



## CAMBRIA COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

### MINUTES OF APRIL 16, 2024, REGULAR PROS COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE CAMBRIA COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

A regular meeting of the PROS Committee of the Cambria Community Services District was held at the Cambria Veterans' Memorial Hall, located at 1000 Main Street, Cambria, CA 93428, on Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at 2:00 PM

#### 1. OPENING

**1.A Call to Order:** Chair Thomas called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM

#### **1.B Establishment of Quorum**

A quorum was established with Committee Members Michael Thomas, Shannon Sutherland, Kermit Johansson and Jim Bahringer present. Committee Members Steve Kniffen and Jeff Wilson were absent for good cause.

Staff members present: F&R Manager Aguirre attended in person. GM McElhenie attended by Zoom

Public Present: Dick Clark, Shelly Becker, Donn Howell, Dennis Dudzik, Tony Church and David Pierson attended in person. Karin Argano, Kitty Connolly, Laura and Crosby Swartz attended on zoom.

**1.C Chair Report:** No Chair report

**1.D Agenda Review:** Chair Thomas briefly reviewed the agenda, no changes, but we may rearrange the schedule to discuss item 4 at 2:15 PM.

#### **1.E Ad Hoc Committee Reports, 2:02 PM**

Shannon Sutherland reported that the Community Park Planning Ad Hoc Committee presented an alternative location for the East Rach restroom which was denied by the Board.

Shannon Sutherland reported on Signage, the colors recommended for the skate park bathroom will match the community park bathroom, benign colors which will hopefully provide the backdrop for future murals.

#### **1.F Committee Member Communications, 2:05 PM**

Committee Member Kermit Johansson stated that this will be his last meeting. Michael Thomas, Shannon Sutherland, Jim Bahringer, Donn Howell, and Kitty Connolly commented on what an honor it has been working with Kermit on this Committee, how Kermit has been so dedicated and persistent in truly serving the community.

Jim Bahringer commented that he has presented the List of Pedestrian and Transportation Needs to the Cambria Tourism Board, and that the CTB is considering asking the County to install speed bumps on Moonstone Beach Drive.

In public comment on Committee Member Communications, Tony Church expressed concerns that installing speed bumps on Moonstone Beach Drive is not a good idea, because speed bumps impede emergency responders.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT NOT ON THE AGENDA, 2:11 PM**

- Dick Clark commented about the excellent presentation by the Skate Park to the SLO Planning Commission.
- Michael Thomas read written comment from Fanny Arenas regarding Meals That Connect.
- Tony Church commented that Cambria Community Council provides transportation at no charge to the community.

**3. FACILITIES & RESOURCES MANAGER'S REPORT, 2:24 PM**

- Already started weed abatement on CCSD owned parcels, 22 completed already.
- Started mowing, but with the ground so wet, have had a couple failures with the tractors.
- Finally, fully staffed with 3 Maintenance Technicians, with the onboarding of Patrick Moloney last week.
- Mr. Aguirre described how he is focused on creative ways to accomplish the mission of his department within the limited resources available.

Public comment by Dennis Dudzik, asking Mr. Aguirre the schedule for clearing the debris in Santa Rosa Creek adjacent to his property? Mr. Aguirre responded that it's still too wet from the recent rains to access the area with heavy equipment, but hopefully within the next several weeks.

**4. BRIEF REPORTS FROM GROUPS WITH ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES RELATED TO PROS WITHIN JURISDICTIONAL BOUNDARIES STARTING AT 2:14 PM**

