
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Of the Board of Directors

Vail Park and Recreation District
dba Vail Recreation District
June 25, 2020

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Vail Recreation District, Town of Vail, Eagle County, Colorado, was held on June 25, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. at the Vail Town Council Chambers, Town of Vail, Eagle County, Colorado, in accordance with the applicable statutes of the State of Colorado.

1. MEMBERS PRESENT

- 1.1. Tom Saalfeld, Jason Plante, Kim Newbury Rediker, Roland Kjesbo, Kirk Hansen

2. MEMBERS ABSENT AND EXCUSED

- 2.1. None

3. STAFF PRESENT

- 3.1. Mike Ortiz, Jessie Klehfoth

4. OTHERS PRESENT

- 4.1. Gabrielle Gully, James Hancock, Alexandra Timm, Owen Ruotolo, John Rediker

5. CONSULTANTS PRESENT

- 5.1. Eric Weaver

6. CALL TO ORDER

- 6.1. Director Saalfeld called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

7. CHANGES TO AGENDA

- 7.1. None

8. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

- 8.1. By motion duly made and seconded it was unanimously RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the May 28, 2020 regular meeting.

9. PUBLIC INPUT FOR MATTERS NOT OTHERWISE ON AGENDA

- 9.1. None

10. PRESENTATION OF VAIL SCHOLAR ATHLETE AWARD WINNERS

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- 10.1. Mr. Ortiz explained to the board that for 2020, the scholarship committee decided to award four scholarships to graduating seniors – two to local students who excelled in sports and academics, and two to VRD staff or dependents of staff.
 - 10.1.1. The first student acknowledged was James Hancock who has worked for VRD for five years now. Mr. Hancock thanked the district for the award and promised to keep working hard for VRD.
 - 10.1.2. The second award winner was Alexandra Timm, daughter of VRD employee Dan Timm. Miss Timm thanked the board for the scholarship and employment opportunities.
 - 10.1.3. The third student award winner was Gabrielle Gully, salutatorian of Battle Mountain High School and a standout athlete. She also helps out with VRD running races. Miss Gully thanked the board for the scholarship and said she hopes to continue sports into college.
 - 10.1.4. The fourth award winner was Owen Ruotolo, an accomplished basketball player and great scholar. Mr. Ruotolo has worked on the golf course and at VRD events. He talked about how instrumental VRD was in his childhood, and thanked the VRD and many of the VRD employees for their great influence on his youth.
 - 10.1.5. Mr. Ortiz explained that the scholarship will be for four years if the students maintains a C average or better in college. This is the fourth year VRD has awarded the Vail Scholar Athlete Award and he's very proud of all the previous winners who are continuing to excel at their universities.
 - 10.1.6. Director Saalfeld talked about the history of the scholarship, and how it honors the memory of Tom Slaughter, Jr. The VRD is proud to carry on his legacy and continue to award these scholarships in his name and continue to raise funding for the scholarship via the Businesses, Bogeys and Bragging Rights charity golf tournament each fall.
 - 10.1.7. Director Rediker thanked all the students for everything they've contributed to the VRD, she noted that it was a very competitive year with over 50 applications received.

11. PRESENTATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF 2019 AUDIT

- 11.1. Mr. Weaver explained that the 2019 audit was done by McMahan and Associates and the District was given a clean, or unqualified opinion for 2019. He reminded the board that the District has multiple layers of financial checks and balances due to an internal financial employee, a third-party contractor for financials and McMahan and Associates doing the audit each year.

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- 11.2. By motion duly made and seconded it was unanimously RESOLVED to accept the audit draft as presented.

12. RE-OPENING OF DOBSON ICE ARENA

- 12.1. Mr. Ortiz explained that Dobson Ice Arena is a very expensive building to run. It costs \$30K per month just to freeze the ice. To open the arena for drop-in activities was not going to make sense financially as current Eagle County public health orders do not allow for indoor, contact sports. Mr. Ortiz explained how VRD has been working with their partners to ensure that enough ice time is rented to make the arena able to open from a financial perspective. It was determined that with Bob Johnson Hockey School and some other private rentals around that time, VRD staff is looking to the Board for blessing to open the rink on July 13 to accommodate these groups. Staff will begin making ice on July 6.
- 12.2. Mr. Ortiz also emphasized that the arena director, Mr. Jared Biniecki, has been very in tune with his peers at other ice rinks around the state and country on re-opening processes and new COVID-19 safety protocols. Mr. Ortiz said we are on par with other mountain resorts re-opening plans as Steamboat is not planning on opening until Sept. 1 at the earliest and Aspen is open only to clubs.
- 12.3. After some discussion, the Board gave staff the go ahead to open the arena on July 13.

