CONEJO RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING
November 5, 2026
6:00 PM
HILLCREST CENTER
M I N U T E S

1. CALL TO ORDER AND FLAG SALUTE

Cusworth called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m. and she led the flag salute.

2. ROLL CALL

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

Directors Absent:

Staff Present: Friedl, General Manager; Mooney, Parks and Planning Director; Smith, Management Services Director; Callis, Recreation and Community Services Director; and Humes, Administrative Assistant

Staff Absent: Broeker, Executive Assistant

3. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Aquatics – Our Why

Dee Pearson, Aquatics Supervisor, and Xavier Volgenau, Aquatics Coordinator gave a presentation explaining their motivations to run a successful Aquatics department.

4. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

Jonelle Shmoldas, Thousand Oaks, shared concerns about Conejo Creek Equestrian Park being used to dump trash.

Risa Witham, Thousand Oaks, spoke in opposition of the gate removal at the Columbine Court gate/park access.

5. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Orozco, seconded by Nickles, and carried 5-0 to approve the agenda as presented.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Approval of Minutes of October 15, 2026, Regular Board Meeting

B. Approval of Warrants
Accounts Payable Check Registers $1,174,671.50
Payroll $1,173,209.68

Huffer moved to amend minutes from the October 15, 2026, meeting, Buss seconded and carried 5-0 to approve the consent calendar with the amended minutes.

7. DEFERRED MATTERS

8. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

9. NEW ITEMS

A. Conejo Recreation & Park District's Disaster Management Plan

Patrick Belavick, Park Superintendent, presented the District's Disaster Management Plan to the Board and answered questions pertaining to the plan.

B. Conejo Valley Days – 2027 Annual Agreement and Permit Conditions, Conejo Creek Park

Sarah Akery gave a presentation to the Board that outlined the logistics and changes for the Conejo Valley Days event.

Mooney and Akery answered questions from the Board.

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

1. Determine that Conejo Valley Days (CVD) for 2027 is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

2. Authorize the General Manager to execute the CVD Agreement for 2027.

C. Thousand Oaks Rotary Club Chili Cook-Off and Craft Brew Festival – 2027 Annual Agreement and Permit Conditions, Conejo Creek Park

Director Buss recused herself from the meeting during the presentation and the vote due to her involvement as uncompensated Chair of the Rotary event.

Nelson Buss presented the logistics for the Thousand Oaks Rotary Club Chili Cook-Off and Craft Brew Festival.

Mooney and Nelson Buss answered questions from the Board.

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

1. Determine that the Thousand Oaks Rotary Club Chili Cook-Off and Craft Brew Festival (CHILI COOK-OFF) for 2027 is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

2. Authorize the General Manager to execute the CHILI COOK-OFF Agreement for 2027.

D. Old Boney Mountain Foundation for Kids Oakheart Country Music Festival - 2027 Annual Agreement and Permit Conditions, Conejo Creek Park

Jeff Losey & Brian Hynes presented the logistics and updates for the Oakheart Country Music Festival.

Mooney, Losey & Hynes answered questions from the Board.

It was moved by Buss, seconded by Orozco, and carried 4-1 with Huffer opposing to:

1. Determine that the Old Boney Mountain Foundation for Kids Oakheart Country Music Festival (OAKHEART) for 2027 is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

2. Authorize the General Manager to execute the OAKHEART Agreement for 2027.

E. Annual Master Plan Update and Capital Improvement Program Projects Status Report for Fiscal Year 2025-26

Mooney provided an overview of updates to Master Plan. Mooney answered questions from the Board.

It was moved by Huffer, seconded by Buss, and carried 5-0 to approve the annual update to the October 2025 Master Plan.

F. Annual Update to Conejo Recreation & Park District's Water Conservation Plan

Mooney provided a detailed report of the District's Water Conservation Plan and answered questions from the Board.

It was moved by Orozco, seconded by Nickles, and carried 5-0 to approve the Annual Update to Conejo Recreation and Park District's Water Conservation Plan

G. Casting Conejo Recreation & Park District Ballot for Special District Regular Member and Special District Alternate Member to the Ventura LAFCo

Director Nickles gave a summary of the LAFCo position duties. The Board discussed the different candidates.

It was moved by Buss, and seconded by Huffer, and went 5-0 to nominate Raul Avila as the Regular member and Doug Nickles as the Alternate member for LAFCo.

10. REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

11. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

A. Parks Division Report

No report.

B. Recreation Division Report

Callis outlined various upcoming events. Callis notified the Board of the upcoming retirements of Patty Hamm, Gobel Adult Community Center Supervisor, and Dee Pearson, Aquatics Supervisor. Callis also shared that the Aquatics department received a grant from the American Red Cross to provide swim lessons for the underserved communities. Callis answered questions from the Board.

C. Management Services Division Report

No report.

D. General Manager's Report

Friedl announced that Director Buss' term will be ending. The General Manager review will be moved to December due to Cusworth's absence at the November 19th meeting. Friedl announced that he was re-elected to the CAPRI Board of Directors.

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

Director Orozco attended a one on one with Friedl and attended a Conejo Coalition for Youth and Families meeting; Director Nickles attended the ETI Showdeo event, attended the CARPD Board meeting, attended a CARPD Legislative committee, attended Haunted Trail, attended a one on one with Friedl, and attended the VCSDA meeting; Director Buss attended a one on one with Friedl; Director Huffer attended the ETI Showdeo event, attended the Stagecoach Inn production, "The Star of the Conejo", and attended a one on one with Friedl; Director Cusworth, via Zoom, watched Friedl present to the Legislative Committee Branch of the Chamber of Commerce, attended a one on one with Friedl, and attended the VCSDA meeting.

12. REQUEST FOR STATUS REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR SUBSEQUENT AGENDAS

13. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

Diana Merville, Thousand Oaks, opposed spending tax dollars on doing Environmental Impact Report studies for pickleball at Conejo Creek West.

14. EXECUTIVE CLOSED SESSION

15. ADJOURN

Cusworth adjourned the meeting at 8:48 p.m. to the next regular meeting on November 19, 2026.

Date: _____

Attest: Approved by:

_____ _____

Raquel Broeker, Executive Assistant Nellie Cusworth, Chair