- [Friends of the Fiscalini Ranch Preserve](#), Executive Director Kitty Connolly, 2:14 PM,
  - The CCSD Board approved the Linking Boardwalk Project, expecting construction to be completed this summer.
  - More rain = more weeding, so thank you to the volunteers, and to David Aguirre for mowing, no way to get it all done by hand.
  - Working with USLTRCD to get more wildlife supporting native plants on the ranch, both in the forest and lower down.
  - Received a grant to work with the Santa Barbara Botanical Garden to put even more plants on the ranch.
  - FFRP volunteers will focus on growing trees, which we are very good at.
  - The 16<sup>th</sup> Wildflower Show will be coming April 27-28 at the Vets Hall.
- Friends of the Dog Park, Shelly Becker, 2:18 PM
  - They have reestablished their 401(c)(3) organization, have \$45k in private donations, hoping to get benches, plaques and gazebos, and working with a trainer on their “no bark” program,
- [Greenspace the Cambria Land Trust](#), Executive Director Karin Argano, 2:20 PM,
  - Greenspace, in cooperation with True Earth Market is hosting Earth Day Sunday April 21, 11-3. The theme is planet vs. plastics.
  - Planning to do another round of grazing with goats in Strawberry Canyon.
- [Forest Committee](#), Laura Swartz, 2:24 PM, working on removal of invasives from Fern Canyon and other public spaces.

**5. CONSENT AGENDA**

**5.A Consideration to Approve the March 27, 2024 Special Meeting Minutes, 2:34 PM**

Committee member Johansson moved to approve the minutes.

Vice Chair Sutherland seconded the motion.

Motion Passed Ayes 3, Nays 0, Abstain 0, Absent 2 (Committee Members Kniffen and Wilson)

**6. REGULAR BUSINESS**

**6.A Update on the East Ranch Restroom Project, 2:35 PM**

Chair Thomas introduced the topic, stating that the permit has been approved and the purchase order was issued on April 1, answering the questions raised in the last meeting.

**6.B Discuss and Consider the Color Scheme for the Skatepark Restroom, 2:36 PM**

Chair Thomas introduced the topic. Staff has proposed the color scheme for the Skatepark Restroom match what was previously submitted in the PO for the East Ranch Restroom, ash grey for the body, antique bronze for the doors, door frames and trim, and a tan blend for the flooring.

Committee member Bahringer moved to forward the proposed color scheme for the skate park restroom to the Board of Directors.

Vice Chair Sutherland seconded the motion.

Motion Passed Ayes 3, Nays 0, Abstain 0, Absent 2 (Committee Members Kniffen and Wilson)

**6.C Discuss and Update the PROS Goals Progress Report, 2:40 PM**

Chair Thomas introduced the topic, and asked Vice Chair Sutherland to lead the discussion. Vice Chair Sutherland reviewed the updates that have been provided.

**6.D Discuss Responsibilities for Maintenance of Parks, Recreation & Open Spaces, 2:54 PM**

Chair Thomas introduced the topic, and the committee, staff and public had an engaging discussion, with broad support for the summary of PROS Committee responsibilities listed in the staff report.

- The GM commented that where staff can use help from PROS is identifying the potential maintenance costs for anything that goes into the parks, recreation & open space realm. We're already operating at a structural deficit, and we can use PROS help on identifying ways that they can be funded.
- Public comment by Dennis Dudzik, 3:12 PM, regarding addressing accumulations of vegetation in Santa Rosa Creek which may present a flood risk, another unfunded maintenance issue.
- Public comment by Laura Swartz, 3:15 PM, regarding past maintenance practices that may have been overly aggressive in forested areas resulting in increased future maintenance costs. The concern is that indiscriminate clearing destroys native landscaping leading to increased invasives. Don't do any more than absolutely necessary. Mr. Aguirre responded thoughtfully to this comment.
- It was pointed out that the Strategic Plan Objective to Develop Management Plans for CCSD-owned parcels will help in this regard.
- Public comment by Shelly Becker, 3:20 PM, inquiring regarding the possibility of having crews of inmates help with clearing. Mr. Aguirre discussed some of the challenges of that approach.
- 3:20 PM, Vice Chair Sutherland asked about contracting the California Conservation Corps. Mr. Aguirre discussed some of his experience regarding the cost of contracting CCC.

**7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS, 2:05 PM**

Chair Thomas asked for any future agenda items. Committee member Bahringer suggested we discuss ways we can be ready for progress in the East Ranch Community Park when the restroom is installed. This is already being addressed in the ad hoc committee scope and will be coming to the PROS Committee when sufficiently defined.

**8. ADJOURN**

Chair Thomas adjourned the meeting at 3:27 PM.