

Kern County Parks and Recreation Commission

Kern County Administrative Building
General Services
3rd Floor Multipurpose Room
1115 Truxtun Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Wednesday, April 26, 2017
6:30 P.M.

MINUTES

A meeting of the Kern County Parks and Recreation Commission was held on Wednesday, April 26, 2017. Chairman Faull presided.

Present: Bob Jamison, District I; Mark Faull, District II (Chairman); Kathleen Arnold-Chambers, District III; Gregory McGiffney, District IV (Vice-Chairman); Manuel Barerra, District V.

Staff: Bret Haney, Division Chief, Kern County General Services Department;
Suzanne Boyd, Kern County Parks and Recreation Division

Others: There were 12 other people present

NOTE: Fa, Ja, Mc, Ba, Ar are abbreviations for Commissioners Faull, Jamison, Faull, Park, McGiffney, Barerra, and Arnold-Chambers. As an example, Fa-Ja denotes Commissioner Faull made a motion and Commissioner Jamison seconded the motion.

Meeting called to order at 6:42 p.m. Flag Salute: Chairman Faull

Chairman Faull and the other Commissioners welcomed Kathleen Arnold-Chambers as the newest Commissioner for District III. She came to the Parks and Recreation Commission meetings as a member of the audience and now we are pleased to welcome her as a Commissioner. Congratulations on her appointment.

Kathleen thanked everyone and said as a past audience member she saw the importance of this Commission and she is now very pleased to be a part of that.

Suzanne Boyd announced that the Parks department website has been redesigned and the agenda and minutes have been added going back to 2015. We will continue uploading past agendas and minutes as time permits.

1. Approval of the Minutes of February 22, 2017

The minutes from February 22, 2017 needs a minor correction on page 1, 2nd paragraph, Bob Jamison is listed as the Vice-Chairman; Gregory McGiffney is the new Vice-Chairman.

Ja-Ar, motion to approve the amended minutes from February 22, 2017. All ayes, motion carried.

2. Public Presentations

Chris Horgan, Stewards of the Sequoia, suggested that it has become clear over the past couple of years that there really is not enough funding for the work that is needed on the ground, between enforcement and trail maintenance. He suggested that a possibility of shifting the split from 60/40, with the set aside being 60% for the future OHV park to 60% for actual maintenance and 40% to the OHV park. He is making this suggestion because he has seen firsthand how hard Dick Taylor has worked over the past 5 years to create the off highway vehicle park here in Bakersfield, with after all those years of hard work and planning and everything in place, it was shot down. Now it seems unlikely that anyone else is going to take that up to do that amount of work again. Now we have park possibilities in Taft and in Tehachapi. We do already have money in the fund for a future OHV park but maybe that split can be changed. It can still be set ahead but perhaps allow more of that money which could be used for work that is needed now.

Commissioner Faull mentioned that the balance was set by the Board of Supervisors so it is not something that the Commission has direct purview over but it is something that we could make a future recommendation about.

Bret Haney stated that there is a meeting that will be held next week in General Services with the Planning department and others about the ramifications of a future OHV park in Kern County. Once that meeting has been held and we have a little bit more information, then this can potentially be discussed after that.

Dave Walker, audience member, mentioned that he is the one to step into Dick Taylor's shoes, so to speak, they have used some of that money toward matching funds for a rigorous State proposal to make some of those things happen. Although there is still a lot in the works.

He welcomed Commissioner Arnold-Chambers and said he was happy to meet Bret Haney and Commissioner Barrera also.

