

AGENDA

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

Regular Meeting
Wednesday, February 15, 2023
6:30 P.M.

All agenda items and supporting documentation are available for public review at the Kern County General Services Division, 1115 Truxtun Avenue, 3rd Floor, in Bakersfield, CA 93301 during regular business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, following posting of the agenda. Any supporting documentation that relates to an agenda item that is distributed after the agenda is posted and prior to the meeting will also be available at the same location.

Commissioners: Ryan Abler, District I;
William Chapman, District II;
Carol Lair, District III;
Lorena Cervantes, District IV; and
Ucedrah Osby, District V

Disclaimer: This agenda includes the proposed actions and activities with respect to each agenda item as of the date of posting. As such, it does not preclude the Commission from modifying the recommendations of staff or taking different actions than those proposed.

Salute to the Flag

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS, COMMENTS, AND REQUESTS

1. This portion of the agenda is reserved for persons wishing to address the Commission on any matter not on this agenda and over which the Commission has jurisdiction. No response is required from the Commission or staff, and no action can be taken on items not on the agenda; however, Commissioners may respond briefly to statements made or questions posed. Commissioners may ask a question for clarification, make a referral to staff for factual information, or request staff to report back to the Commission at a later meeting. **SPEAKERS ARE LIMITED TO TWO MINUTES. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME FOR THE RECORD.**
 - i. Public Comments and Requests

CONSENT AGENDA

2. All items on the consent agenda are considered to be routine and non-controversial by staff. Consent items will be considered first and may be approved by one motion if no member of the Commission or public wishes to comment or ask questions. If discussion is desired, the item will be removed from the consent agenda and will be considered in the listed sequence.
 - i. Approval of Minutes: Regular meeting on January 18, 2023; **APPROVE**
 - ii. Miscellaneous Correspondence; **RECEIVE AND FILE**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

3. General Services – This portion of the meeting is reserved for General Services staff to provide a report regarding new and ongoing projects, programs, and plans relating to Kern County Parks; **INFORMATIONAL**
4. Park Ranger – Status Update; **INFORMATIONAL**

AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

5. This portion of the meeting is reserved for the Ad Hoc Subcommittee appointed by the Commission for the purpose of supporting, identifying priorities and projects regarding the Parks Master Plan update to provide a report; **INFORMATIONAL**
6. This portion of the meeting is reserved for the Ad Hoc Subcommittee appointed by the Commission for the purpose of the establishment and naming of trails to provide a report; **INFORMATIONAL**

NEW, UNFINISHED, AND OTHER BUSINESS

7. Upcoming Commission meeting locations as per code §2.50.060(D); **DISCUSS POTENTIAL MEETING LOCATIONS IN EACH SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT AND SET SCHEDULE**

COMMISSION MEMBER PRESENTATIONS OR ANNOUNCEMENTS

8. On their own initiative, Commission members may make a brief announcement or a brief report on their own activities. Commissioners may request that an item be agendized at a future meeting, make a referral to staff for factual information, or request that staff report back to the Commission at a later meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

9. Adjourn to next regular meeting, scheduled for March 15, 2023, at 6:30 p.m., to be conducted at the County Administrative Center - 1115 Truxtun Avenue, 1st Floor, Board of Supervisors Chambers, Bakersfield, CA 93301, unless otherwise indicated, changed, and/or cancelled by the Commission.

Americans with Disabilities Act (Government Code Section 54953.2)

The Kern County Administrative Center is accessible to persons with disabilities. Disabled individuals who need assistance to attend or participate in a meeting of the Kern County Parks and Recreation Commission may request assistance at the Kern County Parks and Recreation Division, 1115 Truxtun Avenue, 3rd Floor, Bakersfield, or by calling (661) 868-7000. Every effort will be made to reasonably accommodate individuals with disabilities by making meeting material available in alternate formats. Requests should be made five (5) working days in advance whenever possible.

