

ORANGEVALE RECREATION & PARK DISTRICT

Minutes of Meeting of Board of Directors July 16, 2026

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Orangevale Recreation and Park District was held on July 16, 2026 at the District Office. Director Brunberg called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

Directors present:	Brunberg, Meraz, Montes,
Directors absent:	Stickney, Presinal
Staff present:	Becky Herz, District Administrator
	Horacio Oropeza, Park Superintendent
	Jason Bain, Recreation Manager
	Melyssa Woodford, Admin. Services Manager

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was conducted.

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOTION #1

On a motion by Director Meraz, seconded by Director Brunberg, the agenda was approved by a vote of 3-0-2 with Directors Brunberg, Meraz, and Montes voting Aye. There were no Nays or Abstentions. Directors Stickney and Presinal were absent.

5. **PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

No one wished to address the Board during public discussion.

6. **MINUTES**

MOTION #2

- a) Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting on June 18, 2026 (pg 3-13): On a motion by Director Montes seconded by Director Meraz, the minutes were approved by a vote of 3-0-2 with Directors Meraz, Brunberg, and Montes voting Aye. There were no Nays or Abstentions. Directors Stickney and Presinal were absent.
- b) Approval of Minutes of the Special Meeting on June 25, 2026 (pg 14): This item will be posted for next board meeting approval.

7. **CORRESPONDENCE**

- a) Orangevale Times articles, May 15 & 29 (pg. 15-16): Admin. Herz shared that the Orangevale Times included articles featuring the Artist Studio program and the Valkyrie Theater program that OVparks offers. Also included was the general article providing an overview of current programs being offered.
- b) Correspondence from Marilyn Edwards: Orangevale History Project Event (pg. 17) Director Meraz reported attending the event and stated that it was well attended and very successful.

Administrator Herz commented that the History Museum is a valuable community amenity and that the Orangevale Recreation & Park District is pleased to provide the building that houses the museum.

- c) Correspondence from CAPRI: Ted Winslow CAPRI Safety Award (pg. 18) Administrator Herz announced that OVparks received a Safety Award recognizing districts that achieve top-tier ratings on their safety inspections. Administrator Herz noted that earning the award was a team effort, with staff working collaboratively to prepare the CAPRI inspection materials. She thanked all employees for their contributions and commended everyone for a job well done.

**8. CONSENT
CALENDAR**

MOTION #3

- a) On a motion by Director Montes, seconded by Director Brunberg, the consent calendar was approved by a vote of 3-0-2 with Directors Brunberg, Meraz and Montes, voting Aye. There were no Nays or Abstentions. Directors Stickney and Presinal were absent

**8.1. CONSENT
MATTERS
GENERAL FUND**

- a) Ratification of Claims for June 2026 (pg 19-20)
- b) Budget Status Report for June 2026 (pg 21-22)
- c) Revenue Report for June 2026 (pg. 23)

**8.2. OLLAD
CONSENT
MATTERS**

- a) Ratification of Claims for June 2026 (pg 24-26)
- b) Budget Status Report for June 2026 (pg 27-28)

**8.3. KENNETH GROVE
CONSENT
MATTERS**

- a) Ratification of Claims for June 2026 (pg 29)
- b) Budget Status Report for June 2026 (pg 30)

**9. STANDING
COMMITTEE
REPORTS**

- a) Administration and Finance: No report. Meeting is postponed to August 11, 2026 at 1:00pm to review the final budget.
- b) Maintenance and Operation: No report.
- c) Recreation Committee: No report.
- d) Personnel & Policy: No report.
- e) Government: No report.
- f) Planning Committee: No report.
- g) Trails Committee: No report.
- h) Ad Hoc: June 17, 2026 Meeting Recap pg. (31): See 12a

**10. ADMINISTRATOR'S
REPORT**

a) Monthly Activity Report – June 2026 (pg 32-39): Administrator Herz shared that Supervisor Woodford attended the Orangevale Woman's Club Tea, representing the District.

Administrator Herz helped organize and participated in the second CPRS Advocacy Section **Power Hour**, which focused on **Brown Act Essentials**.

