domestic and well.

MS. THOMAS: The building is under domestic and the irrigation is under well.

MR. CAMARA: It's going to be a cost if we go over what that golf course is allocated for, and we're trying to get a handle on what that is right now. We are trying to get a handle on what we are using per day so we can cut back to meet that. That's hard because the system is a mess.

MR. LIMBAUGH: At our meeting next week, we are going to try to ratchet that down and come up with a plan. I think it will entail some type of report to the city, too, which you have been giving them monthly, some type of information, but maybe some type of "Here's what the park district thinks." We owe that to the City of Hesperia to say, "We collectively don't think that the golf course is a bad thing to have. It's the highest and best use for that land."

MRS. SWANSON: I would agree.

MR. LIMBAUGH: It's not a bad idea to keep a flood channel in that particular location.

MRS. SWANSON: I would be happy to add my name to such a document just to reiterate, "Remember us? Remember us? We are doing a good job. Remember us?"

MR. LIMBAUGH: Maybe at some point we want to relinquish running it because obviously we are good at running parks; we are just not golf people.

MR. CAMARA: There are many communities that would love to have that course. They really would.

MR. LIMBAUGH: But I think that again, it's going to be one of those deals where we want to take up the torch and carry it if they give it to us, but we are going to maybe have to ask for it.

MR. HAMILTON: I'm not close to having a report or anything, Mike, but I think timing is important too.

MR. LIMBAUGH: Absolutely.

MR. HAMILTON: We need to figure out when that would be presented because no matter what we do, they are still going to spend this money on that survey.

MR. CAMARA: I tell you what, it depends on who they survey.

MR. HAMILTON: Any other questions or comments regarding the general manager's report? Let us move on to Board Member Reports.

Board Member Reports

Recreation Foundation -Chandler/Dupree

No meeting held.

Tri-Agency - Swanson/Chandler - Alternate/Dupree

MRS. SWANSON: Well, we welcomed Mr. Gregg who came to our meeting. I hope he found it fascinating.

MR. LIMBAUGH: He should get an opportunity to speak about his experience at the Tri-Agency.

MR. GREGG: I found it fascinating that Tri-Agency gathers like that and discusses key issues in the city and school board and park district. I found it intriguing.

MRS. SWANSON: It's appropriate. We don't really have another meeting in our city for things like that, and you hear about a lot of things, and we support each other. Lindsay, I was not there during the part of your report, could you give us a few sentences?

MR. WOODS: The report was very similar to the recreation, golf course, and maintenance report that was in your Board Packet. It was just a summary for their benefit.

MRS. SWANSON: Oh, okay. All right. They did discuss the Rancho underpass. It's going out to bid, and they anticipate hearing back from Caltrans within two months.

MR. LIMBAUGH: Wait a minute. Caltrans is bidding the work?

MRS. SWANSON: You know what, I think that might be related to the interchange.

MR. HAMILTON: That's what I was thinking you meant.

MR. LIMBAUGH: What about the underpass? They have all the property?

MRS. SWANSON: Yes.

MR. LIMBAUGH: The drawings are done?

MRS. SWANSON: Yes.

MR. LIMBAUGH: They are going to put an RFP out sometime in the next 60 days; right?

MR. WOODS: Yes.

MR. LIMBAUGH: Now, going to the freeway interchange --

MRS. SWANSON: Yes, that is a different issue. Sorry about that. They actually believe that there may be extra dollars that they have saved for the Rancho underpass that they can shift onto or transfer to the interchange project. They are looking at a year for that.

MR. LIMBAUGH: Has it been designed?

MR. CAMARA: No. They have money for the design.

MRS. SWANSON: They did discuss the Rock Springs Road project. It went out to bid. They had two people reluctant to agree to what they had, but those people changed their minds.

MR. LIMBAUGH: Isn't Rock Springs out of the city limits?

MR. CAMARA: They are talking about the light on Main and Rock Springs.

MR. LIMBAUGH: Oh, I thought they were talking about the river crossing.

MRS. SWANSON: No, not the river crossing. They were going to put a light in there, and there were two property owners that kind of balked at what the plans looked like, and once they showed them their plan of a retaining wall, they changed their mind, so it looks like that might be --

MR. LIMBAUGH: Isn't that a safety improvement?