To obtain past [Agendas or Minutes](https://www.kerncounty.com/gsd/parks/), please visit our website at:
<https://www.kerncounty.com/gsd/parks/>



Kern County

Parks and Recreation Commission

Public Presentations, Comments and Requests



Kern County
Parks and Recreation Commission

Consent Agenda

MINUTES

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

Regular Meeting
Wednesday, January 18, 2023
6:30 p.m.

The Kern County Parks and Recreation Commission meeting was held on Wednesday, January 18, 2023. Commissioner Ryan Abler presided and called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

- Present:** Commissioner(s): Ryan Abler, District I; William Chapman, District II; Carol Lair, District III; Lorena Cervantes, District IV; and Ucedrah Osby, District V
- Staff:** Brian Van Wyk, Deputy County Counsel; Carl Brewer, Senior CAO Manager; and Matt Howard, General Services Manager
- Others:** There were ten (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 CHAPMAN

COMMISSION MEMBER REORGANIZATION

1. CH-CE TO APPOINT RYAN ABLER AS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE KERN COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION FOR THE 2023 CALENDAR YEAR. MOTION CARRIED. 5 AYES-0 OPPOSED.
2. OS-CE TO APPOINT CAROL LAIR AS THE CO-CHAIRMAN OF THE KERN COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION FOR THE 2023 CALENDAR YEAR. MOTION CARRIED. 5 AYES- 0 OPPOSED.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

3. This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the Commission on any matter not on this agenda and over which the Commission has jurisdiction. No response is required from the Commission or staff, and no action can be taken on items not on the agenda; however, Commissioners may respond briefly to statements made or questions posed. Commissioners may ask a question for clarification, make a referral to staff for factual information, or request staff to report back to the Commission at a later meeting.

IAN JORNEY WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO DISCUSS THE POSSIBILITY OF HAVING A BICYCLE PUMP TRACK BUILT IN THE COMMUNITY.

EDDY LAINE WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO DISCUSS DEGRADATION AND DECONSTRUCTION OF SECTIONS OF THE RIVER ALONG THE KERN RIVER PARKWAY DUE TO ENCAMPMENTS AND CLEANUP.

ROCKY BROWN WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO DISCUSS THE POSSIBILITY OF HAVING ADDITIONAL DISC GOLF COURSES BUILT IN THE COMMUNITY.

ROGELIO VALENCIA WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO REQUEST STAFF TO ATTEND A MEETING WITH LA CALONIA RESIDENTS REGARDING AN UPDATE ON THE LA CALONIA PROJECT.

CONSENT AGENDA

4. All items on the consent agenda are considered to be routine and non-controversial by staff. Consent items will be considered first and may be approved by one motion if no member of the Commission or public wishes to comment or ask questions. If discussion is desired, the item will be removed from the consent agenda and will be considered in the listed sequence.
 - I. Approval of Minutes: Regular meeting on August November 16, 2022. CH-LA TO APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 22, 2022, MEETING MINUTES AS WRITTEN. MOTION CARRIED. 5 AYES – 0 OPPOSED
 - II. Miscellaneous Correspondence: CH-AB TO RECEIVE AND FILE THE WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE DATED JANUARY 7, 2023, FROM CAROL LAIR REGARDING THE CAT STATISTICS AT HART MEMORIAL PARK FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2022.MOTION CARRIED. 5 AYES – 0 OPPOSED

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

5. General Services – Status Updates

CARL BREWER, SENIOR CAO MANAGER, WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO PROVIDE AN UPDATE REGARDING THE STATUS OF THE 2010 MASTER PLAN AND TO DISCUSS COUNTYWIDE WIDE PARKS PROJECTS THAT ARE CURRENTLY TAKING PLACE AND/OR PLANNED.

6. Park Ranger – Status Update – NO REPORT

AH HOC SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

7. NO REPORT FROM THE AD HOC REGARDING THE PARKS MASTER PLAN UPDATE. CONTINUED TO A FUTURE MEETING.

8. NO REPORT FROM THE AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE APPOINTMENT BY THE COMMISSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE ESTABLISHMENT AND NAMING OF TRAILS.

