

CAMBRIA COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT
MINUTES OF PROS (Parks Recreation and Open Space) COMMISSIONERS
June 4, 2013 – 1000 Main Street, Veterans Memorial Building

1A. Commission Chair Steve Kniffen called meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

Present: PROS Commissioners: Adolph Atencio, Ben Bouldin, Joyce Renshaw, Tim Roche, and Chair Steve Kniffen
Parks & Recreation Liaison & CCSD Board: Gail Robinette
CCSD Staff: General Manager Jerry Gruber, Facilities and Resources Supervisor Carlos Mendoza, District Clerk Kathy Choate
Ex Officio Members: FFRP (Friends of Fiscalini Ranch Preserve) – JoEllen Butler (absent)
Absent: CUSD Lee Wight (absent)

1B. Established quorum of five commissioners present.

1C. **Chair Report** – Chair Kniffen No report. However, see Public Comment.

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

Friends of Fiscalini Ranch Preserve (FFRP) – No report

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

3. **Public Comment on Topics Not on the Agenda** – Chair Kniffen thought Leslie Richards would be in attendance to talk about lots that belong to CCSD and weed abatement. The question posed to Steve by Leslie was who is responsible for weed abatement of the lots? Facilities and Resource Supervisor Carlos Mendoza explained, that it depends where the weeds are on the lot. If they are 100 feet from a house they will be abated. If weed abatement took place last year it will take place this year. It was suggested that Steve get back to her with that information.

4A. **Ranch Manager's Report** – Carlos reported on Victoria Way Trail in cooperation with CCSD staff and FFRP, laid with wood chips and shored up. Current project are invasive plants on the Ranch, showed map with areas of thistle. Volunteers from FFRP meet with Carlos on Mondays and help with projects. This is first year environmentally sensitive spray is being used as a method of maintaining and appears to be doing well. Fire breaks around perimeter of Ranch being worked on. Thistles suffocate the native plants. Commissioner Renshaw commented on native grass walk and areas that have improved with native grasses. Sprayed areas are staked out and are being monitored every week and a half. Chair Kniffen on record this is a lot of work placed on Carlos to monitor the grasses on the Ranch and costs associated with it. Carlos reported the costs to be about \$1000 out of the budget of \$1200 for spraying.

5. **Regular Business**

A. **Commissioner Renshaw moved to approve the April 2, 2013 minutes. Commissioner Bouldin seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Ayes – 5, No – 0, Absent – 0**

- A. Discussion and consideration of Fiscalini Ranch Preserve wetland trails. Commissioner Atencio reported current signage not working; rope guide has been discussed and would be inexpensive with rope and small signs every few feet of guide of about 150 feet. It is one of PROS goals and budgeted for 2013/2014. Provide access from Bluff Trail to Marine Terrace Trail in a connected manner; i.e., boardwalk to discourage trails made all over. Commissioner Roche commented on SLOPOST grants and development of a grant proposal. This grant might also include a bigger picture. See discussion under D. GPS map circulated a maps trails via google earth. On Windsor side of ranch bike trail is developed.

Discussion and consideration regarding Friends of Fiscalini Ranch Preserve approval of April 25, 2013 CCSD board adopted memorandum of understanding for donations to the Ranch. General Manager Gruber reported the MOU was approved by the Board with an added condition of a one year program and evaluate. Move forward with donation tubes and information tables. It was stressed that members at the table are to remain at table and answer questions and give out information on the Ranch and of course smile.

Discussion and consideration of Budget fiscal year 2013/2014. General Manager Gruber reported on the draft budget items proposed in support of PROS goals. \$10,000 of \$12,000 are earmarked for continued evaluation of improvements on East Ranch; \$800 signage in forest for emergency purposes, \$1,200 for wetland restoration. Gail Robinette reported on budget committee efforts to work to fund identified goals and for PROS it would be to see progress on the East Ranch. Entrance to the Dog Park, picnic tables, parking, and Community Park. Commissioner Roche commented on moving Dog Park to the Ranch and need for a five year plan for entire project. SLOPOST has a professional grant writer on staff. Chair Kniffen, Commissioner Roche, Jerry, and Carlos will meet to discuss moving forward on the East Ranch improvements. It was suggested to find the document by David Foote about the plans for the Community Park. It might contain a cost analysis for the work that needs to be done. If nothing else, it would include information that would be valuable for the committee above.

Discussion and consideration of CCSD Board's May 23, 2013 decision relating to SLO County Public Works yard at Rodeo Grounds. General Manager Gruber reported the Board approved 30-day notice to terminate the yard lease contract with County at Rodeo Grounds and offered an alternate location. The fence will

soon be removed as one of the first steps in the improvement of the facility.

Discussion and consideration of relocation of the Facilities and Resources and Water Department. General Manager Gruber reported the Water Department is now located at the Wastewater Treatment Plant facilities. Facilities and Resources is moving into former Water facility and can mobilize from that area onto the Ranch. General Manager Gruber would like to have a Utilities Department in the future instead of two separate departments Water and Wastewater Treatment.

Discussion and consideration of Phillips House on East Ranch property. General Manager Gruber reported on the status of Phillips house; it is not worth trying to restore. It needs to be demolished and removed for safety concerns. Chair Kniffen recommended deferring this item to FFRP before making a decision at the PROS Commission level.

6. Comments, Concerns, Other Future Discussion Items

7. Commissioner Kniffen adjourned the meeting at 11:20 PM.

Next PROS Regular Meeting: August 6, 2013 at 10:00 A.M., Veterans Memorial Building, 1000 Main Street, Cambria