MRS. SWANSON: Yeah, because that's one of our most dangerous intersections. They talked about the rail spur. I don't have any more information on that; just it's going to council next Tuesday, a portion of that. They did talk about FEMA -- they received a recommendation for Third Street to be fixed, but FEMA moves very slowly, and they are hoping to get a fix before that time, but they need a national EPA document; they need the Army Corps to come in and do some kind of overlook of it. They talked about the Target, and they are already looking at a phase 2. It's all built out at the new Target center, and all of their clients are in there now, and they are talking about building out on that space on Talbot, which is across the road where the second stoplight is. They talked about their online bill-paying process. Next was the school district update. The enrollment is 137 down from what it was in December, but that's typical. They talked about storm damage at Hollyvale, but the children have been put back in those classrooms. They did have to have an emergency meeting at the school board to talk about that damage. They also had damage at Oak Hills High School, but because it's still under contract, they were able to have that done under those understandings. They talked about the overshoot on the aqueduct on the west side -- is that close to Maple Park at all, that overshoot for the aqueduct?

MR. CAMARA: No. That's further down.

MRS. SWANSON: The Chamber talked about their Web site going online. They are moving their office across from Stater Bros. on Main. They did discuss the storm update. Most of the damage occurred Tuesday night through Wednesday morning. They are estimating it high because at this point to get a FEMA declaration or any kind of declaration from the State for state of emergency, the County declared it, the City declared it, the State did not, and they need to see \$100 million worth of damage, and Mr. Podegracz estimated a little high at \$5 million. He thinks it might work out to be between 2 and 3 million if you include all of the roads that had issues and property damage throughout the city.

MR. LIMBAUGH: It is a very good idea they get together and talk.

MRS. SWANSON: I can agree with you, and you should be glad I am.

MR. LIMBAUGH: It's kind of amazing when you see they get together and talk about some of these issues in a non confrontational type environment, which is nice.

MR. GREGG: I learned plenty. I was dumbfounded at the fact that they spent \$2400 a foot for drainage material, \$11 million for one mile of drainage, so . . .

MRS. SWANSON: That included the digging.

MR. GREGG: Oh.

MR. CAMARA: Yeah, Mike, they made an interesting statement in regards to an overpass or an interchange similar to the one they are talking about on Ranchero, a bid that just came in in San Bernardino in which an interchange previously estimated between 25- and \$40 million came in at \$6 million.

MR. LIMBAUGH: That's a sign of the times. You are still dealing with prevailing wage in California, okay, so the government service done by private sector costs more, but the profit margin that contractors are living with and the competition is so stiff that unless you bid 40 to 50 percent less than an estimate, you are not going to get the work.

MR. CAMARA: It's more than 40 or 50 percent, though. That's enormous.

MR. LIMBAUGH: But let's look at the estimates, and one has to check the validity of the estimates. When they give these outlandish estimates for these projects and then they come in so low, you've got to really wonder, you know, are they using these inflated numbers to get something postponed or, two, to make sure that somebody doesn't say, "You said it was only going to cost 2 million, and it cost 20 million," you are fired. Normally, the state will not award if there's a 20 percent discrepancy in the bid versus the estimate because they think something is wrong.

MR. CAMARA: There is.

MR. LIMBAUGH: Concrete costs more. Steel costs more. Fuel costs more. Prevailing wage has pretty much stayed the same over the last decade. It hasn't changed very much.

Safety and Security - Chandler/Hamilton

No meeting held.

Personnel Committee - Hamilton/Limbaugh

No meeting held.

Golf Course Ad Hoc Committee - Hamilton/Limbaugh

No meeting held.

Skate Plaza and BMX Ad Hoc Committee - Chandler/Hamilton

No meeting held.

Other Related Business

MR. HAMILTON: The rest of our committees did not meet. As Mike mentioned, the golf course ad hoc committee is next Tuesday. Also, there is a personnel committee meeting next Tuesday as well and a safety meeting next month. Any other items before we adjourn?

MR. LIMBAUGH: Again, you know, it was another great year for the park district. I'm really looking forward to this year. We have a lot of exciting challenges coming up. More than likely, we are going to have some changes, but we are also moving into this year with a good financial sound base. CARPD meets next week. Our conference is scheduled for April 14 through 16 in Monterey. And I think no matter what the county and state try to do to us, I think we will come out unscathed for at least a couple of years. And maybe by then, the economy will turn around. And I think any battle that we want to take to the city; we are going to have to really sharpen our tools if we want it to go our way. But we still do have opportunities to work together with the city to make it a little bit better here with our activities because I mean, we have some wonderful -- the lake didn't get any damage from the storm.

That's really good.

MR. CAMARA: A little cleanup stuff but not what I would call damage.

MR. LIMBAUGH: But again, we had a great year, and I think we are going in eyes wide open this year with what we hope to accomplish and keep people -- I really would like to buy Rancho Las Flores because I think it's still for sale, but we can't afford that. We could, maybe, talk the city into helping us buy it.

