

CAMBRIA COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF PROS (Parks Recreation and Open Space) COMMISSIONERS  
April 2, 2013 – 1000 Main Street, Veterans Memorial Building

1A. Commission Chair Steve Kniffen called meeting to order at 10:05 AM.

Present: PROS Commissioners: Adolph Atencio, Ben Bouldin, Joyce Renshaw, Tim Roche, and Chair Steve Kniffen

Absent – Jo Ellen Butler, Jerry Gruber, Carlos Mendoza, Lee Wight,

Parks & Recreation Liaison & CCSD Board: Gail Robinette

CCSD Staff: Administrative Services Officer Monique Madrid and District Clerk Kathy Choate

Ex Officio Members: FFRP (Friends of Fiscalini Ranch Preserve) – JoEllen Butler (absent)

Absent: CUSD Lee Wight (absent)

Other CCSD Board members present: Jim Bahringer (departed 10:15 AM), Michael Thompson

1B. Established quorum of five commissioners present.

1C. **Chair Report** – Chair Kniffen reported.

2A. **Ex-Officio Member Reports**

Friends of Fiscalini Ranch Preserve (FFRP) – Commissioner Renshaw reported on behalf of Jo Ellen Butler and submitted for the record communication received from Barbara Wellington regarding the Victoria Way trail head. Commissioner Renshaw, Atencio and Jo Ellen Butler will take a field trip on April 7 to the site and report back to the Commission. FFRP has completed matching hours for Erosion Control project and will continue to monitor the thistle and will water through the summer. A grasswalk is scheduled for April 13, 10:00 AM, end of Bluff Trail on Ranch Marino USC. The wildflower show is the last weekend in April.

2B. **Coast Unified School District** – No report.

3. **Public Comment on Topics Not on the Agenda** – None

4A. **CCSD Parks and Recreation Manager's Report**

Administrative Services Officer Madrid reported the CCSD Board of Directors approved the 2013 Goals.

5A. **Ranch Manager's Report** – No report.

6. **Regular Business**

A. **Commissioner Renshaw moved to approve the February 5, 2013 minutes. Commissioner Roche seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Ayes – 5, No – 0, Absent – 0**

B. Administrative Services Officer Madrid reported the 2013/2014 goals and objectives were approved at the March 21 regular board meeting. District Clerk

Choate added funding the PROS goals would be considered in the 2013/2014 budget process.

- C. Discussion and consideration of the Fiscalini Ranch Preserve wetland trails. Commissioner Atencio presented a 2011 FFRP Trails Study – Test Case slide presentation of wetland areas and their conditions; then showed the present status of the same areas. The test case appears not to be working. People are walking around the wire that says Wetlands Restoration. Commissioner Renshaw told of her experience with two tourists who did not realize that walking around the poles with the wire was not the thing to do. They seem to think that was safe to do. So, the wetlands are still being walked on. Discussion followed. Director Robinette suggested that a cable could be strung across a larger area. That might be a better solution to the problem. Director Robinette is going to see if the purchase of cables could be put into the CCSD budget.

A discussion was held on how to cut down on the myriad of trails that are now appearing on each side of the board walk on the south side. Director Robinette suggested a boardwalk might be added going off in the direction of the Marine Terrace trail. This might cut down on people making their own trails to get to the Marine Terrace trail. She suggested that maybe funding for this could be found in the form of a grant. She suggested that we pursue a grant from SLO POST (Recreation Board) where Commissioner Roche is a director. It was suggested Commissioner Atencio and Commissioner Renshaw go to a meeting with Commissioner Roche to explore this idea. It was also suggested that Commissioner Renshaw bring this idea back to the FFRP meeting on April 11, 2013.

A discussion was also held on the ad hoc trails along the Bluff. Chair Kniffen said he felt that would happen no matter what the Commission did; as people have an urge to get over to the Bluff for the view. Commissioner Renshaw added that maybe if we made one of those trails official-looking it might cut down on the other trails. Perhaps adding chips to one of the trails or even granite would encourage the public to use the one trail to get their views near the Bluffs. Commissioner Renshaw will take that idea to FFRP for discussion.

- D. Discussion and consideration to recommend to the CCSD Board of Directors adoption of a Memorandum of Understanding between CCSD and FFRP for donations to the Ranch.

Chair Kniffen introduced the item. Commissioner Renshaw provided background on the policy development, commenting the FFRP Board had reviewed the initial draft of the policy and would review the DRAFT presented today at its April 11 board meeting. A full commission discussion followed. A question rose during the discussion as to how much money does FFRP give to the maintenance of the Ranch?

**Commissioner Renshaw moved to approve recommendation to the CCSD Board of Directors approval of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Cambria Community Services District and the Friends of the Fiscalini**

**Ranch Preserve Regarding Donations and Merchandise Sales on the Fiscalini Ranch Preserve under the condition that is it approved by the Friends of Fiscalini Ranch Preserve Board of Directors at their April 11 meeting and then presented to the CCSD Board of Directors at their regular April 25 meeting. Commissioner Roche seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Ayes – 5, No – 0, Absent – 0**

7. **Comments, Concerns, Other Future Discussion Items** - Commissioner Roche asked to be on record the Dog Park entrance and the lot are back in disrepair and needs to be redone and it needs to be fixed. The mustard grass is as high as the table and needs to be cut.
8. Commissioner Kniffen adjourned the meeting at 11:05 PM.

**Next PROS Regular Meeting: June 4, 2013 at 10:00 A.M., Veterans Memorial Building, 1000 Main Street, Cambria**

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