Dave reported on State Bill SB-249, there was a piece of legislation put forth that was basically gutting the program that we are speaking of right now by allowing the funds to be borrowed by environmental groups and others who are seeking to shut down the whole OHV park system in California. But due to a large amount of phone calls, it went to committee and it was basically thrown back because there was no input from the OHV side. It was basically just a big money grab and they were stopped in their tracks. It doesn't mean it won't happen again or won't continue. Dave's contact at the State level said that they have been forced into negotiation with OHV groups that are very active and are good at what they do. The piece of legislation that they tried to put through is being rewritten and looks completely different than what they originally tried to get done. So it is a really good thing that everyone spoke up and did what they did. Dave thanked everyone who participated or may have been a part of that. Because of the push back and negotiation it is time to review this program or move it forward, it looks like it is going to go another 5 years as written or really close to it. This is from sources within the State, but is not what always happens at State Legislature, unfortunately. If you are not involved but would like to be involved, please pick up the phone, know who these people are. Senator Flores' office has been great with feedback. We have made phone calls to all of the Assembly members that we know. Kern County is the largest per capita in OHV activity and green sticker money. That is why we are sitting here with the in-lieu money that we have because people are buying and they enjoy their OHV activities. Chris Horgan, with the

Stewards of Sequoia, and the Kern County Sheriff's Office have been really great in being involved in trying to making sure that things don't change and we can continue moving forward in this.

Commissioner Faull commented that he believes that reason this legislation is coming about at this time is because the existing OHV legislation is sunseting. This happens periodically, then a new bill is put forward.

Dave mentioned that the State is trying to realign and live within its budgets by doing what they know how to but unless we speak up and have our voices heard then we will get mowed over, plain and simple. We have to stay on top of this to keep safe legal OHV activity where it belongs and not where it doesn't belong to cause more law enforcement and environmental issues. If we don't stay on top of it, it will get away from us in a hurry.

Commissioner Faull thanked Dave for providing the update.

3. Correspondence

a. Letter from Richelle Reyes re: Hart Park. RECEIVE AND FILE.

In a letter from Richelle Reyes she sent the Commissioners information about Yorba Park in Orange County as a possible model to look at when we are considering the issues at Hart Park.

Commissioner Faull will try to visit Yorba Park soon to see the facility in person.

Ja-Ba, motion to receive and file. All ayes, motion carried.

There was a second e-mail received after the agenda was posted, from the ORV Watch of Kern County and Monsonika Piecuch from that group is here tonight. All of the Commissioners have had the opportunity to read that e-mail prior to tonight's meeting.

4. New Business

The primary action we will be looking at tonight is the 2017 allotment of OHV funds that we have received from the State.

There are some complexities involving the funds. There is an overarching State wide program for which legislation for renewal is now trying to make its way through the assembly and senate. It will end up shaping the program going forward. The past legislation dictates what is occurring now and there are state wide funds that are available for entities and organizations meeting the criteria to make an application for. Many of the groups that apply with us also apply with the State as well to supplement the goals they are trying to accomplish. But specifically the State provides in-lieu OHV funds to the counties and our County is one who has decided on a process of handling this by a determination through the Board of Supervisors that these funds would be split. 60% of our funds for each year go into a fund for a new OHV park and 40% comes through the Parks & Recreation Commission for the submissions for funding requests from various organizations. The Commission doesn't approve the funds, we look at what is being presented and deliberate the amount of funds requested vs. the amount of funds available. In some years the funds requested vastly exceeds the amount of funds

available. The Commission then makes a recommendation to the BOS which in turn makes a final determination on which group(s) will receive the funds. They do rely on our review to help in making the determination.

On this agenda there are three (3) different groups that have made requests that total \$146,000, of which we have \$53,800 available.

- a. Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) funding request – Kern County Raceway Park. DISCUSS, RECEIVE PUBLIC INPUT AND MAKE RECOMMENDATION.

The Kern County Raceway is the first group listed that requested funds. There have been some late developments on this group. Bret Haney mentioned that with the merger between the Parks department and General Services and the retirement of key staff, who handled the OHV funding process in the past, an incorrect assumption was made that all funding requests were filtered through the Commission. But in fact, the organizations that are eligible for funds must either be a non-profit organization or a public agency. Kern County Raceway Park, who does great things in our County, unfortunately does not qualify for either status and therefore does not meet the criteria for the funding request. In the future, we will know how to best proceed for these types of requests. Bret notified the group of this finding before tonight's Commission meeting.

