

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Teresa Higgins – Chair**  
**Michael Seaman – Vice Chair**  
**Kathy Stricklin – Secretary**  
**Laura Lavallee – Director**  
**Chris Fischer – Director**



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**FULTON-EL CAMINO RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT**

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEM: Minutes 4.1**

**Thursday, May 21, 2026 | 6:30 p.m.**  
**Richard T. Conzelmann Community Center**  
2201 Cottage Way, Sacramento, CA 95825

**1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL, 6:30pm**

**Board Members:**

Teresa Higgins, Chair - Present  
Michael Seaman, Vice Chair - Present  
Kathleen Stricklin, Secretary – Present  
Laura Lavallee, Board Director - Absent  
Chris Fischer, Board Director – Present

**Staff Members:**

Emily Ballus, GM  
Mike Chahal, Staff  
Jaden Delfer, Staff  
Jennifer Buckman, District's Counsel

**Public Attendees:**

Steven Rice, District Resident	Trever Blanc, Security
Jan Kraut, District Resident	Emily Wickelgren, District Resident
Rachel Del Rio, Park Ranger	Matthew Atherton, District Resident
Libby Guerra, District Resident	

**Special Meeting May 14, 2026**

**PRESENTATIONS – MEASURE Q** Greg Melton of Melton Design Group will lead a public discussion on Measure Q projects.

Greg Melton, Melton Design Group, facilitated a public discussion regarding current and proposed Measure Q-funded projects. Mr. Melton presented conceptual improvements and enhancement opportunities for each District park, with a particular focus on ADA accessibility upgrades and compliance improvements.

**DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS (Motion) 4.1 Authorize Additional Measure Q Funding and Approve Contract for Safe Play Park Design, Enhancements, and Repairs.**

Director Laura Lavalée moved to authorize an additional \$24,785 in Measure Q funding for the Safe Play Park project and approve the contract for design, enhancements, and repairs. Director Chris Fischer seconded the motion.

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0-1-0 (Ayes, Noes, Absent, Abstain).

## **1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

## **2. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS:** Public comments on anything not on the agenda.

### Public Comment:

William Cho – Discussed opportunities for partnership and collaboration with Park Rangers to support park safety initiatives.

Jan Kraut, District Resident – Shared concerns regarding public safety incidents occurring near the parks. Ms. Kraut referenced a prior incident involving gunfire directed at her residence and described a recent gathering of college-aged individuals at the park that resulted in law enforcement response after reports of shots fired near a neighboring business. She requested consideration of closing the parking gate at 10:00 p.m. and increasing Park Ranger patrol presence.

Matthew Atherton, District Resident – Expressed concerns regarding the bridge near Cottage Park and requested additional information regarding its status.

## **3. CLOSED SESSION:** The Public will not participate in the Closed Session, other than for Public Comments.

Secretary Kathy Stricklin makes a motion to move the closed session to the end of the agenda to discuss community minded items. Vice Chair Michael Seaman seconded the motion.

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0-1-0 (Ayes, Noes, Absent, Abstain).

## **Closed Session: CS1 Conference with Labor Negotiators (Gov. Code § 54957.6), CS 2 Closed session - Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Gov. Code § 54956.9)**

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## **4. CONSENT CALENDAR (Motion)**

Consent Calendar items are routine and noncontroversial and will be approved by one motion after an opportunity for public comment. Any Board member may request removal of an item for separate consideration.

### **4.1 Approve Minutes**

April 2026 Regular Board and Committee Meetings

- a. April 13, 2026 Personnel and Finance Committee minutes

### **4.2 Accept Financial Activity**

- a. Summary Financial Statement of Activity – YTD April 2026
- b. Program Revenue and Refund Report – April 2026
- c. Revolving Fund Report – April 2026
- d. Payroll Report – April 2026
- e. Claims Report – April 2026

- f. Budget to Actual Departmental Reports – YTD April 2026
- g. Parks, Recreation, Facility Rentals, and Security Report – April 2026

Secretary Kathy Stricklin made the motion to accept the consent agenda and Chair Teresa Higgins seconded the motion.

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0-1-0 (Ayes, Noes, Absent, Abstain).

### **4.3 General Manager's Monthly Update**

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## **5. PRESENTATIONS**

### **5.1 Approve the District's 2024/25 Financial Audit.**

CPA Larry Bain will present the 2024/25 audit.

Certified Public Accountant Larry Bain presented the District's Fiscal Year 2024/25 Financial Audit. Mr. Bain provided an overview of the financial statements, explained how to interpret the audit report, and summarized the District's financial position.

Chair Teresa Higgins asked whether any recommendations had been provided to District management for operational or financial improvements. Mr. Bain responded that recommendations had been made and were included within the Management Letter accompanying the audit report.

