# ROLLING HILLS COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT MINUTES OF MAY 18, 2021 MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## 1. Call to Order/Roll Call.

The teleconference meeting of the Rolling Hills CSD held on May 18, 2021, was called to order at 7:09 p.m. by Vice President Brenda Collette in accordance with the Brown Act as currently in effect under the State Emergency Act, Governor Gavin Newson's Emergency Declaration related to COVID-19, and Governor Newson's Executive Order N-29-20 issued March 17, 2020 that allows attendance by Board Members, staff, and the public by teleconference. In addition to Vice President Collette, Director Gordon Fawkes, General Manager Chaney Hicks, and Board Secretary Linda Stone were present at roll call. Also present at roll call were seven members of the public. Board member Ed McGowan joined he meeting at 7:20 p.m. and President Matt Sites joined the meeting at 7:36 p.m.

## 2. Public Comment (Items not on the agenda).

A resident commented about overgrown bushes and trees at locations on Stonebriar Drive. General Manager Chaney Hicks commented that the District has an Ordinance on that subject and she will review the locations.

## 3. Monthly Reports

- **a. General Manager Report**. General Manager Chaney Hicks presented an oral and written report detailing district business, copy attached. She noted also that drought related water restrictions will be coming from EID.
- b. Long Range Funding Ad Hoc Committee Report. See, Old Business item 5.a.
- c. Monument Sign Ad Hoc Committee Report. See, Old Business Item 5.b.

#### 4. Consent Items

The minutes of the April 20, 2021 meeting were removed from the Consent calendar and will be considered at the next meeting of the Board. The Consent Items consisting of correspondence including Umpqua bank statement for period ending April 30, 2021; and financial reports prepared by the Auditor-Controller's office for periods ending March 31, 2021, and April 30, 2021 were considered. Director Fawkes made a motion to approve and accept/file the Consent items as noted, Director Collette seconded. A roll call vote was taken as follows; motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Fawkes, Collette, and McGowan

NOES: None

**ABSENT: Sites and Magee** 

ABSTAIN: None

# 5. Old Business

a. Long Range Funding for the District. Director Gordon Fawkes expressed to the Board his opinion that sharing of the District's financial information does not lend itself to the tri-fold newsletter format, but thinks a report format would better convey the information. The main objective of the Report would be to show the unfavorable cost trends and demonstrate the only means of balancing the annual budgets is to draw down the reserves. General Manager Chaney Hicks said she located a referral for a firm that has experience in financial planning for public entities and the creation of separate Villages within an area with different cost centers. She has an upcoming meeting with them to gain information. The Board members present at the meeting expressed their opinion that this is a good sound approach. Resident Tim Halverson expressed his willingness to be involved in an ad hoc committee for the possible assessment increase.

b. El Dorado Hills Monument Sign. The District's Ad Hoc Committee presented a letter and proposal received from the EHD "Save Our Sign" volunteer group which was formed for the purpose of preservation and protection of the iconic Monument Sign located on the District's property. The proposal presented is for materials and labor necessary to repair the sign with stones, fill existing voids, place grout where needed, and re-mortar existing loose rocks at a price of \$3,900.00. Representatives of the Save Our Sign committee were present. Committee Vice Chair, James Albertoni, explained the proposed work, noting that one thought is to change the top peak of the sign making it less inviting but without being very noticeable. Director Gordon Fawkes, who hosted the contractor's site walk to review the monument sign, said he hoped some of the materials would be donated. The proposal for work contemplates that funds would be raised through the establishment of a fund through the El Dorado Community Foundation and that the Foundation would be the party contracting for the work done. The Board also discussed the pros and cons of continued rental of temporary fencing around the monument sign and the need for a Memorandum of Understanding and Right to Access between the parties. Public comment was received on the matter.