Commissioner Faull mentioned that we do not know what the OHV in-lieu State funds may look like in the future because legislation is up for renewal right now and we are not sure of the outcome. State Parks are currently being rearranged in a big way. There is debate whether or not the State OHV Commission will continue to exist. There is a separate Off Highway Vehicle division that exists in State Parks and we don't know exactly what that will end up looking like either. There are many big things happening at the State level.

There are larger challenges now for our remaining groups who are requesting funds. They are dealing with major landscape changes and other problems due to the recent droughts, fires, and most recent heavy rains in our County.

- b. OHV funding request – Kern County Sheriff's Office. DISCUSS, RECEIVE PUBLIC INPUT AND MAKE RECOMMENDATION.

Sgt. Wheeler from the Kern County Sheriff's Office presented the funding request for their group. He reported that the funds from last year were used to purchase a Razor off road vehicle. They are focused on rebuilding their fleet. They promised they would donate two (2) quads to the Park Rangers, which they just did recently, along with helmets. They had a great time training the rangers on the quads. Hopefully this will help the rangers, especially in the Hart Park area and close to the river. They originally asked for \$46,000 to fund the replacement of two (2) motorcycles. But they are willing to offer an even split of the funds with the Stewards of the Sequoia. We have appreciated the support of the Commission over the years. We want to make sure that the public has a safe and legal place to enjoy their OHV activities. We have greatly increased our enforcement. People come from all over to enjoy the OHV opportunities in Kern County. According to the Bureau of Land Management statistics over 900,000 people came to visit Kern County for OHV activities last year. That is a real boon to the local economy.

Our unit is fully grant funded, everyone that works on the OHV team works after their regular

40 hour work week. We ask officers for volunteers to work on the weekends for OHV enforcement. There are hundreds of hours dedicated to this effort. We have spent approximately \$60,000 on the additional hours for the officers this past year. We used monies from our State grant to assist in this funding. The funds from this Commission have been used entirely for equipment. We also have our volunteer services that save us thousands of dollars each year to assist with low impact activities.

Commissioner Faull thanked the Sheriff's Office for their service to the County and the OHV enforcement activities. They handle medical emergencies and search and rescue as well. We like to see how the money is spent and that it is spent wisely. We would like to see more statistics in the future. If we could gain more compliance on trespassing and misbehavior activities, that would be great. We also have to answer the community response to these issues.

Commissioner Jamison mentioned that there may be a misunderstanding of the Commission's role in awarding OHV funds; we don't have the obligation of dictating how those funds are used. The requesting organizations know how to best use their funds.

Commissioner Faull sees the role of the process a little differently, not to award just a blanket amount to an entity and saying to do with it what you will, but to see a tangible outcome and not to micromanage afterward.

Commissioner Jamison mentioned that in the past, when a group applied, part of the application asked what the money would be used for and that was taken into consideration by Parks personnel, to make sure the group qualified for the grant. This helps the Commission go through the requests much faster.

Commissioners Faull and Arnold-Chambers suggested that perhaps the BOS would want the Commission to delve deeper into the requests in the future.

Commissioner Barrera stated that a Commissioner role is as a member of the community and that we can disagree with each other. This role is given in good faith and our decision is a discussion of values toward whatever the process may be and this dictates the conversation. He has no interest in micromanaging the groups. In the final analysis the report would state what the funding did accomplish.

Bret said there is a final report to be turned in. When it is taken to the BOS, the Board letter very clearly spells out what the funds will be used for.

Commissioner Faull asked if anyone had comments at this particular time. Mosonika Piecuch, Executive Director of ORV Watch, said she would like to make a comment. Commissioner Faull reiterated to her that the Commission had looked in depth to the information she had presented to them. The Commission does not pursue investigations nor do we recommend them, they are handled elsewhere.