NEW, UNFINISHED, AND OTHER BUSINESS

9. KERN COUNTY OHV 2023 GRANT CYCLE APPLICATIONS; DISCUSS; REVIEW GRANT APPLICATION SUBMITTALS. SUBMIT GRANT AWARD RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS – STAFF PROVIDED THE COMMISSION WITH THE 2022-2023 OFF HIGHWAY VEHICLE (OHV) FUNDING REQUEST APPLICATIONS FROM THE STARLIGHT RANCH AND THE STEWARDS OF THE SEQUOIA. THE FOLLOWING APPLICANTS WERE HEARD: CHRIS HORGAN OF THE STEWARDS OF THE SEQUOIA; CH-AB TO MAKE A RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS THAT \$43,000.00 BE GRANTED TO STEWARDS OF THE SEQUOIA. MOTION CARRIED. 5 AYES, 0 OPPOSED.

10. Referral from Wildlife Resources Commission to combine quarterly meetings with regularly scheduled Parks and Recreation Commission meetings; DISCUSSION REGARDING THE WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION HOLDING THEIR QUARTERLY MEETINGS IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETINGS. CH-CE TO TABLE THE TOPIC UNTIL A MEMBER OF THE WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION CAN BE IN ATTENDANCE AT A FUTURE MEETING BEFORE MOVING FORWARD WITH A FINAL DECISION. MOTION CARRIED. 5 AYES, 0 OPPOSED.

11. Upcoming Commission meeting locations as per code §2.50.060(D); THE COMMISSION TO HOLD THE FEBRUARY MEETING AT THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER LOCATED AT 1115 TRUXTUN AVE, 1ST FLOOR, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CHAMBERS, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301. STAFF TO PROVIDE THE COMMISSION WITH A MORE DETAILED LIST OF POTENTIAL LOCATIONS FOR UPCOMING MEETINGS IN EACH DISTRICT.

COMMISSION MEMBER PRESENTATIONS OR ANNOUNCEMENTS

12. On their own initiative, Commission members may make a brief announcement or a brief report on their own activities. Commissioners may request that an item be agendaized at a future meeting, make a referral to staff for factual information, or request that staff report back to the Commission at a later meeting.
 - I. COMMISSIONER OSBY REQUESTED INFORMATION ON THE ADOPT-A-PARK PROGRAM.
 - II. COMMISSIONER CHAPMAN EXTENDED HIS GRATITUDE TO SENIOR CAO MANAGER, CARL BREWER FOR HIS LEADERSHIP OF THE PARKS DEPARTMENT.
 - III. COMMISSIONER ABLER EXPRESSED INTEREST IN THE POSSIBILITY OF HOSTING A SERIES OF MOUNTAIN BIKE RACES.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourn at 8:00 P.M. to the next regular meeting, scheduled for February 15, 2023 at 6:30 P.M., at the Kern County Administrative Center – 1115 Truxtun Ave., 1st Floor, Board of Supervisors Chambers, Bakersfield, CA 93301.

Yvette Zaragoza

Subject: RE: END OF THE YEAR REPORT FOR 2022

From: Carol Lair <carollair@yahoo.com>

Sent: Tuesday, January 24, 2023 7:16 AM

To: Ryan Alsop <alsopr@kerncounty.com>; Geoffrey Hill <hillg@kerncounty.com>; Carl Brewer <brewerc@kerncounty.com>; Matthew Howard <howardma@kerncounty.com>; Nicholas Cullen <cullenn@kerncounty.com>; Shane Denton <DentonS@kerncounty.com>; Jeff Flores <floresjeff@kerncounty.com>; Barbara Hays <barbarah@thecatpeople.org>

Subject: END OF THE YEAR REPORT FOR 2022

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links, open attachments, or provide information unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

END OF THE YEAR REPORT FOR

2022

Another year has come to an end and a busy year it was for The Cat People feeding and monitoring the Hart Park cats.