President Matt Sites made a motion that a Memorandum of Understanding be prepared and entered into between the RHCSD and the El Dorado Community Foundation, a nonprofit organization in El Dorado County, for the purpose of preservation and protection of the El Dorado Hills Monument Sign, and specifically for repair of the sign as detailed in the Proposal from California Masonry Concepts to the Save Our Sign Committee dated May 7, 2021, and granting entry and access necessary to carry out repair and maintenance work to the sign. The motion was seconded by Director Gordon Fawkes. A roll call vote was taken as follows; motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Sites, Fawkes, Collette, and McGowan

NOES: None ABSENT: Magee ABSTAIN: None

President Sites made a motion to retain the temporary fencing around the Monument Sign indefinitely to reduce exposure to liability and approve the monthly fence rental cost at \$108.00. There was no second to the motion.

Vice President Brenda Collette made a motion to remove the temporary fencing now around the Monument Sign. There was no second to the motion.

Director Gordon Fawkes made a motion to retain the temporary fencing around the Monument Sign for a period of two months and approve the monthly rental cost of \$108.00. President Sites offered a friendly amendment to the motion to approve the temporary fencing for a period of not-to-exceed three months and associated costs. Director Fawkes accepted the amendment. The motion was seconded by President Sites. A roll call vote was taken as follows; motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Sites, Fawkes, Collette, and McGowan

NOES: None ABSENT: Magee ABSTAIN: None

President Sites made a motion endorsing the EDH Save the Sign Committee's establishment of a fund for charitable contributions through the El Dorado Community Foundation, to defray the cost for repairs to Monument Sign in its current state as well as for ongoing maintenance as may be necessary; second by Director Brenda Collette. A roll call vote was taken as follows; motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Sites, Fawkes, Collette, and McGowan

NOES: None ABSENT: Magee ABSTAIN: None

c. Discussion of Potential Reorganization to Allow for Annexation of Rolling Hills CSD into El Dorado Hills CSD. To aid with this discussion item, staff included in the meeting materials a flowchart that demonstrates the potential annexation process. Also included in the materials is a list of Questions raised by Board members and residents over the past few months, both of which were discussed. President Sites provided additional information as to some of the issues involved in the El Dorado Hills CSD's interest in annexation of the RHCSD into its jurisdiction. He said that EDHCSD is not interested in reorganization because in that scenario both Districts would be required to dissolve and then a new joint District would be created. In that event EDHCSD would lose its oversight over CC&Rs, which it will not do. Another issue is ECHCSD's interest in future Cityhood and it is problematic to have two distinct jurisdictions in the same space. A third issue relative to potential annexation is that RHCSD has to be solvent in the long-term, which is presently an issue with the District's current assessment level and its estimated existing long-term deferred maintenance costs. There are still unanswered questions about many aspects of the proposal including possible Zones of Benefit. General Manager Chaney Hicks suggested that our District try to reorganize its funding issues and goals over the next six months, and then revisit the possibility of annexation. Public comment was received on the issue which included comments that residents prefer smaller governance and given the financial issues, don't see reason to continue with the discussions. Chaney was asked to have the EDHCSD General Manager provide a list of what he sees as the benefits to RHCSD for annexation.

#### 6. New Business

### a. Amendment to New Generation Agreement for Landscape Maintenance Services.

Staff presented for consideration approval of a Second Notice of Election to Extend Multi-Task General Services Agreement, extending the agreement term for an additional one-year effective June 1, 2021 through May 31, 2022, at an increased cost of \$312.25 per month. The agreement provides for up to four one-year extensions as may be mutually agreed between the parties. In public comment, a resident suggested that the monthly cost is reasonable but that this item should have been on the agenda previously, and not so close to the current expiration date. Staff agreed it will be more proactive in this regard going forward. President Sites made a motion to approve the Second Notice of Election to Extend the Multi-Task General Services agreement with New Generation Landscape Management at a monthly cost of \$6,767.25 effective June 1, 2021; second by Director Gordon Fawkes. A roll call vote was taken as follows; motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Sites, Fawkes, Collette, and McGowan