## **6. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS (Motion)**

### **6.1 Approval of the Measure Q Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee Board of Directors and Adoption of a Revised Calendar Year Aligned with the FEC Fiscal Calendar**

The Board will consider approval of the Board of Directors for the Measure Q Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee and adoption of a revised calendar year to align with the FEC fiscal calendar year.

Committee Chair Steve Rice has asked the board to change the terms of service in the bi- Laws to change the end of term to June to align with the fiscal year.

Vice Chair Michael Seaman moved to approve the reappointment of committee members and adopt the proposed bylaw amendment. Director Chris Fischer seconded the motion.

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0-1-0 (Ayes, Noes, Absent, Abstain).

### **6.2 Approve the Friends of FEC Board of Directors Candidates**

The Board will consider approving the proposed candidates for the Friends of FEC Board of Directors.

During discussion, Vice Chair Michael Seaman expressed a desire for future consideration of limiting Board Members and District staff from serving as candidates for the Friends of FEC Board in order to maintain organizational independence.

Director Chris Fisher made the motion to approve the proposed candidates of Friends of FEC and Chair Teresa Higgins seconded the motion.

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0-1-0 (Ayes, Noes, Absent, Abstain).

### **6.3 Approve A Bridge Repair or Bridge Replacement for the Cottage Park Bridge And Authorize the General Manager to Execute a Contract with Westcon Construction Company**

The Board will consider approval of the Cottage Park Bridge Replacement Project due to structural damage caused by tree impacts and in accordance with its inclusion as an approved Measure Q project.

Public Comment: District Resident Steve Rice would like to inquire if we will get a warranty.

Vice Chair Michael Seaman made the motion to approve option 2 and Director Chris Fisher seconded the motion.

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0-1-0 (Ayes, Noes, Absent, Abstain).

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## **7. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS (No Action Required)**

7.1 Upcoming FEC Summer Special Events – Gala in the Park, Movies in the Park (2)

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## **8. CORRESPONDENCE / ANNOUNCEMENTS**

8.1 Letter from US Department of Housing and Urban Development congratulating FEC on its 25-26FY Award sponsored by Congressman Ami Bera for \$850,000

8.2 Certificate of Appreciation from Sacramento County Unified School District

8.3 Certificate from Supervisor Rich Desmond on the Grand Opening of Safe Play Park

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## **9. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Personnel and Finance – Director Lavallee  
Met and discussed April number, and personnel.

Programs, Facilities, and Projects – Director Seaman  
Didn't Meet.

Community Relations – Director Stricklin  
Didn't Meet.

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## **10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS INITIATED BY DIRECTORS**

Director Chris Fischer – Director Fischer commended District staff for their efforts in organizing the District's 70th Anniversary celebration and the successful completion of the Safe Play Park project. He thanked community members for their participation and encouraged continued public engagement by attending meetings and sharing ideas for future programs, activities, and events. Director Fischer also noted that he would be attending the upcoming California Association of Recreation and Park Districts (CARPD) Conference.

Chair Teresa Higgins – Chair Higgins reported attending the Safe Play Park Opening Ceremony and shared information regarding the Del Paso Country Club fireworks display scheduled for July 3, which can be viewed from Seely Park. She requested that park safety measures and options for Ranger and security services be included as a future agenda item. Chair Higgins also noted that she would be attending the upcoming CARPD Conference.

Vice Chair Michael Seaman – Vice Chair Seaman thanked District staff for their work on both the 70th Anniversary Concert in the Park and the Safe Play Park project. He also reported attending a recent CARPD meeting.

Director Laura Lavallee– No Comment. Absent

Director Kathleen Stricklin – Director Stricklin requested a future discussion regarding potential upgrades and improvements to District community centers.

## **11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS INITIATED BY THE GENERAL MANAGER**

General Manager Emily Ballus expressed appreciation to Ryan Harder for his extensive efforts and contributions toward the completion of the Safe Play Park project.

The General Manager also shared preliminary information regarding discussions surrounding the potential reallocation of certain Central Valley property tax revenues related to the High-Speed Rail project, noting that no official action or confirmation has been received at this time.

Additionally, the General Manager provided an overview of the District's current park security measures, including coordination with the Sacramento County Sheriff's Office, contracted security personnel who secure park gates during evening hours, and weekend patrol services provided by Trident Security.

## **ADJOURNED TO CLOSED SESSION AT 7:49PM**

Returned to Regular Session at 8:26pm

## **12. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, Chair Teresa Higgins adjourned the meeting at 8:26pm

Respectfully submitted by: Mike Chahal, Director of Finance and Administration / Clerk of the Board.

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

Teresa Higgins, Chair

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Kathleen Stricklin, Secretary