

**Growth/Finance Committee Minutes**

**Monday, June 12, 2023 at 1:30pm**

**Montrose Community Recreation Center**

**16350 Woodgate Road**

**Montrose CO 81401**

1. **Call to Order, Roll Call.** The meeting began at 1:32pm. Attendees: Director Christina Files, Debby Harrison Zarkis, Director Paul Wiesner, Director Ken Otto, Justin Mashburn, Miguel Lopez, ED Mari Steinbach, Jeremy Master.
2. **Capital Improvement Plan Review;** Review the status of the 2023 Capital Improvement Plan and discuss long term priorities funding needs and strategies. **Review staff action plan for Plan Operating costs: priorities and placeholders.** 
   1. Mari handed out the Budget as well as the existing CIP and Master Plan CIP.
   2. Director Christina asked what the purpose of the meeting was. ED Mari stated the purpose of the Finance Committee and the Growth Committee meeting together is to ensure the MRD has the finances to fund the CIP growth plan. If there are additional funds over the CIP budget, deciding how to fund additional CIP projects, based on board approval. Director Paul stated the Board’s main goal when it comes to the CIP, is to ensure our existing facilities are funded.
      1. The proposed CIP was reviewed. Director Christina asked if the items on the CIP were on the budget. Jeremy answered yes.
      2. ED Mari said the MRD typically does not have a contingency fund, and that plant operating costs are where additional items will be funded from.
      3. Director Paul suggested that we develop a contingency fund in case of an emergency. Miguel said our current Asset Plan looks 3-5 years into the future. Director Paul stated 1-3% per year is typically what most companies’ budget for on the Asset Plan. He suggested that we increase our current 1% contribution.
      4. ED Mari stated the MRD can project out as many years as the board would like. Director Paul suggested that do this exercise to see what is left over in the budget to fund items in the CIP plan. Director Christina asked if the MRD had received the report on the Field House pool yet. Jeremy answered that we should be getting it soon but it is likely that we will not be able to refurbish the pool because it is in such bad shape. The discussion ensued about replacing that pool with a new outdoor pool. Justin commented that other needs are the refurbishment of the Ute McNeill fields, repairs and updates to the Field House, and a new pool. The board will need to decide which takes priority.
      5. 2039 is when the current sales tax increase ends. The MRD can always ask voters to extend this. Growth of sales tax revenues has happened on a yearly basis over the past few years. Senate Bill HH may negatively affect funds that will come to Special Districts if passed.
      6. The question was asked, by Director Christina, how much the current outdoor pool and the Field House brings in. The answer was around $150,000 per year. About $50,000 of that is pool revenue.
      7. Jeremy said there is a surplus in sales tax which could be used to fund a new project. Director Paul asked if we know what the cost of refurbishing Ute/McNeil fields would cost. ED Mari stated the city has not put out an RFP for a master plan for that area yet so we cannot determine it.
      8. Staff discussed equity and inclusion and how important this is to the MRD future decisions.
      9. Director Christina asked which project may bring in the most revenue. There was discussion surrounding this. She also asked if the MRD is waiting for the City do conduct a master plan for this area before improving it. The answer was yes. We need to see what the community wants before making those improvements.
      10. Director Ken asked if there were plans for improving the Field House. Ed Mari said we would need to have an architecture firm come in to make recommendations.
3. **Define new Action Steps, Prioritization:**
   1. Director Paul suggested that the MRD and the Growth/Finance Committee goes to the board and presents the Asset Plan. He also suggested that the committees suggest Ute McNeill fields are priority number one and work with the city on this. He also suggested that we need a site plan for an outdoor pool and the Field House. Mari stated the MRD will need an appropriation suggestion from the board to pay for these site plans. Director Christina suggested asking the MRD to look for more grants for these projects. ED Mari stated capital grants are hard to come by. The MRD Grant Writer will continue to look for grants however. Director Christina also suggested that the Growth/Committee Committees bring these ideas to the full board. The committees agreed on these recommendations.
4. **Adjourn:** the Committees adjourned at 3:01pm.