

**FEATHER RIVER RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT  
Special Meeting of the Board of Directors**

**Tuesday, April 19, 2011 at 5:30 p.m.**

**APPROVED MINUTES**

**The special meeting of the Board of Directors of the Feather River Recreation and Park District was held at 5:30 p.m. at South Feather Water and Power Agency located at 2310 Oro-Quincy Hwy. in Oroville, California.**

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER:**

5:39

**ROLL CALL:**

Chairman TJ Jensen

✓

Vice Chairman Bob Sharkey

✓

Director John Allen

✓

Director Loren Gill

✓

Director Jan Hill

✓

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**I. HEARING SESSION**

**A. PUBLIC COMMENT**

At this time the Board extended the courtesy of the Hearing Session to interested parties who wished to speak on items not on the agenda.

**LORRAINE TASSI** of Oroville – Lorraine wanted to address rumors that she has heard about the District and Activity Center. By addressing the rumors she hopes it will add more transparency. The article in the Mercury Register is in error. She has not ever worked in Oroville before she was hired by the District (FRRPD). One rumor is that there are 2 prominent individuals interested in acquiring the Activity Center. Mr. X, a prominent real estate person and another gentleman in management associated with Oroville Hospital. The rumor is they will front the purchase of the Center for Mr. Y, another prominent individual who is associated with Oroville Hospital and the current Sports Center who would move the current sports center to the larger facility to cover office space for medical rehab, physical therapy and whatever including the Sport Center. It is also rumored that at least 2 newly elected Board Members encouraged this venture. The past two general managers, Mr. Buck and Mr. Remley, were asked to bring ways to either increase revenue or suggest an alternative payment solution to relieve the District of the high monthly repayment of the acquisition to avoid defaulting on the loan. At several of the past meetings it seems board members have voted down or tend to vote down any or all suggestions made in order to assist in the sale or buy out venture. It is rumored that Mr. Remley, being the respected honest and transparent person that he is could not or would not take action to remove key individuals from the staff of the center. This may have contributed to his early departure. It is rumored that in the absence of the general manager board members were planning to eliminate key staff members that would cause the center to loose stabilizing facility classification. Without them the license would be in jeopardy and any State or other Government agency funding may cease, causing a loss of revenue and families would not be able to rely on the District effective today. With the decrease in revenue the foreclosure or buy out situation of the debt would be more desirable for a financial institution and to the District. It is also rumored that anyone bringing in these rumors to the public or Board would have their lives be threatened along with family, friends and pets. The last rumor to share is the past financial manager has retained an attorney to look into a possible lawsuit for wrongful

termination unless she is reinstated as financial manager. Part of the Mission Statement of the District is to provide and maintain parks, recreation experience and related facilities and programs for all the residents of the District. Lorraine would like to see this continued and not lose our focus of political interests of some. Lorraine would like the Board to address these rumors by putting an end to them or acknowledging them as truths. We all want transparency.

**SHARON GILL** of Berry Creek - Sharon is the spouse of the Feather River Recreation and Park District Board member, Loren Gill. She addressed the board as a taxpayer of the District. She was sad that Mr. Remley had resigned. That even though Mr. Remley had originally agreed to stay for 3 months she felt he would have stayed until they got a new General Manager. She felt he was pushed out. She said that Mr. Remley stated in his resignation that he had successfully completed as much of the work which the board had found acceptable and supportable. Mrs. Gill stated that "supportable" is the question. As long as Mr. Remley found all the bad things, things that may have been done in the past, 3 board members with the help of the Mercury Register were all for him, but if him came up with ideas to reconstruct the loan debt or install new fun and money making activities it was a "no" response to all. Mrs. Gill stated that Mr. Allen said, "I am going to close it down". What does that mean? She also recalled that during the election at the Thermalito Grange, Mr. Jensen said "if you live outside the area you shouldn't expect much because you choose to live in that area". Sharon asked the board members if they are against the new programs for the children and seniors and they don't care about outlying areas are they against River Bend Park also. Are they trying to get rid of everything that costs money because River Bend Park costs a lot of money from the watering to maintenance and it doesn't bring money in. She asked what the intentions of the board are and what is their agenda? She wanted to know where the openness and transparency is that is talked so much about?

**AARON HILL** of Oroville – Aaron is the spouse of the Feather River Recreation and Park District Board member, Jan Hill. His opinion of the board of three is that they demoralize and degrade many wholesome, honest, hard-working people, projects, institutions, goals, futuristic dreams and philosophies of the recreation district. Mr. Hill feels he has the right, obligation, duty and responsibility to scrutinize what is going on. The board of three is not promoting the public good. In his opinion he feels that they have had an agenda ever since the election to produce a certain income. Mr. Hill also discussed the District Board of Directors handbook and the code of ethics of which he felt the board of three do not follow. He brought up the fact that two board members did not go to the Board of Directors Ethics Workshop, even though it was paid for.