Mosonika said since 2008 our group has been actively supporting ORVET because they have played a crucial role in balancing recreation with law enforcement and education. But that has changed since Sgt. Williams and Sgt. Wheeler have taken over. That has changed into a biased political entity in favor of all off roading without balancing what they say they are supposed to be doing in their grant.

Commissioner Faull reminded Mosonika that we need to keep this broader and not focus on individuals, but more on the appropriateness of what she feels.

Commissioner Barrera reminded the Commission that this is public comment and she can say whatever she would like but that it needs to be brief and concise and then we can move on with the agenda.

Monsonika commented that during the past three (3) years ORVET (Off Road Vehicle Enforcement Team) has spent approximately \$60,000 to investigate private citizens who complained about off road abuse and for a sophomoric study they did to prove that there is no off road abuse problem in Kern County. There is no mention of targeting private citizens or this study to show that there is no real off road problem. But in the Tehachapi mountains there is nothing like that mentioned in their grant application. Why? Because they are demonstrating to the public that there is nothing to see here, that there is no problem. But they put their hands out to ask for money for toys and equipment. In these grants and how they are used, I know you don't want to micromanage, but there is basically no auditing of the grants. Clearly if they are using a large part of the money to investigate private citizens legitimate complaints about off road vehicles issues, grant money, tax payer dollars, there is something fundamentally and deeply wrong with that and I find it extremely disturbing. We oppose grant money being given to the Kern County Sheriff's Office, although I know it will be given, but I would like to go on record explaining why they are in opposition.

The Commissioners thanked Mosonika for her comments.

Dave Walker stated that KCSO has always done a good job as far as he is concerned and they try to be fair, more so than other organizations that he has dealt with in the past. He knows they need help and that they struggle with volunteers. His company runs the track in Porterville. We try to work hard to get people to go where they should go and do what they should do. He said signage is good but there is newer technology with GPS systems that are effective. A lot of the new off road vehicles come stock with a GPS chip. The chip can be programmed to know where they are riding. He would encourage that this be looked into further. He believes a lot of the things get misperceived. It can get pretty rough out there. He believes Chris Horgan and the Stewards of the Sequoia do a great job and deserve another 100 miles of trails. If anyone is interested in getting involved, please volunteer. The auditing/reporting, I think, is kind of standard. If there are some big red flags we need to look at that. It is tough to do what we do and it takes tons of paperwork and accountability. I don't think it needs to be the main point of everything we are doing as long as everyone is doing their job and doing right by the funds that they receive.

Chris Horgan commented that he knows Monsonika and her group are extremely passionate and she has been involved in the ORV Watch for quite some time. It was my understanding that the complaints of her group asking for a review of the trail systems that got KCSO out there or tasked to do a study on this. Now that the study has determined that some of the things that people had said were untrue and that there isn't the problem that ORV Watch was claiming, it is kind of like sour grapes. It is unfortunate to hear her bad mouthing KCSO when what they did was what their group had asked them for. I just wanted to bring that to the table to get a more complete picture.

Mosonika replied that what Chris said was untrue. The study that KCSO had done is like the

fox guarding the henhouse and that a true study would have been done by an unbiased third party to show that there is a problem. It is not done by the people who are benefitting by saying that there is no problem and are trying to discredit our group. That is the point. But I understand what you are saying.

