



# North of the River Recreation & Park District

## NORTH OF THE RIVER RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REGULAR MEETING 3825 RIVERLAKES DRIVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312 MONDAY, AUGUST 18, 2025, 4:30 P.M.

DISCLAIMER: This agenda includes proposed actions and activities with respect to each agenda item, as of the date of posting. As such, it does not preclude the Board from taking other actions on any item on the agenda that is different or in addition to what may have been recommended.

**1. CALL TO ORDER: BOARD MEETING CONVENED BY CHAIRPERSON JENIFER VANALSTEIN AT 4:30 P.M.**

**2. ROLL CALL: BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Jenifer VanAlstein; Crystal Madden; Matt Howard; Bob Smith; Ryan Skidmore

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

None

**BOARD CLERK PRESENT**

Janett Miller

**STAFF PRESENT**

Bret Haney; Esther Grijalva; Steph Thisius; Lauren Cronk; Mike Evans

**LEGAL COUNSEL**

Jacob Thomasy

**PUBLIC PRESENT**

Jeff Eittrheim

Brad DeBranch

**3. NOTICE OF MEETING BEING TAPED, FILMED, STREAMED OR BROADCASTED**

Please be aware that a recording and broadcasting of tonight's meeting is being made and may capture images and/or sounds of those attending tonight's meeting.

**4. FLAG SALUTE:** Board member, Crystal Madden led the flag salute at 4:31 p.m.

**5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Items requiring attention after the agenda is posted may be added to the agenda with 2/3 majority approval of the Board. Items to be added will be made available to the public at the meeting

**Motion:** Howard **Second:** Madden **Ayes:** VanAlstein; Madden; Howard; Smith; Skidmore

**Noes:** None **Absent:** None **Motion carried.**

**6. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

The North of the River Recreation and Park District Board of Directors may take official action only on items included in the posted agenda. Items addressed during the Public Comment section are generally matters not included on the agenda and, therefore, the Board will not take action at this scheduled meeting. Such items, however, may be added to a future meeting's agenda. Members of the public may address the Board on items included on the agenda in the order that the items appear. Speakers are limited to two minutes. Please state your name before making your presentation. Thank you!

No public comments

## 7. CONSENT AGENDA

All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are deemed routine in nature. Information concerning these items has been forwarded to each Board Member prior to this meeting for their study. The Consent Agenda is acted upon in one motion unless members of the Board, staff, or public request discussion and/or removal of an item.

### A. Posting of Agenda

Approval of Secretary Declaration of Posting of Agenda 72 Hours in Advance of Meeting

### B. Minutes

Approval of Minutes from the Board of Directors' Regular Meeting Held July 21, 2025

### C. Financial

Approval of Receipt of Bills and Invoices

### D. Retroactive Approval for Agreement for Afterschool Sports Programming for Fruitvale School District During the 2025-2026 School Year, Resolution #36-25

Staff requests Board approval of the agreement to provide Afterschool Sports Programming for Fruitvale School District during the 2025-2026 School Year.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Approve Consent Agenda

**Motion:** Howard **Second:** Smith **Ayes:** VanAlstein; Madden; Howard; Smith; Skidmore **Noes:** None  
**Absent:** None **Motion carried.**

## 8. BOARD BUSINESS

### A. Award of Bid for Parking Lot Rehabilitation at Emerald Cove Park, Resolution #37-25

Director of Operations and Maintenance Mike Evans requested the Board to approve the lowest bid from Kern Asphalt Paving & Sealing Co., Inc. at the cost of \$86,370.80 to rehabilitate the parking lot at Emerald Cove Park. AFTER DISCUSSION, THE BOARD APPROVED RESOLUTION #37-25 AWARDING THE BID TO KERN ASPHALT PAVING & SEALING CO., INC.

**Motion:** Smith **Second:** Howard **Ayes:** VanAlstein; Madden; Howard; Smith; Skidmore **Noes:** None  
**Absent:** None **Motion carried.**

### B. Award the Bid for Parking Lot Rehabilitation at North Rosedale Park, Resolution #38-25

Director of Operations and Maintenance Mike Evans requested the Board to approve the lowest bid from Kern Asphalt Paving & Sealing Co., Inc. at the cost of \$143, 138.50 to rehabilitate the parking lot at North Rosedale Park. AFTER DISCUSSION, THE BOARD APPROVED RESOLUTION #38-25 AWARDING THE BID TO KERN ASPHALT PAVING & SEALING CO., INC.

**Motion:** Skidmore **Second:** Madden **Ayes:** VanAlstein; Madden; Howard; Smith; Skidmore **Noes:** None  
**Absent:** None **Motion carried.**

### C. Amendment to Agreement #SRR11516, Resolution #39-25

Director of Planning and Construction Steph Thisius requested Board approval of resolution #39-25 amending the agreement signed in 2015 between North of the River Recreation and Park District

(NOR) and Bolthouse Properties for Stockdale River Ranch Community Park. AFTER DISCUSSION, THE BOARD APPROVED RESOLUTION #39-25 APPROVING THE AMENDMENT OF AGREEMENT #SRR11516.

