



## Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

A Regular Meeting of the Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District Board of Directors was held on Wednesday, January 8, 2025, at the Tualatin Valley Water District Headquarters, 1850 SW 170th Avenue, Beaverton, Oregon. Executive Session 5:30 pm; Regular Meeting 6:00 pm.

Present:

Barbie Minor	President/Director
Alfredo Moreno	Secretary/Director
Miles Palacios	Secretary Pro-Tempore/Director
Felicita Monteblanco	Director
Tya Ping	Director
Doug Menke	General Manager

### **Agenda Item #1 – Executive Session (A) Land**

President Barbie Minor called executive session to order to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to negotiate real property transactions. Executive Session is held under authority of ORS 192.660(2)(e).

President Minor noted that the news media and designated staff may attend executive session. Representatives of the news media were directed not to disclose information discussed during executive session. No final action or final decision may be made in executive session.

### **Agenda Item #2 – Call Regular Meeting to Order**

A Regular Meeting of the Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District Board of Directors was called to order by President Barbie Minor on Wednesday, January 8, 2025, at 6:00 pm.

### **Agenda Item #3 – Action Resulting from Executive Session**

There was no action resulting from Executive Session.

### **Agenda Item #4 – Accept Audit Report on Park District Financial Statements and Secretary of State Corrective Action Plan for Fiscal Year 2023/24**

Jared Isaksen, Finance director, introduced Julie Fahey, Audit Partner with Talbot, Korvola & Warwick, LLP, the district's auditor, to make a presentation on the audit report on the district's financial statements for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024.

Julie provided an overview of the audit process and the district's audit results for the year ended June 30, 2024, via a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was entered into the record. She noted that it was a big year for the district in that they tested conversion entries in the district's transition from Springbrook to Tyler that occurred on January 1, 2024, and she commended staff on the heavy lift this required. She noted that the Independent Auditor's Report includes an unmodified opinion, meaning that the district's financial statements have been fairly presented. The Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards identified one issue as a significant deficiency related to some entries that were proposed as a result of the audit and there were no issues with management in recording those. Lastly, there were no compliance issues identified within the Report on Compliance and Internal Control over Financial Reporting Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with Oregon State Regulations. Julie concluded her presentation by noting that the district intends to apply for the Government Finance Officers Association Certificate of Excellence

in Financial Reporting Award, which would be the district's 20th consecutive year receiving this award. She thanked district Finance staff for their help in facilitating the audit process and offered to answer any questions the board may have.

Alfredo Moreno expressed appreciation for his meeting with Julie earlier in the year as the board president for the fiscal year applicable to this audit and offered a reminder that the district's auditor is hired by and reports to the board to ensure the district's good financial stewardship and governance.

President Minor expressed appreciation for all the hard work and stamina that goes into this process every year, adding that she is impressed by the number of years the district has received the Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting Award, and the attention and dedication needed to live up to such standards.

Jared thanked Julie and her team for accommodating the district's scheduling needs during the audit due to the simultaneous implementation of its new financial software.

General Manager Doug Menke expressed appreciation for Julie's attendance at the Tualatin Hills Park Foundation's annual meeting and for her counsel regarding the two organizations working side by side in order to enable success for each other.

**Miles Palacios moved that the board of directors accept the Audit Report on the district's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report and Secretary of State Corrective Action Plan for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. Tya Ping seconded the motion. Roll call proceeded as follows:**

<b>Felicita Monteblanco</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Alfredo Moreno</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Tya Ping</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Miles Palacios</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Barbie Minor</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**The motion was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

#### **Agenda Item #5 – Audience Time**

There was no testimony received during Audience Time.

#### **Agenda Item #6 – Board Time**

##### **A. Committee Liaisons Updates**

Felicita Monteblanco provided the following updates and comments:

- ✓ Along with board member Ping and other Washington County elected officials and leaders in the region, visited the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde in mid-December, which provided a great learning experience and opportunity to build relationships.
- ✓ Described her experience with THPRD in learning how to swim as an adult, noting that it has been wonderful to be able to get to know the district in a different way.

Tya Ping provided the following updates and comments:

- ✓ Also enjoyed the visit with the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and thanked those who helped organize it, noting that it was a great opportunity for relationship building and a good lesson on how other communities have learned to advocate for themselves.

Miles Palacios provided the following updates and comments:

- ✓ Looking forward to attending the upcoming joint advisory committees meeting.
- ✓ Described a connection with a childhood friend who reached out to him regarding THPRD.

Alfredo Moreno provided the following updates and comments:

- ✓ Described his children’s participation in a winter camp program at Conestoga Recreation & Aquatic Center, noting that it was a great experience and growing opportunity.

President Minor provided the following updates and comments:

- ✓ Thanked board members Monteblanco and Ping for attending the visit to Grand Ronde, noting that she had wished to go herself but unfortunately fell ill. She also expressed gratitude to the district staff who helped organize the visit.
- ✓ Attended the district’s Kwanzaa celebration coproduced with the Beaverton Black Parent Union and described the wonderful opportunities that arise when the district partners with community-based organizations in coproducing events in this way.
- ✓ The most recent Nature & Trails Advisory Committee meeting included the election of officers and discussion around upcoming potential goals, which will be further refined after welcoming their new members in January.

