
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the Regular Meeting Of the Board of Directors Edwards Metropolitan District November 16, 2023

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Edwards Metropolitan District, Eagle County, Colorado, was held on November 16, 2023, at 12:00 p.m. in person at the Edwards Field House at 450 Miller Ranch Road, Edwards, CO and via an online Zoom meeting in accordance with the applicable statutes of the State of Colorado.

Attendance The following Directors were present and acting:

- Joanna Kerwin
- Todd Williams
- Mike Trueblood
- Tracy Erickson
- Kris Miller

Also in attendance were:

- Ken Marchetti - Marchetti & Weaver, LLC (Zoom)
- Magdalena Gembal - Recording Secretary for the meeting (Zoom)
- Chris Romer – Vail Valley Partnership
- Deron Dirksen – SGM
- Ashely LaFleur - Eagle County Sheriff's Office
- Deputy Vazquez – Eagle County Sheriff's Office
- Melanie Smith – Eagle River Watershed Council
- Laura Bohannon – Eagle County Conservation District
- Denyse Schrenker – Eagle County Conservation District (Zoom)
- Robin Thompson - Eagle Valley Trail
- Kevin Murphy - West End
- Jim Telling – West End
- Nathan Batchelder – West End (Zoom)
- Greg Schroeder - (Zoom)
- Kara Heide - former Board President and resident
- Nina Timm - Berry Creek Metro Manager (Zoom)
- Sean Molloy - resident (Zoom)

Call To Order

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of Edwards Metropolitan District was called to order by Director Kerwin on November 16, 2023, at 12:04 p.m. noting a quorum was present.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Edwards Metropolitan District November 16, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Changes to the

Agenda Director Kerwin has requested the rescheduling of financial matters to 1:15 p.m. to allow time for discussions on the preliminary budget.

Public Input Director Williams informed the group that tomorrow, Friday, there will be a parade for the Battle Mountain Huskies honoring their state soccer championship.

Kara Heide, former president of the Board, and resident of Edwards expressed her gratitude for the pedestrian crossings flashing beacons installed in the District as it enhances the safety of the pedestrians.

Vail Valley Partnership

Funding Request

Chris Romer, the president of Vail Valley Partnership (VVP), attended the meeting to provide clarification on the funding request and its potential impact on the residents of Edwards Metropolitan District. During the discussion Director Kerwin voiced concerns about the funding potentially being used influence the outcome of elections. Mr. Romer responded that many of the programs VVP does are done to represent the business community and positions are taken with that objective and to express the interests of Eagle County. He highlighted programs in leadership and apprenticeship, emphasizing their benefits for businesses in Edwards. Additionally, Mr. Romer emphasized the flexibility in how the funds could be utilized.

Kara Heide provided public input, expressing confidence in the leadership programs, and sharing positive feedback from individuals who have participated in them.

Sidewalk

Project

Mr. Dirksen updated the Board on the Sidewalk Project, reporting ongoing outreach to HOAs and utility companies. The meeting with the elementary school revealed additional survey and design needs, but it doesn't impact the right of way permit application submitted to Eagle County. While the drawings are complete to the 90% level, a soils engineering component for drainage on the south side of the school has been added, including a pedestrian railing. Board discussions explored phased construction, a one-year timeline, and the consideration of concrete over asphalt.

During Sean Molloy's public input, he voiced concerns about the project, highlighting drainage issues and winter-related challenges in the sidewalks that the project aims to address. These concerns encompass difficulties with plowing, persistent snow accumulation due to shading, and freezing during nights in various areas of Edwards. Following this, discussions between the Board and Mr. Dirksen focused on finding solutions for drainage, exploring the possibility of relocating

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Edwards Metropolitan District November 16, 2023 Meeting Minutes

sidewalks, and considering adjustments like increasing the sidewalk size or providing wider shoulders to facilitate better plowing.

**Eagle County
Sheriff's Office
National Night Out
Funding Request**

Ashley LaFleur, the Public Information Officer for the Eagle County Sheriff's Office, and Deputy Lisa Vazquez were present at the meeting to officially request the annual donation of \$1,000 for the Annual Eagle County Sheriff's Office National Night Out event scheduled for August 6th, 2024, in Edwards. Additionally, Deputy Vasquez elaborated on two other events: the Law Enforcement Torch Run, aimed at raising funds for Special Olympics Athletes, and Shop with a Cop, an event that pairs underprivileged children with first responders for a shopping spree. This request will be considered in executive session.