**Motion:** Smith **Second:** Howard **Ayes:** VanAlstein; Madden; Howard; Smith; Skidmore **Noes:** None **Absent:** None **Motion carried.**

**D. Acquisition of Land to Satisfy the Quimby Act per Agreement #SRR11516, Resolution #40-25**

Director of Planning and Construction Steph Thisius requested Board approval of resolution #40-25 for the acquisition of land between North of the River Recreation and Park District and Bolthouse Properties. AFTER DISCUSSION, BOARD APPROVED RESOLUTION #40-25 FOR THE ACQUISITION OF LAND TO SATISFY THE QUIMBY ACT PER AGREEMENT #SRR11516.

**Motion:** Howard **Second:** Madden **Ayes:** VanAlstein; Madden; Howard; Smith; Skidmore **Noes:** None **Absent:** None **Motion carried.**

**9. STAFF REPORTS**

**A. General Manager**

General Manager Bret Haney thanked Brad and Jeff from Bolthouse Properties; Mr. Haney mentioned that staff are reviewing policy and paying close attention to contracts and thresholds, items to be presented to the board in a couple of months. In the absences of Director of Community Relations, Jasmin LoBasso, Mr. Haney highlighted that NOR was featured in a four-page spread in the Greater Bakerfield Chamber's Metro publication. Mr. Haney reminded the Board that park tour invitations are still open if anyone is interested on a tour.

**B. Capital Improvement Projects**

Director of Planning and Construction Steph Thisius reported updates on the CIP report including Bark Park, Mission Lakes Park, NOR Pool, North King Ranch Park, and Almondale Park. Ms. Thisius stated that NOR is communicative with Lennar regarding Mission Lakes project; Bark Park project is moving forward, and staff are moving towards construction documents regarding North King Ranch. Ms. Thisius commented that NOR staff are moving forward with a consultant regarding cost of NOR pool with today's building standards and finally Almondale Park, the well site was approved. Ms. Thisius answered questions from the board and stated that Planner Isaiah Lopez is a great asset to NOR.

**C. Financial**

Report Received and Filed.

**D. Personnel**

Director of Human Resources Esther Grijalva reviewed all open and close positions highlighting that the new Accountant Alondra Espinoza will be starting on Tuesday, August 19, 2025 and the Park Maintenance Worker position will be reopened.

**E. Parks Division**

Director of Operations and Maintenance Mike Evans reported that maintenance completed stripping the parking lots at the following parks: Liberty Park, Silver Oak Park, and Westdale Park. Mr. Evans also mention that on Wednesday, August 19, 2025 maintenance will be testing the corn hole games installed at Riverlakes Ranch Community Center and Almondale Park and that staff also took care of the dead trees at Liberty Park.

**F. Recreation**

Director of Recreation Lauren Cronk reported the opening of two new programs, Open League Flag Football and Cross Country; NOR received a five thousand dollars donation for the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary festival and a one thousand dollars sponsorship. Ms. Cronk commented that for the 70th anniversary

festival NOR has thirty-five partnerships. Ms. Cronk highlighted recreational programs including Rec Swim, they welcomed over a thousand participants, Matilda Production sold over eight hundred performances, Greenacres Open Gym had over 1,400 participants and the Meals on Wheels Program served over 9,500 meals during the month of July.

**G. Community Relations**

Report Received and Filed.

**H. Training**

Reports Received and Filed.

**10. CORRESPONDENCE**

No Correspondence was received in August

**11. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Opportunity for the Board to comment on items not listed on the agenda

**BOB SMITH-** no comment

**CRYSTAL MADDEN-** no comment

**RYAN SKIDMORE-** no comment

**JENIFER VANALSTEIN-** asked staff if NOR should analyze whether NOR has enough Rangers on duty. Staff responded, currently NOR Rangers are on duty until midnight and are in constant communication with law enforcement.

**MATT HOWARD-** no comment

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:03 p.m. to the next meeting of the Board of Directors of North of the River Recreation and Park District scheduled on September 15, 2025, 4:30 p.m. at the Riverlakes Ranch Community Center and District Administrative Complex.

Minutes to be approved at Board  
Meeting held on October 20, 2025



Bret Haney (Oct 21, 2025 11:02:02 PDT)

Bret Haney, General Manager



Janett Miller, Clerk of the Board



Jenifer VanAlstein (Oct 21, 2025 09:31:35 PDT)

Jenifer VanAlstein, Chairperson












# 7B 08-18 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Final Audit Report

2025-10-21

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