

**CONEJO RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING
November 6, 2025
6:00 PM
HILLCREST CENTER
M I N U T E S**

1. CALL TO ORDER AND FLAG SALUTE

Nickles called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and led the flag salute.

2. ROLL CALL

Directors Present: Buss, Cusworth, Huffer, Nickles, and Orozco

Directors Absent:

Staff Present: Callis, Recreation and Community Services Director; Mooney, Parks and Planning Director; Smith, Management Services Director; and Broeker, Executive Assistant

Staff Absent: Friedl, General Manager

3. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Calleguas Municipal Water District

Kristine McCaffrey gave a presentation for Calleguas Municipal Water District. She discussed the areas served by the water district, portfolio analysis, and interconnections. McCaffrey thanked the District for their support for the Delta Conveyance Project. McCaffrey answered questions from the Board.

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

After a recommendation from Staff, Nickles removed Item 9B from the proposed Agenda.

It was moved by Huffer, seconded by Buss, and carried 5-0 to approve the agenda with the removal of Item 9B.

5. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

Patricia Lownes, Thousand Oaks, Commissioner for the City's Council on Aging, introduced herself to the Board as a liaison for the council. She plans to attend the Board meetings to report back to the council on any agenda items or actions that may address the aging community.

Leticia Reynoso, Thousand Oaks, spoke on her support for Conejo Valley Days, Chili Cook-Off, OakHeart Music Festival, and the Conejo Valley Parade.

Amanda Vincent, Thousand Oaks, spoke on her support for the OakHeart Music Festival.

Brian Hynes, Thousand Oaks, spoke on the OakHeart Music Festival, how he started it, and the history of its growth. He urged Staff to work with him to bring back the Oakheart Music Festival.

Jeff Losey, Thousand Oaks, owner of Old Boney Mountain Hot Sauce and Old Boney Mountain Foundation for Kids, spoke on his support for the OakHeart Music Festival.

Travis Raville, via Zoom, Thousand Oaks, spoke on his support for the OakHeart Music Festival.

Ashley Collier, via Zoom, Thousand Oaks, spoke on her support for the OakHeart Music Festival.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Approval of Minutes of October 16, 2025, Regular Board Meeting

**B. Approval of Warrants
Accounts Payable Check Registers \$950,837.56
Payroll \$1,112,800.00**

It was moved by Cusworth, seconded by Orozco, and carried 5-0 to approve the Consent Calendar as presented.

7. DEFERRED MATTERS

8. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

9. NEW ITEMS

A. Annual Update to Conejo Recreation and Park District's Water Conservation Plan

Mooney reminded the Board that the District had a water target of 503 units and was 27.63% below that goal. Since fiscal year 2007-2008, there has been a 34.38% decrease in water usage. The district has saved over 1.4 million units of water, approaching 1.1 billion gallons, and about \$10 million in water costs. The Board thanked Mooney for his efforts in water conservation. Mooney answered questions from the Board.

It was moved by Buss, seconded by Cusworth, and carried 5-0 to review and approve the annual update report on the District's Water Conservation Plan.

B. Modify Very Large Community Events Permitted at the Conejo Creek Complex

Removed from Agenda.

C. Conejo Valley Days – 2026 Annual Agreement and Permit Conditions, Conejo Creek Park

Mooney informed the Board that the agreement has not changed aside from the calendar dates. Staff have been working with Sarah Akrey for the past two years to set up the event. Mooney explained the recommendation includes the event permit and CEQA. It is a Class 23 categorical exemption from CEQA because it's normal operations of existing facilities.

Sarah Akrey, President of the Conejo Valley Days, spoke to the Board sharing information regarding the history of Conejo Valley Days, what the organization does for the community, and the money that was raised to improve the event. This year is the 70th anniversary for Conejo Valley Days. Sarah answered questions from the Board.