**Eagle River
Watershed Council
Funding Request**

The development manager for the Eagle River Watershed Council, Melanie Smith, presented a funding request of \$4,500 for various initiatives: \$1,000 for the Community Pride Highway Cleanup, \$1,000 for the Eagle River Cleanup, and \$2,500 for the Eagle River Water Festival. During the presentation, she highlighted significant challenges faced by the river, including issues related to water quality and quantity, as well as habitat loss. When Director Miller inquired about the possibility of having two highway cleanups, Ms. Smith explained that it's not feasible due to staffing requirements. This request will be considered in executive session.

**Edwards Wise/Turf
Replacement
Demonstration
Garden**

Ms. Smith, along with Director Williams, presented the proposal to replace turfgrass with a waterwise demonstration garden near the roundabout at Highway 6 in Edwards, adjacent to the Riverwalk. Multiple entities are collaborating on this initiative. Ms. Smith discussed various aspects, including the project scope, water savings objectives, current funding, and the request for financial support for the 2024 work. The consideration of this request will take place during the executive session.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Edwards Metropolitan District November 16, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Eagle County Conservation District

Laura Bohannon, the district manager for the Eagle County Conservation District, highlighted the various initiatives undertaken by the Eagle County Conservation District to preserve and conserve natural resources. These efforts involve collaborative, educational, and cooperative approaches to conservation, exemplified by the Beyond Lawn Program, available to Edwards residents. Ms. Bohannon also addressed the imminent depletion of funding within the next one to two years, prompting them to actively seek sustainable funding solutions. In exploring potential avenues, ECCD is contemplating the implementation of a mill levy, entailing an election cost of nearly \$200,000. During her presentation, Ms. Bohannon appealed for a \$5,000 contribution to represent landowners. The consideration of this financial request is slated to occur during the executive session.

Accounts Payable List

The Board reviewed the accounts payable list and by motion made by Director Trueblood and seconded by Director Williams it was unanimously

RESOLVED to approve the November accounts payable list with the new additions and as submitted.

Preliminary Financial Statements

The Board reviewed the preliminary October 31, 2023 financial statements, and no questions were asked. By motion made by Director Trueblood and seconded by Director Williams it was unanimously

RESOLVED to accept the October 31th, 2023 financial statements as presented.

2024 Preliminary Budget

The public hearing for the 2024 budget was opened. Director Trueblood reported that he has reviewed the 2024 budget. Mr. Marchetti's notes encompassed several key points, including the anticipated final assessed value for properties pending approval from the special legislative session, considerations related to mill levy credits and backfill. Director Trueblood's observations focused on the interest rates and the impact of the new irrigation water rate structure; topics that had been discussed with Mr. Marchetti prior to the meeting. The public hearing for the budget was then closed and by motion by Director Williams and seconded by Director Erikson it was unanimously

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Edwards Metropolitan District November 16, 2023 Meeting Minutes

RESOLVED to approve the resolution to adopt the 2024 budget, to certify the mill levy rates, subject to adjustment of the mill levy to offset any changes to the assessed value resulting from the impending special legislative session, and to appropriate funds for spending in 2024.

Eagle Valley Trail

Update Robin Thompson provided an update on the project, underscoring the competition in the Down Junction and Minturn area. The kiosk signs for the trail section in Edwards have not been installed yet, as the ordering process is experiencing delays. Additionally, discussions took place regarding projects planned for the down valley in the upcoming year.

West End – Letter Of Support Request

Kevin Murphy provided a concise overview of the project, emphasizing the deed-restricted nature of the project, its improved connection to the Eagle River Preserve, and its integration with public transportation and an e-bike station. A crucial point was made about the upcoming Planning and Environmental Commission hearing scheduled for December 20th, with a request for the Board to submit a letter of support by December 13th. During the discussion, various topics were addressed, including traffic studies, strategies to avoid jay walking, deed restrictions and rent cap limits, placement of solar panels on the roof, parking arrangements within the community, and the entrances to the Preserve. By motion by Director Trueblood and seconded by Director Miller it was unanimously

RESOLVED to authorize submittal of a letter of support by December 13th to reflect input from all Board members and to be signed by the Board President.

Traffic Study

Update Greg Schroeder provided a briefing on the traffic study, emphasizing data was collected from 41 locations. Among them, 28 involve turn movement counts at intersections, while the remaining 13 pertain to average daily traffic, specifically monitored through "tube counts" at roadway segments. Additionally, he discussed the formation of the leadership committee and invited input from the Board to fill vacant positions within specific organizations.