Commissioner Faull commented that this is part of the crux of this issue and the problem that is before the Commission. On his tenure of sitting on this Commission, this started out as a legacy of ORV Watch supporting a variety of projects that were going on including KCSO and the Stewards of Sequoia. But he sees it as unfortunate that there has been a shift in that dynamic over time. We have now reached an unenviable situation today. You may recall a couple of years ago when some of these situations were discussed at prior Commission meetings that we encouraged everyone to try to work toward a common ground and to mend their fences. He understands that people can take different viewpoints of the study but we really can't get into all of details here other than letting people express personal viewpoints about the study. But he believes there is a view in the middle that can see both sides of this and to encourage coming together. You have volunteers that are landowners in a particular area that know their land well and try to get those groups working more closely with KCSO. If the Sheriff's department can meet them halfway and work with them, if it is photographic evidence then they can go out into the field to investigate and try to agree with one another, if this is really what is going on. Ask if this is really on the Pacific Crest trail or not? Rather than taking separate camps. He is very aware of how public this has all become. It has involved the media and a Statewide Commission hearing. This is sad and he would like everyone to work more appropriately to everyone deescalating rather than escalating conflict. He doesn't expect everyone to agree with that perspective. He does believe there is room for people to come together and he is not sure of the value of what is going on now.

c. OHV funding request – Stewards of the Sequoia. DISCUSS, RECEIVE PUBLIC INPUT AND MAKE RECOMMENDATION.

Chris Horgan gave his presentation for the Stewards of Sequoia funding request. The Stewards of Sequoia was formed in 2004 and quickly become the largest on the ground volunteer organization for Sequoia National Forest and the Bureau of Land Management lands. We were solely volunteer and member funded until 2013 when we had our first grant from the Kern County Parks & Recreation Commission. The reason we sought that grant was because in 2008 Piute fire, which caused a huge increase in required maintenance, that we needed some assistance.

We are extremely efficient, we were at that time doing 100 miles of trail maintenance per year and with the help of the Kern County grant we doubled that to 200 miles and sometimes we have even accomplished 300 miles of trail maintenance with some additional funding from the green sticker State program. The work that we do allows people to utilize the trails. We clear downed trees that are blocking the trails. That also stops people from going around the trees which stops what we call "resource damage", because there could be a cultural site or vegetation off of the trail, so it is preferable to keep people on the designated trails.

The trails we maintain are known as multiple use trails which means that they are open to hiking, horseback riding, mountain bikes and dirt bikes. We focus on single track trails. While we support quad trails and Jeep trails, the majority of the work we do is on single track.

We also install water bars, which produces water running down a trail. If a trail has just been

put in historical, which most of the trails are from mining activities and such, they weren't laid out properly, so water will just go down the hill and causes a 2-3 foot trench which makes it an un-enjoyable riding experience and also causes resource damage by moving dirt downhill. So the water bars help prevent that. The proactive work we have done over the years has made amazing results. We can see some areas where there was no work done on the roads and there are 2-3 foot trenches and yet our single track trails are pristine.

We also do brushing. Mother Nature has a way of growing across the trail so people will either avoid the trail or leave the trail. So the brushing we do allows people to continue to use the proper trail. That is good for tourism and for locals to continue to use the trails.

We come to you now with a grant request because of the Cedar fire which burned 29,000 acres. As Commissioner Faull had mentioned landscape changes due to fire, but in this case it is even more extreme than with the Piute fire. Recently the National Forest Service informed us that they were going to close the trails in this area for one (1) year and we agreed, to let the land rest and for the ash to turn back into dirt. Now we understand that they are not willing to reopen those trails unless the standing dead trees are removed because they are a falling hazard to people. The Forest Service was able to clear the trees near the roads but they do not have the funding to do it near the trails.

The agency has informed us that now the majority of their work is provided by volunteers. This is a huge shift from the recent past as they used to rely on agency workers with some help from volunteers, instead of the other way around. It is fortunate that we have the Stewards in place to do this work. This is going to increase our workload tenfold. Dropping standing dead trees involves much more work and danger than cutting fallen trees on a trail. In addition, the Forest Service wants us to drop the tree sideways on the hill and the reason for that is to help prevent erosion during the rains. So it is a win-win situation, it will help the environment as well as the trail. But this takes the difficulty of the work up another notch. Yet if we don't do the work, the trails will remain closed. If the trails remain closed too long then at some point it becomes too onerous to reopen.