### **Agenda Item #7 – Consent Agenda**

**Tya Ping moved that the board of directors approve consent agenda items (A) Minutes of December 11, 2024 Regular Board Meeting, (B) Intergovernmental Agreement with Oregon Department of Transportation for Design Consultation Services for the Westside Trail Bridge, (C) Resolution Authorizing Oregon Department of Transportation Grant Application for Westside Trail Pedestrian and Bicycle Bridge, and (D) Resolution Authorizing US Department of Transportation Grant Application for Westside Trail Pedestrian and Bicycle Bridge. Miles Palacios seconded the motion. Roll call proceeded as follows:**

<b>Felicita Monteblanco</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Alfredo Moreno</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Tya Ping</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Miles Palacios</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Barbie Minor</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**The motion was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

### **Agenda Item #8 – New Business**

#### **A. 2025 Legislative Session Preview**

Aisha Panas, deputy general manager, provided a brief update regarding the activities taking place around the district’s federal legislative efforts, noting that the main focus of the district’s federal legislative consultant, Smith Garson (formerly Smith, Dawson & Andrews), is monitoring the transition to a new presidential administration taking place later this month, including closely tracking the status of our ADA improvements earmark. Additionally, we’ve been working with the National Special Districts Association (formerly National Special Districts Coalition) on promoting the preservation and enhancement of special districts’ abilities to gain access to federal funding. The district’s grant administrator is also reviewing and working on grant and other funding opportunities for the district’s Westside Trail Pedestrian and Bicycle Bridge.

Aisha introduced Kylie Grunow with Meriwether Strategies, the district’s state legislative consultant, who provided a detailed preview for the upcoming 2025 state legislative session via a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was entered into the record, and which included the following information:

- Interim & Session Timelines
- 2025 Legislative Calendar
  - Key Dates
    - January 13-17: Swearing In, Org. Days, Training
    - January 21: Legislative Session Begins
    - February 25: Measure Introduction Deadline

- March 21: First Chamber – Post Work Session Deadline
    - April 9: First Chamber Deadline
    - May 9: Second Chamber – Post Work Session Deadline
    - May 23: Second Chamber Deadline
    - June 18: Target Sine Die
    - June 29: Constitutional Sine Die
  - THPRD Lobby Day (TBD)
- 2025 Top Issues
  - Governor Kotek’s Priorities
    - Housing & Homelessness
    - Education – K-12 Funding & Early Literacy
    - Behavioral Health
  - Other Big Issues
    - Transportation Package
    - Wildfire Funding
  - Democratic Supermajorities
- THPRD State Priorities
  - Local Agency Control & Authority
  - System Development Charges
  - Climate Adaptation & Community Resiliency
  - Equitable Access to Parks & Recreation
  - Funding for Parks, Recreation & Trails
- Anticipated THPRD Issues
  - Recreational Immunity
  - Transportation Package
  - RVs – Fund & Fees
  - E-Micromobility
  - System Development Charges
  - THPRD Budget Priorities

Aisha and Kylie offered to answer any questions the board may have.

Felicita Monteblanco described the educational opportunity that will exist with whomever replaces Representative Reynolds. Additionally, she referenced the discussions taking place around the need for tax reform and being made aware of any opportunities for the district to provide its perspective and voice on the topic.

- ✓ Aisha noted that she continues to share the district’s interest in this topic, including with the Special Districts Association of Oregon’s legislative committee. It is acknowledged as a heavy lift, but we will continue to daylight the concerns.

Felicita commented that our peers at the city and county are expressing the same concerns, and it would be beneficial for the district to know our facts and be able to contribute to the discussion.

- ✓ Kylie agreed, noting that this is currently a widely discussed topic across all forms of government and that she has been monitoring such conversations closely. She suggested that the topic could be a part of the district’s lobby day, as well.

Alfredo Moreno requested additional detailed information regarding the Anticipated THPRD Issues in order to aid his discussions with legislators at upcoming events and meetings, such as the Westside Economic Alliance legislative reception.

- ✓ Kylie and Aisha confirmed that additional information would be provided.

Miles Palacios commented that there is some overlap between the district’s legislative efforts and that of his career and that he will remain germane to this work and communicate with Kylie as much as he can.

President Minor recognized that scheduling a THPRD lobby day can be a heavy lift but requested that consideration be given to having two separate opportunities to participate due to the board members' complex schedules.

General Manager Doug Menke noted that he and President Minor will be discussing a future work session for the board to work through some of the key priority items ahead of the district that will lead to great opportunities for the community as a whole.

**Agenda Item #9 – Adjourn**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 pm.

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Barbie Minor, President

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Alfredo Moreno, Secretary

Recording Secretary,  
Jessica Collins