

**Canon City Area Metropolitan Recreation and Park District
575 Ash Street
Canon City, CO 81212
(719) 275-1578**

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES
April 14, 2026**

CALL TO ORDER The Canon City Area Metropolitan Recreation and Park District Board meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Board President, Cooper Trahern, in the board meeting room located at 575 Ash Street.

ROLL CALL

Board Members:

Present: Cooper Trahern
Melissa Smeins
Andrew Palmasano
Kristina Post
Sean Rodgers

Staff: Kyle Horne Executive Director
Dawn Green Finance Director

Attorney: Dan Slater

Guests: Dave Little
Jeremy Reeves
Pat Grette

ACCEPTANCE OF CONSENT AGENDA

Board member Andrew Palmasano made a motion, seconded by board member Sean Rodgers to accept the consent agenda as written for the April 14, 2026 regular meeting. Motion carried unanimously, all present voting aye.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

None

ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

None

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

Executive Director – Kyle Horne reported:

The District has had issues with the restroom at Pathfinder Regional Park due to the heavy use at the start of soccer season. The filter has been changed which fixed one issue. Additionally, a sensor damaged by vandalism (kicking) was repaired.

Kyle attended the PPORA (Pikes Peak Outdoor Regional Alliance) Summit last Friday in Colorado Springs. The Bighorn Roundtable presented and Kyle had the chance to meet with other land managers. They plan to meet quarterly to address topics such as water and tourism. PPORA is launching a three-year ambassador program in El Paso, Teller and Fremont Counties to educate public visitors on trails and in the parks. GOCO funds this program.

Kyle recognized Dawn Green and Carly Poe on the grant submissions for the Harrison Mini-Pitch. The three grants were due at the end of March.

The District's parks crew has a new member, Eric Hoza. He replaced Tim Fisher.

The annual Clean Up Green Up event is on April 25th. Copies of the press release were distributed to the Board. The District has secured a 30-yard roll off, and coffee and breakfast sponsors for the event.

The Canon City School District is facing a \$1,000,000 cut to their budget, so they are looking at ways to increase their revenue. One option is to raise their facility fees – both indoor and outdoor. The Recreation District has not paid for outdoor use before. Kyle has an argument against charging for outdoor use as the school district has the same workload to maintain the fields whether the Recreation District uses them or not. When the Recreation District uses CCMS for baseball, our parks crew drags and lines the fields and provides a port a potty. If the school district increases the fees, the Recreation District would have to increase activity fees. There was discussion about looking at other locations for practices, with Dan Slater mentioning Rockvale. Kyle has checked with other recreation agencies, and no one is paying for outdoor use.

Kyle received an email regarding homeless camps setting up improvised traps. He shared that email with the Board. District crew members will need to be vigilant and contact the police before cleaning up homeless camp sites. The Recreation District is working with the police department on the See Something-Say Something campaign and has placed signs on the Riverwalk.

E-bikes are becoming a problem. Class 1 E-bikes need the pedals moving to engage the motor. Classes 2 and 3 have a throttle and can go fast. Complaints regarding their use on the trails and in the parks have increased and there is concern that someone could get hurt. Copies of Colorado Springs' E-bike policy

were given to the Board. Kyle would like to review the Recreation District's policy and work with the City on this issue.

Some of the Recreation District's surplus equipment will be sold by Woolsey Auction.

District staff are exploring options for a car port for the new van. The old van was sold for \$2,300.

Dan Slater:

No report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Update on JGRP Reservoir Project

The City of Canon City approved the contract with CWCB (Colorado Water Conservation Board) for the feasibility study. It should take 12 to 18 months to complete. The Recreation District, the City and the Sanitation District need to enter into some sort of agreement for the project. The City's attorneys are working on this, and the City is waiting on the Army Corps of Engineers for an MOU for the study.

Four Mile Ranch URA Discussion

This agenda item was moved to Executive Session.

Update on Swimming Pool

Kyle attended a meeting on April 9th at City Hall. There is a City recommendation to explore paid parking as a pool funding option and have the committee make its report by June 1st. Kyle stated that until the District knows the source of funding for operations and how much it raises, it is difficult to move forward with the project.

City Councilman Jeremy Reeves stated that drone work has been done to look at potential parking areas.

Board member Cooper Trahern commended the committee for looking at options, but there will be no construction until the funding is there.

Kyle sent a copy to the Board for their review of a draft letter to the City. He believes it is necessary to clarify the Recreation District's position.