MR. CAMARA: It's a heck of a deal. We can't develop it, but it's a great deal for single use.

MR. LIMBAUGH: I tried to find out about the Prop 10 money, but I think the State has already gobbled that crap up, you know. I think they talk like they are doing these programs, but they are not really doing these programs. They've got three or four administrators in every county looking over the money, but there's no money to look over. It's already been gobbled up by the State. Well, think about it. Prop 10 -- I mean, they had literally collected billions since that passed.

MR. HAMILTON: Do you want to say anything, Rachel, about timelines for the CARPD conference as far as any of the Board members wanting to attend?

MS. THOMAS: The conference is the 14th, 15, and 16th of April. We do not have the registration information yet. It's in Monterey, and so if you are available -- if you want to attend, let me know, that way we can start getting plans going for that.

MR. CAMARA: It could be a good conference to go to going into this next budget because we'll probably learn more about the State budget at this conference than any other time.

MR. HAMILTON: I want to go.

MR. CHANDLER: I want to go.

MRS. SWANSON: Rachel, yes.

MR. LIMBAUGH: It's a good conference to go to. There's only 65 other districts like us in the whole state, and we are like right in the middle size wise, so we are not alone in communities that value their recreation. Most cities in California control park and rec. There's 415 -- 430 cities in the state, and I would say 400 of them control their park and rec activities.

MRS. SWANSON: And I believe their parks suffer for it.

MR. LIMBAUGH: And when the budget times come, parks definitely take a hit because fire and safety wins most of the time.

MS. THOMAS: Jack, just to go back to that, the 13th, Wednesday, is the Board meeting. And then if you want to attend CARPD, we'll probably have to be flying out Thursday morning.

MR. HAMILTON: Thank you, Rachel. Who thinks tentatively they might be going to CARPD?

MR. GREGG: When is that?

MS. THOMAS: April 14, 15, and 16.

MR. HAMILTON: And our regular meeting, Kelly, is that Wednesday of that time period?

Would you like to come back to us next month and give us an alternative date, or do you want us to debate that now?

MR. CAMARA: An alternative date about what?

MS. THOMAS: You just have to -- if you are planning on driving up.

MR. HAMILTON: I'm driving up.

MS. THOMAS: If you drove up Thursday, you know, you'd be pushing it to get to the Thursday portion.

MR. HAMILTON: So you are saying we could still meet Wednesday night?

MS. THOMAS: We could meet Wednesday night, and if you are flying up Thursday morning

--

MR. HAMILTON: No problem if you fly. It would be the driver people that would be in trouble. I would drive, but I wouldn't care if I got there late in the afternoon. Or should we think about moving the meeting?

MS. THOMAS: Well, we don't know the schedule of events yet, so we might want to wait.

MR. HAMILTON: Could you tell us next meeting?

MS. THOMAS: I'll try and get more information.

MR. HAMILTON: Okay. Because I'll probably - are you going to miss the meeting too? Don't you have to get there early?

MR. LIMBAUGH: No. I'll be up in Northern California already.

MR. HAMILTON: So he's going to be gone that Wednesday, and if I drive, I might go the day before, so we do probably need a --

MR. CAMARA: Well, the way we would do this is, I'll schedule the meeting -- I'll do an appropriate Agenda, and if we are not going to have a quorum, then I'll postpone the meeting.

MR. HAMILTON: Either the week before or after or something?

MR. CAMARA: Or just postpone it to the next month.

MR. HAMILTON: Well, can we talk -- would we be able to talk about it next month?

MS. THOMAS: I'll get more information from Henry, and yes, we can talk about it.

MR. LIMBAUGH: Okay. That would be a good idea. I don't mind the following meeting. The following meeting works good. I like that idea.

MR. HAMILTON: Okay. Any other questions or comments?

MR. GREGG: Just before, I probably should have put this way ahead. Just let me know where I need to put my comments. I just wanted to advise the Board that I was able to get out and visit nine of the sites this last week, Hesperia Lakes, Hesperia Golf, Green Flag, Live Oak Park, Hesperia Civic Park, Rick Novack Center, and I interacted with a few of our staff out there and let them know they were doing a great job and the facilities looked great, so I wanted to give that comment to the staff.

MR. HAMILTON: Good. When you get out and see all the facilities, too, it's pretty amazing, some of the stuff that goes on.

MR. GREGG: Yeah.

MR. HAMILTON: Okay. We are going to adjourn. Thank you very much.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by declaration by President Hamilton at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cal Camara, General Manager

Rachel Thomas, Admin, Op Mgr.