Chris appreciates the KCSO's offer to share the grant monies 50/50, but he pointed out that they are looking to purchase two (2) motorcycles for \$25,000 to replace some existing motorcycles. They still have those motorcycles. We may not have the trails if we do not get the work done. We can take \$10,000 off of our original \$50,000 request, which was going to be used to replace an aging motorcycle that requires a ton of work to keep running, but we are willing to forgo that this year and reduce our request to \$40,000 which would still leave KCSO \$13,800 to purchase one (1) new motorcycle. This would get us closer to the amount that we would need to do our work. We will still need to augment the funds with additional sticker funds from the State. If we only receive half of the grant money then we would only be able to maintain what we currently maintain and we would not be able to even touch the damage from the Cedar fire. We are working at about 25% of the agency cost, so we are extremely efficient. We have doubled our capacity with the help of the Commission's grants and now we can do that even more so.

Commissioner Faull thanked the groups who have come before them tonight to present their requests. They have worked with them before and it is a pleasure doing so and to understand the scope of the programs.

Commissioner Faull asked the Commission if there were any recommendations on the funding

for the two groups.

Commissioner Barrera suggested that \$30,800 go to the Stewards of Sequoia and \$23,000 go to the Kern County Sheriff's Office.

Commissioner Arnold-Chambers suggested that an additional \$5,000 more be awarded to the Stewards of the Sequoia

.Commissioner Jamison suggested that the amount be split. He made a motion for \$32,800 to the Stewards and \$21,000 to KCSO. However, his motion was not seconded by any other Commissioner.

Commissioner Faull asked if the Commissioners would like to discuss it further or make a new motion.

Commissioner Barrera made a motion for his original stated amount, \$30,800 for the Stewards and \$23,000 to KCSO. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jamison. All ayes, motion carried.

d. Stewards of the Sequoia Grant Extension Request. DISCUSS,
RECEIVE INPUT AND MAKE RECOMMENDATION.

Commissioner Faull asked for Chris Horgan to refresh the memory of the Commission regarding the Stewards of the Sequoia Grant Extension Request.

Chris stated that this is regarding the 2014 grant funding request that has been delayed by the Bureau of Land Management planning for their 1.2 million acres of land that goes all the way from the central coast up to the Lake Isabella area in different parcels. It was an extremely arduous project. They did complete the project but now they are moving into the specific phase of Keyesville, apparently there are quite a few archeological concerns which may take even longer. Because of these delays we are hoping to get this done before the end of next year. We are planning to build a new trail, which is almost unheard of in California. It is in Keyesville which is the most popular recreational area in this district. It is extremely important to Lake Isabella, it is single track and would connect through to take people off of the County road so you are reducing the safety hazard of people on horses, bicycles, motorcycles, etc. coming onto the road with other street traffic. You would enhance the recreational opportunities because people are always looking for single track trails. The Keyesville Mountain Race, which has been going on for 27 years, would take advantage of this new trail. The Southern California Mountain Race, which has been going on for about 20 years, would also take advantage of it. It is unfortunate that it has taken so much time to go through the process but we are hopeful that it will be completed by next year.

Commissioner Faull stated that the Commission liked the project when it first came before us and we approved the funding. We realize that the Stewards of the Sequoia are not at fault for the delay. We have granted one extension, but they are seeking another extension due to the delays of the Bureau of Land Management.

A motion was made that the extension be granted one year past the current expiration date. Ja-Ar, all ayes, motion carried.

5. Old Business

None

6. Department Staff Report

Bret Haney reported that the spray parks will open on May 1st.

The department budget was submitted this past week. Most departments took a 3.5% step down. So far there are a lot of vacant positions in General Services including Parks. We are doing our best to fund positions as critical, if we can justify them. Our Park Ranger force is low, we are hoping to fund a couple of additional positions.