Jeff Long, Thousand Oaks, spoke on his support for Conejo Valley Days. He shared the Conejo Valley Days has not raised their entry fees since 1984.

It was moved by Huffer, seconded by Buss, and carried 5-0 to:

1. Approve Staff recommendations that Conejo Valley Days is categorically exempt from CEQA.
2. Authorize the General Manager to execute the Conejo Valley Days Agreement for 2026.

D. Thousand Oaks Rotary Club Chili Cook-Off and Craft Brew Festival - 2026 Annual Agreement and Permit Conditions, Conejo Creek Park

Director Buss recused herself from voting due to being the chair of the event.

Mooney explained that the event would be on Sunday May 3rd, 11am-5pm. This item is a two-part recommendation, including a CEQA determination, similar to the previous agenda item.

Nelson Buss, Thousand Oaks, mentioned that this will be the 49th year for the Chili-Cook Off. Last year, despite the rain, 10,000 people attended, and \$70,000 was raised for over 80 local non-profits.

It was moved by Cusworth, seconded by Orozco, and carried 4-0 to:

1. Approve Staff recommendation that the Thousand Oaks Rotary Chili-Cookoff and Craft

Brew Festival for 2026 is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act.

2. Authorize the General Manager to execute the Thousand Oaks Rotary Chili-Cookoff and Craft Brew Festival Agreement for 2026.

10. REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. **Recreation Division Highlights**
- B. **Conejo Senior Volunteer Program Activity Report**
- C. **Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority Report**
- D. **Investment Report- August 2025**
- E. **Park Dedication Fees**

11. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

A. **Parks Division Report**

Mooney updated the Board on 3 projects that are in process for permits. Tabitha McAtee, Park Planner, is working on the Borchard Skatepark, CCC Phase 1, and Crowley House for structural repairs. Mooney answered questions from the Board.

E. **Recreation Division Report**

Callis updated the Board on various community events. Dia de los Muertos was a successful event hosting approximately 2,000 people and the Aquatics Pumpkin Splash event hosted about 100 attendees. Upcoming events include the RecVan at Stagecoach Inn Museum Saturday November 8th and a Movie at the Park at Thousand Oaks Community Park on Saturday December 5th, featuring "Home Alone."

F. **Management Services Division Report**

Smith shared that Staff is close to being done with the audit. The Finance and Audit Committee meeting will be on November 13th at 3 p.m. Smith answered questions for the Board.

G. **General Manager's Report**

Callis, Acting GM, shared that Reign of Terror is over for the year. Bruce donated \$40k to the District. The Starlight Ball is on December 13th, invitations to come.

E. Director's Reports and Follow-up Reports on Meetings/Conferences Attended

Huffer attended the inauguration for the CLU President, Dr. John A. Nunes, Haunted Trail, Committee Meeting for Large Events, COSCA Board meeting, the Dia De Los Muertos Event, VCSDA meeting at McCrea Ranch; Director Buss attended Reign of Terror and the ETI Horse show; Director Orozco attended the Dia De Los Muertos event, Open Mosque Day at the Islamic Center, VCSDA Dinner at McCrea Ranch. Director Cusworth attended the VCSDA meeting at McCrea Ranch, Reign of Terror, Dia De Los Muertos, Haunted Trail, Pop Up Art event for Art Trek; Director Nickles attended Haunted Trail, the inauguration for the Cal Lu President, Dr. John A. Nunes, COSCA Board meeting, and the CRPD Legislative Committee Meeting.

- 12. **REQUEST FOR STATUS REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR SUBSEQUENT AGENDAS**
- 13. **ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC**
- 14. **EXECUTIVE CLOSED SESSION**
- 15. **ADJOURN**

Nickles adjourned the meeting in honor of the Borderline Twelve at 7:42p.m. to the next regular meeting on November 20th, 2025.

Date: 11/20/2025

Attest:

Approved by:


Raquel Broeker, Executive Assistant


Doug Nickles, Chair