Water Authority

Update Director Trueblood provided an update on the Upper Eagle Regional Water Authority meeting, announcing the approval of its 2024 budget and reporting on the advances made regarding unallocated water. The Water Authority is approaching, if not reaching, the depletion of its unallocated water. Upon reviewing reports detailing

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Edwards Metropolitan District November 16, 2023 Meeting Minutes

anticipated developments and their corresponding water allocations, the Authority is currently capable of supplying water to projects that have received formal approval. The Authority, in a previous Board decision, opted to exercise an option to acquire 25 acre-feet of water from the Eagle River Water and Sanitation District. Furthermore, they agreed to actively pursue a lease for an additional 50 acre-feet from the Colorado River District. This strategic move is intended to provide the Authority with a total of up to 75 acre-feet of water to meet the demands of upcoming projects until the completion of Bolts Lake in 7 to 10 years.

Elevation Signs

Proofs Director Williams sought the Board's opinion on their preference for the sign to proceed with. Director Kerwin indicated a preference for the white one. Director Williams also noted that the LED lights on the Edwards sign will be replaced soon to match Mikaela's bright lights.

Other Director Miller inquired with Director Williams about the holiday lights being illuminated during the day when unnecessary. Director Williams clarified that the problem has been resolved.

Director Update

Director Miller had no further comments.

Director Erickson had no further comments.

Director Trueblood had no further comments.

Director Kerwin provided an update on the current cash management status of the RTA, exploring the potential addition of more bays and an evening crew. Additionally, she shared insights from a meeting with Amy Phillips, RTA Board Chair, and Ken Marchetti regarding the prospect of Edwards Metro District having representation on the RTA Board. It was communicated that, currently, there is no such option available, and Ms. Phillips suggested focusing on elevating EMD's participation in meetings.

Director Williams expressed his views on the execution of RTA operations, expressing dissatisfaction with the current approach and offering commentary on the unique aspects of the agency's retirement plan option.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Edwards Metropolitan District November 16, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Minutes The Board reviewed the October 19, 2023, Regular Meeting minutes and made some suggested edits. By motion made by Director Miller and seconded by Director Erickson and Director Trueblood abstaining, it was

RESOLVED to approve the October 19, 2023, Regular Meeting minutes with the suggested edits.

**Executive
Session**

The Board announced the need for an executive session for the purpose of considering contribution requests during the meeting. By motion made, it was

RESOLVED to enter into executive session pursuant to 24-6-402(4)(e), C.R.S. for the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiation, developing strategy for negotiations and instructing negotiators.

Following conclusion of the Executive Session, the Board returned to public session.

**Vail Valley
Partnership
Funding**

By motion made by Director Trueblood, second by Director Miller, it was unanimously

RESOLVED to approve a contribution to the Vail Valley Partnership of \$8,000.

Director Kerwin will engage in discussions with Mr. Romer regarding the allocation of funds, placing particular emphasis on initiatives that support leadership and apprenticeship programs within Edwards Metro District businesses.

**Eagle County
Sheriff's Funding**

By motion made by Director Trueblood, second by Director Miller, it unanimously

RESOLVED to approve a \$1,000 contribution to Eagle County Sheriff's Night Out, along with additional contributions of \$1,000 each to Shop with a Cop and Law Enforcement Torch Run.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Edwards Metropolitan District November 16, 2023 Meeting Minutes

**Eagle River
Watershed Council
Funding Request**

By motion made by Director Trueblood, second by Director Miller, it unanimously

RESOLVED to approve a contribution to Eagle River Watershed Council of \$4,500 for the Community Pride Highway Cleanup (\$1,000), Eagle River Cleanup (\$1,000) and Eagle River Water Festival (\$2,500).

**Edwards Wise/Turf
Replacement
Demonstration
Garden**

By motion made by Director Trueblood, second by Director Miller, it unanimously

RESOLVED to allocate \$18,000 to the Landscape Transformation budget of 2024 for the implementation of this project.

**Eagle County
Conservation District**

The Board requests the submission of a formal letter from Eagle County Conservation District seeking \$5,000 to represent landowners. This letter should provide detailed information about the intended use of the contribution.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, by motion duly made by Director Miller and seconded by Director Kerwin it was unanimously

RESOLVED to adjourn the meeting of the Edwards Metropolitan District Board of Directors this 16th day of November 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Magdalena Gembal
Recording Secretary for the Meeting