The CAO is very interested in Parks, what that means for our future budget we do not know at this point.

Bob Lerude in the past talked about privatization efforts. There was a three (3) phase approach. Phases 2 and 3 were approved. Phase 1 had a little longer lead time to it. Phase 1 is in northern Kern County. We are moving forward with finalizing that phase, which will result in savings to the County through privatizing building landscaping and maintenance.

We are anticipating approximately 3 public meetings this summer regarding Hart Park. The CAO has engaged some public faces to help lead that effort and discussion, a facilitator between the County and the public. It will be publicized to the public through the media. We will make sure that the Commission is aware of those meeting dates and times.

Easter time at Hart Park, trash was once again a big issue, but it was better than we anticipated. The efforts by the Park Rangers, Probation Dept., and the other law enforcement help we had there was instrumental in curbing people to at least move their trash to the trash receptacles. We will continue making the effort to make sure that the issue is taken care of by next year.

The potential for the transfer of Delano Memorial Park to the City of Delano. The City Council has not yet voted on that so we are still waiting for the final determination. Once we know more about that we will notify you. This can be a huge win for the County to get those maintenance costs transferred to the City of Delano.

Commissioner Barrera asked if there were volunteer groups at Hart Park on Easter weekend. Bret said there were volunteers out there helping. One group in particular called Just Johnsons who work in the park every day (Monday-Friday) for two shifts, morning and afternoon. Commissioner Barrera asked if our volunteer form has been posted on the website. Bret said we will check into doing that. Commissioner Barrera would like to recognize the various volunteer groups for their work by posting something on the website.

Lake Woollomes has reopened for boating after being closed for approximately two years due to the drought and low water levels. The park there has been closed for the past two weeks to get the parking lot repaved but it will reopen this weekend.

The Cooling Center season will start on May 15th this year, 2 weeks earlier than normal. The Public Utilities Commission has recommended that the centers provide a "shoulder season" in

case hot weather exceeds the thresholds during this time.

7. Commission Comments

Commissioner Arnold-Chambers commented that she is really impressed with the types of issues that the Commission deals with and that she is happy to now be a part of the Commission. Commissioner Faull welcomed her and said they are proud to have her as part of the Commission.

Commissioner Jamison said he is happy to hear that the work has been done at Lake Woollomes and that it is open now. He also thanked everyone for coming to the meeting tonight.

Commissioner Barrera thanked everyone who came to the meeting tonight and thanked the two groups who made their presentations for the OHV fund requests. He also thanked the staff for keeping the Commission informed on all the issues.

Commissioner Arnold-Chambers added that this is a whole new world in Parks now and we rely heavily on volunteers. We cannot miss the opportunity to recruit volunteers on our website and by any other means possible.

Commissioner Faull agreed that we should have the volunteer form on our website and also to have a special place on the website to recognize our volunteers. We could put pictures on the website also of some of the volunteers and of people having a good time at the recreation areas. Commissioner Barrera also agreed that this could lend itself to volunteers also being recognized by the Board of Supervisors.

Commissioner Faull thanked everyone for coming and thanked the presenters for the funding. He wishes we had more money to grant to the various groups. He reminded the Commissioners that they are required to do mandatory Ethics Training every 2 years.

8. Dates and Locations of Future Meetings for 2017:

The meeting time is at 6:30 p.m.

Future meeting dates and locations (*subject to change*):

May 24 – District 2, Rosamond – Hummel Hall
June 28 – District 4, Taft – Westside Recreation District
July 26 – Bakersfield
August 23 – District 5, Rexland Acres
September 27 – District 3, North of the River
October 25 – District 1, Shafter
November 29 – Bakersfield

9. Adjournment

Ba-Ar Motion to Adjourn. All ayes, motion carried.

Chairman Faull adjourned the meeting at 9:27 p.m.