Dave Little commented that it would be beneficial to clarify the sequence of the steps needed to move the project forward. Board member Sean Rodgers commented that the District isn't moving at all and that we can't without knowing where the operating funds are coming from. There was discussion regarding sending a letter to the City so that it is in their packets for their April 20th meeting. Sean Rodgers stated the goal of the letter is to limit speculation.

City Councilman Jeremy Reeves addressed the board expressing his concern about continuing to collect the tax if the pool facility is only a seasonal option. A discussion on options, including indoor/outdoor, and the need for updated cost estimates followed. Board member Cooper Trahern stated that no decisions on the scope of the work will be made until operations are secured.

At the request of a majority of the Board members, Kyle gathered information on survey options if the District couldn't afford the current design. Magellan quoted \$15,000 for a survey which would allow only one response per person and provide a geofence using the Recreation District boundaries. Board member Kristina Post suggested that a decision on the survey be made after June 1st.

NEW BUSINESS

Rouse Park Concessions Agreement

There was only one submission in response to the request for proposals for concessions operation at Rouse Park. Roll It Up Ice Cream would like to continue. This would be their third year, and they propose a payment of 24% of their gross sales.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-5

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ENTRY INTO AN AGREEMENT FOR CONCESSION SERVICES AT ROUSE PARK WITH KYLE CHEESMAN OF ROLL IT UP ICE CREAM COMPANY, LLC

Board member Andrew Palmasano made a motion, seconded by board member Kristina Post to adopt Resolution 2026-5. The resolution was adopted with all members present voting aye.

Residential Lease Agreement at Pathfinder Park with Nicholas Karpilo

Kyle inspected the house and it is in good condition. He recommends renewing the lease with Mr. Karpilo. The rent will be raised to \$1,550 per month (a \$50 increase.)

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-6

A RESOLUTION APPROVING A RESIDENTIAL LEASE FOR THE RESIDENCE AT PATHFINDER REGIONAL PARK

Board member Andrew Palmasano made a motion, seconded by board member Sean Rodgers to adopt Resolution 2026-6. The resolution was adopted with all members present voting aye.

Pathfinder Park Agricultural Lease

In March, Mr. Lippis informed Kyle that he no longer wanted to continue the lease of the 62 acres of land adjacent to Pathfinder Park. He owns the pipes he used on the property. This late notice did not give the Recreation District time to plan. Kyle spoke to other farmers in the community, and the growing season has already started. In speaking with Mr. Lippis, the difficult current water conditions were mentioned. Kyle stated that the Recreation District makes less than \$10,000 annually on the lease.

The District received three proposals to lease the property for three years with a two-year renewal option.

After speaking to local farmers, Kyle believes the District has three options: go with one of the three proposals; work with Mr. Lippis to continue for the season and plan out for someone to take it over; and as the District cannot guarantee that there will be water for irrigation – do nothing this year. Kyle stated that a new farmer for the lease would have to make an investment to make it worth their while. Board member Cooper Trahern feels the RFP process was rushed and that there are a lot of farming families in the area who might be interested in the property. Kyle stated that the District’s goal is to maintain this piece of public land, and he recognized Mr. Lippis for being a strong friend of the District.

Board member Cooper Trahern made a motion, seconded by board member Andy Palmasano to not award the bid for the agricultural lease and explore working with Mr. Lippis. Motion carried unanimously, all present voting aye.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Board member Andy Palmasano made a motion, seconded by board member Melissa Smeins to go into executive session for negotiations under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(e)(1) for determining positions relative to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations, and instructing negotiators regarding the Four Mile Ranch Urban Renewal Authority. Motion carried unanimously, all present voting aye.

The board went into executive session at 8:12 p.m. The executive session ended at 8:27 p.m. and the board returned to the regular meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, Board President, Cooper Trahern adjourned the meeting at 8:27 p.m.

Submitted by:

/s/ Dawn Green
Dawn Green, Finance Director

Approved as written or amended:

/s/ Cooper Trahern
Cooper Trahern, Meeting Chair

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**EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES
April 14, 2026**

Executive session was called at 8:12 p.m.

The substance of discussion during the executive session was determining positions relative to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations, and instructing negotiators under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(e)(1) regarding the Four Mile Ranch Urban Renewal Authority.

The executive session adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Submitted by:

/s/ Dawn Green

Dawn Green, Finance Director

Approved as written or amended:

/s/ Cooper Trahern

Cooper Trahern, Meeting Chair