



**Northern Wasco County Parks and Recreation District
Board Meeting Minutes
February 15, 2023
NWCPRD, 602 W. 2nd Street, The Dalles, OR 97058**

Brewster Whitmire called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Brewster Whitmire, Annette Byers, Ellen Woods, Rachel Carter, Tracy Dugick (via Zoom).

BOARD MEMBERS EXCUSED: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Scott Baker, Kailynn Elliott

STAFF EXCUSED: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: District Council, Andrew Myers.

GUEST PRESENT: Tyler Stone, Administrative Officer 511 Washington St, The Dalles Or. (541) 506-2552
tylers@co.wasco.or.us

Taj Bulish, 520 East 12th St, The Dalles, OR (541) 399 – 5111 taj.bulish10@gmail.com

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Brewster Whitmire makes addition of Programming to New Business. Annette Byers makes motion to approve agenda with the addition of Programming to New Business. Ellen Woods seconds the motion. Motion passes unanimously.

ORAL COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE: None.

KRAMER FIELD – Tyler Stone, Wasco County Administrative Officer:

The County sent a letter to Parks and Recreation informing the District that it would not be renewing the 5-year lease of Kramer, which will expire on August 31, 2023. Tyler would like the District to consider continuing to maintain the fields under a year to year lease. He suggested that a work session could lead to a new agreement between Wasco County and Parks and Recreation. Brewster will participate in meetings towards that end and will bring a proposal back to the Board.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Annette Byers makes a motion to approve the minutes of the January 18th meeting. Rachel Carter seconds the motion. Motion passes unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE: Mary Leighton from The Dalles Farmers Market sent a letter detailing their concerns about the lower entrance of City Park and its deterioration being a safety concern. Scott discussed with The City and was able to confirm that the sidewalk repair will be taking place this year and has a timeline to finish before Farmers Market first Saturday meet. Scott then relayed this information to the Farmers Market at their meeting.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

\$1.5 Million in the general fund. Current year tax collection \$1,087,375. Admin expenses, the District was able to pay off our long-term debt on the District Office/Aquatic center building. Transient Room Tax continues to be strong with a 88% collection so far and we are only 59% of the way through the fiscal year. Parks expenses are on track at 60.1% expended thus far. SDC's have collected \$95,000 so far.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT:

The District was able to hire an Assistant Director who will begin at the end of February. He has over 30 years of recreation, mostly in Aquatics. The District is excited to bring him on board and find out where his skills and interests can benefit the District.

COMMITTEE REPORT: None.

URBAN RENEWAL REPORT: None.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. Budget Timeline and Election of Officers: Ellen Woods makes a motion to accept the budget timeline and to appoint Scott Baker to be the Election Officer. Annette Byers seconds the motion. The motion passes unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. RTO Contract – Friend & Reagan has dissolved and become RTO & Company. That makes our original contract with Friend & Reagan no more. The new proposed contract has some slight changes including going to hourly. Scott consulted with our Auditor Amanda Taskey and with her previous years of logging hours spent auditing the Districts books, she does not estimate much variation in the original cost we had agreed to in the previous contract with Friend & Reagan. Annette Byers moves to make a motion that Northern Wasco County Parks & Recreation District contract with RTO & Company for auditing and consulting services for three years. Ellen Woods seconds the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- b. Programming – Rachel Carter wanted to bring the discussion of recreation to the Board at this time to see if there was any room for programming to be done summer of 2023, but to also think ahead as we approach the budget for FY2023-24. Of the funds set aside for Recreation this year, the District plans to bring back Movies in the Park which is a free event, as well as partnering with the Library to do story time in the Park amongst other partnering events, such as jugglers and magicians at City Park. The hope is to have these events advertised by Spring Break.

NEXT MEETING DATE:

March 15th, 2023

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REMARKS:

"I'm excited for Todd to start!" – Annette Byers

ADJOURNMENT:

Brewster Whitmire adjourned at 6:59pm.

Attested to:

Board Chair

Board Secretary