13. MAY 2020 FINANCIALS

- 13.1. Mr. Weaver walked the Board through the District's financials as presented in the Board packet.
- 13.2. Mr. Weaver highlighted the cash balance, showing that the Dobson bonds have been paid off as of May 1, which will be a benefit to taxpayers who will see a decrease in their property tax bill. He also reiterated that even with all the unknowns around the pandemic, the VRD is in good financial position to weather the storm. He said the VRD is seeing an impact from taxpayers who are choosing to pay their tax bills later, due to relief offered by the governor and county treasurers, but this should resolve itself by the end of the year.
- 13.3. Mr. Weaver explained that most revenues are negative due to cancellations and reduced capacity in programs. Golf and tennis demand is going off the charts with very positive revenues and attracting a lot of new players that may help VRD into the future. An unprecedented number of passes were sold at the golf course and greens fees are up as well.
- 13.4. Mr. Weaver said the biggest unknowns right now are with Dobson and banquet room events due to closures and public health restrictions. It's hard to forecast those revenues as VRD doesn't know when they can reopen many programs and host larger events.

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- 13.5. Mr. Weaver commended staff for done a great job at cost cutting and finding savings. He said the capital budget has been cut and many projects put on hold, with the focus shifting to spending planning dollars instead.
- 13.6. Overall, Mr. Weaver was optimistic about the big picture and thinks VRD will finish the year roughly where they were budgeted, especially because of capital expense deferrals.
- 13.7. After some discussion, the Board thanked Mr. Weaver for his presentation and hard work.

14. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR INPUT

- 14.1. Mr. Ortiz gave highlights from the Directors Reports as presented in the Board packet.
- 14.2. After some discussion, the Board thanked Mr. Ortiz and staff for their hard work.

15. BOARD MEMBER INPUT

- 15.1. Director Plante thanked Mrs. Klehfoth for working on a video showing new day camp check-in protocols. He said the fields and tennis area look really great and all the new flowers are very nice. He noted the paint project has buildings looking better. He commended the staff and said he's glad that everyone is wearing a mask. He reminded everyone to not let their guard down and to keep employees safe. He thanked Mr. Ortiz for keeping everything organized.
- 15.2. Director Hansen said he was glad that the Town of Vail and VRD are progressive organizations and are always looking to add programming. He expressed his view that there are gaps in the winter in terms of programming in areas like sports and theater. He would like to work with the Town to explore opportunities and would like to serve on committees to do feasibility studies and analysis.
- 15.3. Director Rediker apologized for not playing enough golf, stating that she can't get a tee time because they are so busy, which is great news. She's glad to see all the paying customers. She told Director Hansen that the Mountain Art Collective received funding from CSE for programs and encouraged him to get involved with them if he wants to help bring theater and dance to the community. She jokingly asked if the new world handicap system is equipped to have smiley faces as golf scores? She also thanked the VRD scholarship committee for recognizing Mr. Ruotolo and said that he worked really hard in high school.
- 15.4. Director Kjesbo said the golf course is playing great, he thanked Mr. Scott Todd who has done an amazing job and said the greens get better every week. He also commended the entire VRD staff for taking the new safety

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protocols so seriously, enabling the District to be as successful as they can under the circumstances.

- 15.5. Director Saalfeld commended all directors for ushering VRD through the initial phases of COVID-19, and for helping out wherever possible. He was impressed how many staff stepped up and helped out at golf and other departments when needed, and said it showed what a great, unified staff VRD has. He also said it was a great testament to Mr. Ortiz as executive director. He finished by thanking Mr. Suarez again for his eight years of service on the Board and Mr. Ortiz thanked Mr. Jim Sanders for his many years of service in employment to the District.

16. ADJOURNMENT

- 16.1. Upon a motion duly made and seconded it was unanimously RESOLVED to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Vail Recreation District Board of Directors.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jessie Klehfoth
Secretary to the Meeting