Admin Herz conducted the public opening of the Request for Proposals (RFP) for legal services alongside Supervisor Woodford and Office Assistant Piccinonno.

Throughout the reporting period, Administrator Herz participated in several professional development courses. On June 16, she successfully passed the **Certified Park and Recreation Professional (CPRP)** examination, earning her professional certification.

Administrator Herz also attended the **CSDA General Managers Leadership Summit** on a scholarship. The summit brought together leaders from special districts across California and focused on government operations, regulatory compliance, staff management, leadership, and board relations.

Manager Woodford advised that the most recent Day Trip was to San Francisco to see *Phantom of the Opera*. The group also enjoyed a meal, and the trip was well received, with 16 participants attending and providing very positive feedback.

Park Supt. Oropeza reported that several trees and large branches came down during June. At the disc golf course, a tree at Hole 11 had to be removed after it split in half. Superintendent Oropeza also shared that homeless activity at Pecan Park has decreased following the increased presence of security patrols.

Manager Jason Bain advised that summer programs and activities were in full swing. He shared that Recreation Coordinator Vickers implemented changes to the swim lesson descriptions and class offerings this season, resulting in improved class enrollment.

The Rec'ing Crew Camp enjoyed a field trip to Sunsplash with approximately 60 campers in attendance. The preschool camp program, Wiggles & Giggles, continues to operate on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Director Brunberg asked whether local school districts offer pre-kindergarten programs during the summer that might compete with the Wiggles & Giggles program. Recreation Manager Bain explained that Wiggles & Giggles is a summer camp that differs from OVparks' program offered during the regular school

year. Enrollment is modest, but the community still enjoys the program.

Manager Bain also reported that the Orangevale TigerSharks Swim Team Championships were scheduled to take place during the weekend of July 18.

Administrator Herz shared photos highlighting preparations for the summer season, including photos of swim instructors participating in training to teach various levels of swim lessons, as well as Recreation Leaders and Junior Leaders training for the OVParks Rec'ing Crew Camp. Additional photos recognized the graduating seniors of the OVParks TigerSharks Swim Team and brush removal at Shackleton Woods as part of the District's Wildfire Prevention Plan.

Administrator Herz also shared photos of participants engaged in activities at the OVParks Wiggles & Giggles program and the Rec'ing Crew field trip to Quarry Park, highlighting the success and participation in the District's summer recreation programs.

Manager Woodford informed the Board about the District's new Junior Lifeguard Camp being offered this summer. Administrator Herz explained that there has been an overall shortage of lifeguards and lifeguard instructors since the COVID-19 pandemic, and this type of program helps prepare future lifeguards. Manager Bain added that, in response to this need, the District offered an additional lifeguard certification class this year alongside its annual Spring Break class. Having a certified lifeguard instructor on staff at OVParks enabled the District to provide this second training opportunity, helping to increase the number of qualified lifeguards available for the summer season.

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a) 2026 Big Day of Service Cost Benefit Analysis (pg. 38-39)

Superintendent Oropeza reported that the District's projects for this year's Big Day of Service were completed at a significantly lower cost than in previous years. Nearly all expenses for materials and project work were covered through reimbursements from Big Day of Service, support from the Tree Foundation, partnerships with participating agencies, and the efforts of community volunteers. He also noted that the event was a great success.

b) Veterans Community Garden and Orchard Update (verbal)

Admin. Herz reported that OVParks was not selected to advance to the next phase of the grant application process for funding the Veterans Community Garden project.

12. NEW BUSINESS

a) Consideration and potential approval of a Legal Services Agreement, with Cole Huber LLP, for General Counsel legal services (pg 40-46)

Administrator Herz reported that the District issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for general legal services. The District's current legal counsel, David McMurchie, whose firm has represented the District since 1988, was invited to submit a proposal but chose not to apply.

The Ad-Hoc Committee reviewed and rated the firms that provided responses. The highest ranked firms were moved on to the interview process. Director Presinal developed the interview questions, and Director Brunberg and Administrator Herz conducted interviews. Based on the full review process, the committee recommended appointing Cole Huber LLP as the District's general counsel.

