



**Notice of Regular Meeting of the
Montrose Recreation District (MRD) Board of Directors
Thursday, January 25, 2024 at 11:30am
Montrose Flex Rec
1309-1311 Mayfly Drive
Montrose CO 81401**

I. Call to Order, Roll Call

Meeting called to order at 11:37am. All present with the exception of Director Howe. Director Howe arrives at 11:40am. Director King departs at 12:45pm.

**II. Open Forum: Call for Public Comment (limit of 3 minutes per person)
None.**

III. Staff Recognition:

- a. **Introductions:** There are no new staff members to introduce.
- b. **Anniversaries:** Cindy Marino, 15 years; John Wagner, 7 years; Jeremy Master, 5 years
Executive Director (ED) Mari presents accolades for each of the 3 FT staff members reaching the milestones.

IV. Boundaries, Mill Levy

- a. **Boundary, Service Plan questions**
- b. **Mill levy, tax revenue**

ED Steinbach introduces topics of reviewing MRD boundaries and mill levy certifications, and how an opportunity exists to create ballot language for May '25. President Files questions the need to wait to '25, and ED Steinbach states she is fairly firm in her understanding, as well as the need to clarify this with legal counsel.

ED Steinbach states the existing boundaries of the Montrose Recreation District. Director Sharrow expresses her desire to have a much better map than was presented in the meeting packet. A map can be produced using the existing GIS portal to include/exclude layers as desired by the BOD. ED reviews the exploration to include other areas or towns. Olathe has not expressed interest to be included in the District. Director Howe explains her awareness that Olathe is closer to Delta than the CRC. President Files states her opinion that there is no push to include Olathe or pull from Olathe, and that the District should not be considering its inclusion at this time. Director Weisner asks for further information to support that opinion. Files states that Olathe has historically rejected additional taxation and that the likelihood they would vote to be taxed for services already available to them is very low. ED states that any area has the opportunity to petition for inclusion if so desired. Director Howe states that it would be worth starting and continuing a conversation that includes key stakeholders in prospective new service areas. ED discusses the alternative to include the topic of inclusion during community engagement exercises that will be part of projects this year and in the near future.

ED also states that the Town of Ridgway has approached MRD directly to potentially provide services there. The Home Trust of Ouray County may be purchasing a parcel that has a recreation component to provide services to the community, and their possible need to seek a service provider to accomplish that successfully. A possibility exists for MRD to provide those services either by including the Town of Ridgway or by entering into a specific service agreement with the Home Trust. The State of Colorado allows Special Districts to provide services outside of their boundaries with a service agreement in place. President Files briefly goes through a few scenarios to initiate further thought and discussion as the District explores the matter. Director Maddy states her preference to limit the District from adding

infrastructure. Upon discussion from the Directors, ED summarizes that the Board is interested to gather and consider further information, and that MRD can support the information gathering efforts without the District incurring expenses. ED states that the Service Plan filed with SDA would need to be updated with any significant changes.

ED Steinbach introduces that the conversations resulting from the Unify Montrose project has brought up the possibility to create an Early Childhood Care District. MRD is positioned legally to absorb this type of District if it decides to do so, and that it may be an attractive option to get an impactful movement off the ground to increase childcare availability in Montrose. Directors Otto and Weisner express concern that expanding MRD's purpose in this direction would create challenges for MRD to maintain its focus and quality. ED states that an alternative is for a separate Special District be created solely for this purpose, yet this would be a greater task than to join with an existing Special District. President Files summarizes the Board's discussion that "we want to be part of the solution, but not THE solution."

A short discussion is held regarding the desire to cement mill levy certification in future ballot language. Director Maddy mentions that this should be done while the outdoor pool is still in operation, and as MRD prepares to pursue alternative locations for outdoor aquatics in Montrose. Director Files agrees that this Board should work to define this and not leave this situation for future Boards. There is general support for this statement among the Directors present.

V. **Quarterly / Year End Reports**

a. **Capital Improvements**

Deputy Director (DD) Jeremy provides an overview of the "final report" of 2023, noting that there may be a few adjustments as the MRD closes out the year. Ended the year in better net position than originally anticipated: \$179,000 net from Baldrige carrying over, plant operating only spent \$76,000 of the \$92,000 appropriated. Received an additional 40k in lottery revenues than projected. Field House site master plan carried over into 2024, any additional costs will be covered by the whole amount allocated to the FH improvement project.

b. **ADA Improvements**

\$25K in 2023 completed 85 of 104 projects planned for in 2023 \$18,759 spent. Upcoming 2024 90 projects have \$50,000 appropriated. DD provides a short list of examples of the projects, many of which are intended to be completed in-house, to be completed. Policies, programs and procedures – reviewed accomplishments including upgrading/updating the website accessibilities; on-boarding and continuing training for full-time staff. DD reviews programmatic successes accomplished in 2023.2024 more Special Olympics opportunity, including SO Swim meet at the CRC, powerlifting at Flex Rec; Beyond SO, parent-tot movement class, Amazing Race as fundraising to purchase sport wheelchairs, and more programs to come. ADA Advisory Committee is almost complete and planning to have its first meeting in February. ADA policy developments are planned around several facets of this operation. They will be reported upon completion.

VI. **Committee Updates and Assignments**

- a. **Exec. Committee of Board** (Board: Christina, Alli. Staff: Mari, Jeremy) Met last week
- b. **Administrative** (Board: Alli, Barb. Staff: Mari, Jeremy, Lisa) next meeting will be held before the next BOD meeting.
- c. **Foundation** (Board: Megan, Barb. Staff: Mari, Astro) Met in January, looking at incorporating with 501-c-3 and organizing documents;
- d. **Growth** (Board: Ken, Suzi. Staff: Mari, Jeremy, Justin, Miguel): RFP for FH has been amended to remove pool from study. Sent out on Friday 1/19, due 2/16. ED Steinbach reiterates project priority and timeline as 1) Field House 2) Ute/McNeil 3) Outdoor pool.
- e. **Finance** (Board: Paul, Alli. Staff: Mari, Jeremy) Financials reviewed 1/23. April is when final '23 numbers are expected.
- f. **MURA** (Board: Alli) Initial \$11M has been distributed for horizontal site improvements.

VII. **Executive Director's Update**

ED reviews highlights of the ED report included in the Board packet.

VIII. **Approval of BOD Meeting Minutes**

- a. Regular Meeting of the Board 12.14.2023 Director Otto motions to approve the minutes as written. Director Weisner seconds. Motion passes unanimously.
- b. Regular Meeting of the Board 01.04.2024 Director Sharrow motions to approve the minutes as written. Director Otto seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

IX. Adjourn

Meeting adjourns at 1:56pm

Next BOD Regular Meeting & Budget Hearing

**February 22nd at 11:30am
CRC 16350 Woodgate Road
Montrose, CO 81401**