**JERRY WILLIAMS** of Oroville – Mr. Williams was glad to see so many people at the meeting. He felt that if everyone had been here the last couple of months they might have a different perspective. He didn't know if everything was bring done right but he is feeling a little more comfortable with where the district is at. He was sorry to see Mr. Remley leave. He feels the whole board has been working very hard.

**AUTUMN ANDES** of Biggs – Ms. Andes daughter is in a gymnastics class. She was concerned about the board not hiring a gymnastics coach at the last board meeting. The gymnastics program can no longer accept new students. She asked the board why they don't want to see a program succeed by hiring coaches and allowing more revenue.

**SHAW CARTER** of Oroville – Mr. Carter is the Gymnastics Program Director. He has been running 12 children per class so they could hire a coach and get back to the USA Gymnastics recommended number of 8 per class. He is wondering why no one from the board contacted him with questions on coach hiring before they voted it down. A revenue of \$30,000 to \$40,000 can be made holding meets, His mother, Marcia Carter, brought 3 programs to the board for seniors, children with ADHD and children with Reading Disabilities that were voted down. Mr. Carter said that Board Chairman Jensen told Mrs. Carter that he would rescind his vote if they brought in a budget. After taking a budget to Mr. Jensen she was told that he didn't want to be

pressured into anything. Mr. Carter said that the programs wouldn't have cost a dime. Let us just serve the children.

**SONNY BRANDT** of Oroville – Mr. Brandt stated that if the District bought it then it appears we should make it work. That Don Remley thought there was a way. Mr. Remley didn't say there was a way to make it solvent but he didn't say there wasn't a way. Mr. Brandt addressed the rumors about foreclosure. He said that it is a commercial building and it's a recreation district with a tax base. You have to find a way to make it work.

**KHRIS-TINA BRAY** of Oroville – Ms. Bray works for Feather River Recreation and Park District. She has a lot of respect for the board. She feels the rumors must stop. If people want to know what is happening with the District then they need to come to the board meetings.

## II. ACTION SESSION

### A. GENERAL FUNCTIONS OF THE BOARD

**1. Appointed a Personnel Committee.**

It was moved by Director Allen and seconded by Director Hill that Vice Chairman Sharkey and Director Gill be appointed to serve on the Personnel Committee.

VOTE: Ayes: 5 Noes:      Abstain:     

**2. Mandatory stop on all overtime.**

On the recommendation of the Chairperson, it was moved by Director Allen and seconded by Director Gill that the Board approve a stop on all overtime that is not approved by Interim Assistant General Manager.

VOTE: Ayes: 4 Noes: 1 Abstain:     

### B. PERSONNEL

**1. Approved the acceptance of Dr. Donald Remley, General Management Consultant, resignation.**

On the recommendation of the Chairman, it was moved by Director Allen and seconded by Director Sharkey that the Board accept Dr. Donald Remley, General Management Consultant resignation.

VOTE: Ayes: 5 Noes:      Abstain:     

**2. Approved the drafted letter accepting Dr. Donald Remley Management Consultant Services as offered to the Board of Directors.**

On the recommendation of the Chairman, it was moved by Director Allen and seconded by Director Gill that the Board approve the drafted letter accepting the offer to continue the General Management search at no cost to the District by Doctor Donald Remley Management Consultant.

VOTE: Ayes: 3 Noes: 2 Abstain:

#### IV. CLOSED SESSION

**CINDY STRACHAN** of Oroville – Ms.Strachan questioned the appointment of a Finance Manager during a Closed Session. If it was an open position should it have been advertised so others could apply for it. Chairman Jensen replied that it was a sensitive personnel issue that could only be discussed in Closed Session.

##### A. ENTERED INTO CLOSED SESSION

The Board recessed into Closed Session at 6:20 p.m. to discuss the following:

(a) Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957:

Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release  
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957

(b) Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957:

Public Employee Appointment  
Title: Interim Assistant General Manager

(c) Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957:

Public Employee Appointment  
Title: Finance Manager

##### B. ADJOURNED CLOSED SESSION

Closed Session was adjourned at 8:26 p.m. and the Board returned into Open Session.

Under the advisement if legal counsel no action was taken on item (a) and (c) until a further investigation is conducted. Under item (b) Shawn Brandt was appointed as Interim Assistant General Manager by a vote of 4 to 1 at the rate of \$22.00 per hour plus cell phone and mileage.

#### V. ADJOURNMENT

##### A. ADJOURNMENT

The Board Chairman adjourned the meeting at 8:27 p.m.

  
Board Chairman, T.J. Jensen

  
Interim Asst. General Manager, Shawn Brandt