David Richie of Cole Huber LLP was present to introduce the firm and provide an overview of its services. He noted that the firm has 25 attorneys who represent government entities and has extensive experience providing legal counsel to public agencies.

The committee recommended entering into a two-year agreement with Cole Huber LLP, with options for renewal.

MOTION #4

On a motion by Director Montes seconded by Director Meraz, the approval of a Legal Services Agreement with Cole Huber LLP for General Counsel legal services was approved by a vote of 3-0-2 with Directors Meraz, Brunberg & Montes voting Aye. There were no Nays or Abstentions. Directors Stickney and Presinal were absent.

- b) Approval of the Letter of Engagement from Auditor Larry Bain for the Fiscal Year 2025/26 Audit in the amount not to exceed \$12,900 (pg. 47-51)

MOTION #5

On a motion by Director Montes seconded by Director Brunberg, the Approval of the Letter of Engagement from Auditor Larry Bain for the Fiscal Year 2025/26 Audit in the amount not to exceed \$12,900 was approved by a vote of 3-0-2 with Directors Meraz, Brunberg, and Montes voting Aye. There were no Nays or Abstentions. Directors Stickney and Presinal were absent.

- c) Approval of the Agreement with Jennifer Claassen with Clipped In For Life to rent Orangevale Community Park for a Sacramento Cyclocross Event on October 10-11, 2026 (pg. 52-64)

Director Brunberg clarified that "Map B" would be used for the event, based on the recommendation of Superintendent Oropeza. Admin Herz stated that Director Stickney requested that, in his absence, his opposition to "Map B" be noted, stating that the proposed route encroached on the nature area.

MOTION #6

On a motion by Director Montes seconded by Director Brunberg, the Approval of the Agreement with Jennifer Claassen with Clipped in For Life to rent Orangevale Community Park for a Sacramento Cyclocross Event on October 10-11, 2026 was approved by a vote of 3-0-2 with Directors Meraz, Brunberg, and Montes voting Aye. There were no Nays or Abstentions. Directors Stickney and Presinal were absent.

- d) Update on the Board of Directors election timeline (verbal): Administrator Herz stated that the nomination period is currently open to all eligible candidates through August 7, 2026. If an insufficient number of candidates file for the available seats by that date, the nomination period will be extended beginning August 8, 2026, but only for non-incumbent candidates.

**13. DIRECTOR AND
STAFF COMMENTS**

Administrator Herz shared that this is one of her favorite times of the year in parks and recreation because the District's programs are at capacity, the parks are well utilized, and the community can see the District's work in action. She expressed her appreciation for her team's dedication and efforts in keeping operations running smoothly. Administrator Herz also stated that she looks forward to the District entering into a new legal services contract and working with our new legal counsel.

Park Maintenance Superintendent Oropeza thanked his staff for their dedication and hard work in managing park operations through the first round of extreme heat. He also expressed appreciation to members of the public who shared positive comments recognizing the efforts of park staff, particularly for their work at Community Park and Almond Park.

Director Meraz shared that he had visited several District parks and was pleased to see that they were well maintained and actively used, even during the heat of the day. Director Meraz also inquired about providing educational information regarding e-bike safety and regulations through park signage and the District's website.

Director Brunberg commended District staff for their efforts and expressed her appreciation for their work.

Director Montes stated that the owner of California E-Bikes in Fair Oaks, works closely with law enforcement, provides educational classes, and facilitates group rides. She noted that the owner would be a valuable resource for e-bike education and outreach efforts.

**14. ITEMS FOR NEXT
AGENDA**

a) Final Budget Hearing

15. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION #7

With no further business to discuss, the general meeting of the Board of Directors was adjourned at 7:31 p.m. On a motion by Director Brunberg, seconded by Director Montes, the adjournment was approved by a vote of 3-0-2 with Directors Stickney, Presinal, Brunberg, Meraz, and Montes, voting Aye. There were no Nays or Abstentions. Directors Stickney and Presinal were absent.

Sharon Brunberg, Chairperson