January and February started out slowly with only a few cats and kittens abandoned. This is typical for the colder winter months.

However, by March and April we started seeing the beginning of "kitten season".

During May through September an average of 16 cats per month were removed from the park.

In July we rescued an injured wild duck. She was fostered for a time by one of our park volunteers. As no wild animal rehabilitation facility was available in Kern County, one was found in Morro Bay. We drove Miss Daisy to the facility where she was treated and they found an adoptive home for her.

Then came the “October Explosion” of cats and kittens abandoned. During the month 34 cats were removed from the park. This is the highest number of cats for one month in the past 10 years. We were frantically picking up cats as fast as we could.

Also in October there was a mother cat and her 3 little kittens left at the park. The mother cat was killed by raccoons and this was witnessed by two park visitors who then rescued the kittens. They contacted us and we picked up the kittens and they were found to have ringworm. They were successfully treated.

Ringworm continues to be a persistent problem. At one time our park volunteers fostered 6 kittens being treated for ringworm. It is a 7 week course of treatment before they can be cleared for adoption. Treating these kittens was a big commitment of time and energy.

At the beginning of November a cat from the park tested positive for panleukopenia, also called feline distemper. This is a very contagious and deadly disease especially for kittens. KCAS had to be in quarantine for 14 days. This also happened once last year.

More cats were removed from the park this year than in the previous 2 years. The past two years there have been 135-136 cats removed but this year it was 154. We are not sure what accounted for the large number of cats abandoned. Some of the cats were older kittens. Perhaps unaltered cats had litters and the owners could find homes for some kittens but not all. So the left over kittens were abandoned at the park. People may have been moving and couldn't take their cats. Some people trap cats they don't like in the neighborhood and take them to the park. Perhaps an elderly family member dies and the family doesn't want the cat. We also assist members of the public in trying to find cats that are suspected of being abandoned at the park.

During this year we created a brochure (in English and Spanish) about Hart Park cats in an ongoing effort to educate the public about why cats are at the park, why they shouldn't be there, what The Cat People do, and how the public can help. We also did a presentation about the park cats at the new Nature Center and plan to do more this year.

The presence of raccoons at the park delights park visitors who enjoy seeing them. However, there are a large number of raccoons and they are so cute but they can be troublesome. We strongly advise against park visitors from trying to feed them by hand or pet them.

We are so very thankful for our partnership with Kern County Animal Services. We take in as many cats as we can to our sanctuary but without the resources of Animal Services many cats and kittens could not be available for adoption. We also take them sick or injured cats. Our heartfelt appreciation for all they do for us and the park cats!!

68 Cats taken to KCAS

17 Cats taken to our sanctuary

27 Cats were in foster care

29 Cats picked up by park visitors

12 Cats died/euthanized

1 Cat returned to owner

5 Cats TNR (Trapped Neutered Returned)

I want to highlight the number of dogs and other animals abandoned at the park. The following list is the ones we know about but there are undoubtedly others we were not aware of. The number of dogs abandoned is very alarming. Small dogs in particular are greatly at risk from predators. The Cat People's primary responsibility is to the park cats. However, we care about the other animals that are abandoned as well as the wildlife. We help whenever we can in rescuing, and participating in the rescue

of these unfortunate animals. This past year we helped with a number of dogs and were involved in the capture of the Monitor Lizard.

- 44 Dogs
- 3 Chickens
- 1 Guinea Pig
- 2 Guinea Hens
- 2 Bunnies
- 1 Monitor Lizard

TOTAL NUMBER OF CATS REMOVED FROM THE PARK: 154

POPULATION OF CATS AT THE PARK: 73

Carol Lair



Kern County
Parks and Recreation Commission

Department Staff
Report(s)



Kern County
Parks and Recreation Commission

New/Unfinished/
Other Business



Kern County
Parks and Recreation Commission

Commission Member Presentations or Announcements