

MINUTES

**Kern County Parks and Recreation Commission
County Administrative Center - 1115 Truxtun Avenue, 1st Floor
Board of Supervisors Chambers
Bakersfield, CA 93301**

Regular Meeting

Wednesday, July 16, 2025

6:30 P.M.

The Kern County Parks and Recreation Commission meeting was held on Wednesday, July 16, 2025. Commissioner Abler presided and called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Commissioner(s): Ryan Abler, District I; Carol Lair, District III; and Lorena Cervantes, District IV

Absent: Commissioner(s): William Chapman, District II; and Ucedrah Osby, District V

Staff: Brian Van Wyk, Deputy County Counsel; Isaac Preston, Deputy Chief General Services Officer

Others: There were 10 others present

Note: Ab, Ch, La, Ce, and Os are abbreviations for Commissioners Abler, Chapman, Lair, Cervantes, and Osby. As an example, Ab-La denotes Commissioner Abler made a motion and Commissioner Lair seconded the motion

SALUTE TO THE FLAG: LEAD BY COMMISSIONER ABLER

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS, COMMENTS AND REQUESTS

- I. **CARL PARK** – WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO DISCUSS A PROJECT HE WOULD LIKE TO PROPOSE. A SOLAR OBSERVATION PLACE INCLUDING A PEDESTAL, PINNACLE AND BENCHES. SEEKING GENERAL SERVICES ASSISTANCE TO FACILITATE. DEPUTY CHIEF ISAAC PRESTON IS IN CONTACT
- II. **ELIZABETH CHAVEZ**– WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO BRING PHOTOGRAPHS AND CONCERNS REGARDING WILDLIFE FATALITIES DUE TO VEHICULAR COLLISIONS, COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN ADOPT-A-PARK AND ADVOCACY. RECOGNIZED PARK STAFF FOR THEIR EFFICIENCY AND RESPONSIVENESS.
- III. **LOUIS GILLIAM** – WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO REQUEST AN UPDATED ON THE OPENING DATE OF FORD CITY PARK FOR PLANNING OF CELEBRATION CEREMONY
- IV. **ABIGAIL RODELA** – WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO REQUEST SUPPORT IN APPLYING FOR QUARTER THREE GRANTS

- V. **DANIEL RODELA** – WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO REQUEST SUPPORT IN PRESERVING EXISTING FUNDING FOR PARKS, WHILE EXPLORING NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARK FUNDING IN RURAL COMMUNITIES THROUGHOUT KERN COUNTY
- VI. **RICH O'NEIL** – WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION REPRESENTING THE KERN RIVER PARKWAY FOUNDATION TO EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR THE PROJECT PROPOSED BY COMMUNITY MEMBER, CARL PARK FOR THE SOLAR OBSERVATION PLACE AND EXPRESS CONCERN FOR RECKLESS DRIVING IN HART PARK
- VII.

CONSENT AGENDA

- I. Approval of Minutes: Regular meeting on April 16, 2025; **Ab:Ce TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES AS WRITTEN; MOTION CARRIED. 3 AYES; 2 ABSENT-CHAPMAN; OSBY**
- II. Miscellaneous Correspondence: Written Correspondence dated April 13, 2025, submitted by Carol Lair; Written Correspondence dated April 13, 2025, submitted by Carol Lair; Written Correspondence dated June 12, 2025, submitted by Carol Lair; Written Correspondence dated July 6, 2025, submitted by Carol Lair; **Ab:Ce TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES AS WRITTEN; MOTION CARRIED. 3 AYES; 2 ABSENT- CHAPMAN; OSBY**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

General Services – Status Update

- I. **ADOPT-A-PARK** – ISAAC PRESTON, DEPUTY CHIEF GENERAL SERVICES OFFICER, WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO PROVIDE UPDATE ON THE KERN COUNTY ADOPT-A-PARK PROGRAM. REXLAND ACRES PARK, HART PARK, BELLE TERRACE PARK, HERITAGE PARK, FORD CITY PARK AND LAKE MING ARE CURRENT ADOPTED PARKS. STAFF IS CURRENTLY ENGAGED IN ONGOING COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND ADVOCACY EFFORTS
- II. **FRASIER MOUNTAIN PARK** - ISAAC PRESTON, DEPUTY CHIEF GENERAL SERVICES OFFICER, WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO PROVIDE UPDATE ON THE GRAND REOPENING AND RENOVATIONS
- IV. **ROSAMOND PARK** - ISAAC PRESTON, DEPUTY CHIEF GENERAL SERVICES OFFICER, WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO PROVIDE UPDATE ON THE SUCCESS OF THE ROSEMOND POOL SEASON

- V. **VIRGINA PARK:** ISAAC PRESTON, DEPUTY CHIEF GENERAL SERVICES OFFICER, WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO PROVIDE UPDATE ON UPCOMING RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 1, 2025
- VI. **OHV PARK:** ISAAC PRESTON, DEPUTY CHIEF GENERAL SERVICES OFFICER, WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO STATE THAT THERE IS NO FORMAL UPDATE AT THIS TIME. PRELIMINARY, VERBAL DISCUSSIONS ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES ARE ONGOING, WITH ONE SITE IDENTIFIED AS APN #051-330-10, LOCATED OFF HIGHWAY 65 AND NOT VISIBLE FROM THE ROAD
- VII. **FORD CITY PARK:** ISAAC PRESTON, DEPUTY CHIEF GENERAL SERVICES OFFICER, WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO STATE THAT THE PROJECT COMPLETION DATE IS NEAR AND FAITH IN THE VALLEY WILL BE CONTACTED WITH DETAILS AS THEY BECOME AVAILABLE
- VIII. **VALLEY ACRES PARK:** ISAAC PRESTON, DEPUTY CHIEF GENERAL SERVICES OFFICER, WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO STATE THAT A REQUEST FOR BID HAS BEEN SET OUT TO RENEW AND RESURFACE THE BASKETBALL COURT

NEW, UNFINISHED, AND OTHER BUSINESS

- I. Upcoming Commission meeting locations as per code §2.50.060(D); **THE COMMISSION UNANIMOUSLY DECIDED TO HOLD THE AUGUST 20, 2025, MEETING AT THE KERN COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER AT 1115 TRUXTUN AVE. 1ST FLOOR, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301**

COMMISSION MEMBER PRESENTATIONS OR ANNOUNCEMENTS

- I. COMMISSIONER LAIR PROVIDED INFORMATION REGARDING SICK, INJURED AND EMACIATED BOBCATS AND BOBCAT KITTENS AND STATED THAT THE MONOFILAMENT RECYCLING BINS ARE CURRENTLY IN USE

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourn at 7:30 P.M. to the next regular meeting, scheduled for August 20, 2025, at 6:30 P.M., at the Board of Supervisors Chambers, 1115 Truxtun Ave. 1st Floor, Bakersfield, CA. 93301 unless otherwise indicated, changed, and/or canceled by the Commission.