NOES: None ABSENT: Magee ABSTAIN: None

b. Policy 3201-Procedures for Enforcement of Ordinance Regarding Parking Restrictions. Staff presented the existing Ordinance 2012-01 and current policy entitled "Procedures for Enforcement of Ordinance Regarding Parking Restrictions" for discussion. Comments centered around the fact that the District's General Manager does not know when people are moving in or out of the District. It makes sense that if a person is issued a Warning Notice for violation of the parking Ordinance which prohibits parking of trailers (including pods) on the streets, that the Warning notice should include the contact information to let the District know of their circumstances. It was suggested that the existing Procedure be amended to include language about the availability of a temporary parking permit, possible fee

exemption for new residents/homeowners, and the contact telephone number to call. The Board requested that a proposed redline of the Procedure and Warning Notice be brought back at a future meeting date for review.

c. Watering System for Trees Along Concrete Wall. The Board considered expenditure of funds from the approved budget in an amount not to exceed \$800.00 to switch the existing rotor sprinkler system to drip irrigation for water efficiency and authorization for the General Manager to approve the work. There is a potential \$100.00 rebate from El Dorado Irrigation District for the water efficiency upgrade. Vice President Brenda Collette made a motion to approve the request; second by Director Gordon Fawkes. A roll call vote was taken as follows; motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Sites, Fawkes, Collette, and McGowan

NOES: None ABSENT: Magee ABSTAIN: None

- **d.** 4<sup>th</sup> of July Event 2021. The Board discussed the possibility of holding the 4<sup>th</sup> of July event this year in light of COVID-19 current status. Director Brenda Collette advised that the resident who formerly organized this event has moved, and she doesn't think there is interest in holding it this year.
- **e.** Budget Development FY21-22. Given the late hour, it was agreed that a special budget meeting will be held to fully discuss components and development of the budget for FY22.

Approved by Board: June 22, 2021

7. Adjournment. Upon motion and second, the meeting was adjourned at 9:33 p.m.

Submitted by:

Linda Stone, Board Clerk/Secretary

May 18, 2021

# **General Manager Report:**

Landscaping:

Discussed issue/s with landscapers:

- Monitoring watering schedule, modifying water as needed.
- Discuss alternate watering methods for common spaces
- Broken valves at large park (residents are manually turning off valves damaging them), one in middle replaced, second at outfield of ballfield (next to Haddington wetlands) not replaced, will let grass/weeds die off to conserve water
- Started interior weed abatement beginning of May
- Addressing Weeds in Stonebriar Park
- Clean up of broken branches from landscaping
- District landscape areas cut back off of sidewalks
- **Berkshire Park Irrigation repairs**

Weed Abatement:

Livestock grazed early and completed.

Gophers:

Looks like gopher activity at park again. Only one mound, I will attempt DIY fix and see if it eradicates problem before having Pest Service back out.

Dog Waste Station:

Repaired dog waste station in Berkshire Park

Berkshire Park:

Awaiting update from board members who were reaching out to their contacts for possible assistance with the permit application.

Warnings/Citations:

Trailer Tagged Three times and citation issued.

Abandoned Car:

Car parked in Berkshire Park and not moved in week, Tagged and notified

County. Vehicle removed.

Signage:

Stonebriar and Shadow Hills replacement letters ordered.

Radar Sign:

Repeated modification made to factory settings regarding flashing dashes versus speeds.

Illegal Dumping:

Resident call regarding property owner dumping landscape debris along Dunnwood Drive. Left card at door of property notifying them to remove or District would remove at their cost/followup letter with removal date.

The majority of the material was removed.



**Resident Concerns:** 

Resident call regarding Winterfield gate being left open (by herder) and radar sign blinking dashes.

Resident call regarding fire hazard of home along Dunnwood Drive—across from District maintained EVA (see image below). Submitted to County Weed Abatement per Fire Marshal. County inspected and indicated that they sent a letter to property owner and it gives them 1 month to abate.

Resident call regarding approval of landscape and fence changes.

