



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, May 14, 2025, at the Tualatin Valley Water District Headquarters, 1850 SW 170th Avenue, Beaverton, Oregon. Executive Session 5:30 pm; Regular Meeting 6:30 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) Legal (B) Land (C) Personnel

President Barbie Minor called executive session to order for the following purposes:

- To conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to carry out labor negotiations;
- To conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to negotiate real property transactions; and
- To consult with counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of a public body with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed.

Executive Session is held under authority of ORS 192.660(2)(d)(e) and (h).

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, May 14, 2025, at 6:35 pm.

Agenda Item #3 – Action Resulting from Executive Session

Alfredo Moreno moved that the board of directors authorize staff to acquire property in the northwest quadrant of the district for the price discussed in executive session, using system development charge fees in escrow, cash and credits, subject to the standard due diligence review and approval by the general manager or designee. Felicita Monteblanco seconded the motion. Roll call proceeded as follows:

Tya Ping	Yes
Miles Palacios	Yes
Felicita Monteblanco	Yes
Alfredo Moreno	Yes
Barbie Minor	Yes

The motion was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

Alfredo Moreno moved that the board of directors authorize staff to acquire property in the southwest quadrant of the district for the price discussed in executive session, using cash and system development charges credit, subject to the standard due diligence review and approval by the general manager or designee. Tya Ping seconded the motion. Roll call proceeded as follows:

Felicita Montebianco	Yes
Miles Palacios	Yes
Tya Ping	Yes
Alfredo Moreno	Yes
Barbie Minor	Yes

The motion was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

Agenda Item #4 – Proclamations

President Minor welcomed this evening's guests in attendance to read the Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month and Jewish American Heritage Month proclamations on behalf of the THPRD Board of Directors:

A. Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

Holly Thompson, Communications director, introduced this evening's guest to read the Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month proclamation:

- Hongcheng Zhao is a board member for the Oregon Chinese Coalition (OCC). The OCC is a valued partner of THPRD and an instrumental organization in our community. During the pandemic, OCC played a critical role by providing access to space, shelter, and resources, supporting individuals and families from a wide range of backgrounds and identities. Over the years, our partnership has grown to include major public events such as Chinese New Year celebrations, Welcoming Week, and the large-scale Culture Day at Jenkins Estate. OCC has also led meaningful community service efforts, most recently supporting the donation of prom dresses to local high schools. In addition, the OCC has strengthened emergency preparedness by placing emergency management containers at THPRD's Rock Creek and Cedar Hills sites, making THPRD the host of three of the 27 total containers located across the entire state. OCC continues to advance our shared commitment to cultural inclusion and a stronger, more resilient community for all.

Hongcheng thanked THPRD for the opportunity to participate this evening and read the Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month proclamation into the record.

B. Jewish American Heritage Month

Holly Thompson, Communications director, introduced this evening's guest to read the Jewish American Heritage Month proclamation:

- Marc Blattner is President & CEO of the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland. THPRD has been building a meaningful relationship with the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland. This past March, THPRD was proud to host their Holi & Purim celebration at Conestoga, a joyful and vibrant event that brought communities together. Staff is working with Rachel Nelson, Director of Educational Initiatives & Associate Director of Community Relations, whose family is enthusiastic and frequent visitors of Conestoga. The federation plays a vital role in supporting Jewish life, education, and cultural programs throughout the metro area and THPRD is honored to collaborate with them in fostering inclusion and community connection.

Marc thanked THPRD for the opportunity to participate this evening and read the Jewish American Heritage Month proclamation into the record.

President Minor thanked Hongcheng and Marc for sharing their time with the district this evening.

Agenda Item #5 – Audience Time

President Minor welcomed those in attendance to provide public testimony this evening and provided an overview of the public testimony process, which is limited to 30 minutes for all non-board agenda related topics.

Sarah Salove is before the board regarding the addition of another swim club affiliate to THPRD's lane allocation process. She spoke about her service on the affiliate stakeholders workgroup and her concerns around how capacity, usable hours, and in-district are being defined in the process.

Danielle Jacobson is before the board representing the Tualatin Hills Swim Club (THSC). She spoke about her attendance at recent lane allocation meetings and her concerns around the process being unfair and inequitable, as well as capacity issues and potential conflicts of interest.

Matt Miller is before the board representing the Tualatin Hills Swim Club (THSC). He spoke about his concerns around a lack of collaboration from THPRD regarding shared use of THSC's lane lines, noting that THSC has been asked to remove their lane lines from THPRD property.

Calvin Lin is before the board as president of the Tualatin Hills Swim Club (THSC). He spoke about THPRD and THSC's shared values to serve the community, especially the under-represented, and THSC's desire to work together to establish an equitable allocation process.

Agenda Item #6 – Board Time

President Minor recognized that this evening marks the last board of directors meeting for board member Felicita Montebancho, whose term will be ending on June 30.

Holly Thompson, Communications director, read a recognition of Felicita's service and leadership to the community on behalf of City of Beaverton Mayor Lacey Beaty.

The board members and General Manager Doug Menke took turns sharing ways in which Felicita touched their lives and honored her many contributions as a THPRD board member over the past eight years. Comments included appreciation for her work in lifting up those who have traditionally been underrepresented, her boundless energy and enthusiasm, inclusivity, mentorship, intentionality, and the ripple effects that her service will have for years to come.

- ✓ Felicita offered comments of gratitude and appreciation to her fellow board members and district staff, noting that it has been an honor to serve the largest and best park district in the state and that it has been one of the best experiences of her life.

A. Committee Liaisons Updates

Tya Ping provided the following updates and comments:

- ✓ Attended the THPRD Budget Committee work session in April.
- ✓ Along with most of her fellow board members, attended a lobby day at the state capitol in Salem to speak with the district's legislators.
- ✓ The most recent Joint Advisory Committees meeting included discussion on DEI strategy, THPRD's 70th Anniversary, and functional plans, followed immediately by an Equity & Engagement Advisory Committee meeting where challenge grants were discussed.

Miles Palacios provided the following updates and comments:

- ✓ Also attended the district's lobby day at the capitol and expressed gratitude to Deputy General Manager Aisha Panas and Kylie Grunow with Meriwether Strategies for arranging the visits.

Felicita Montebancho provided the following updates and comments:

- ✓ Took a tour of McKinley Elementary School with the principal and learned about the need for shoes for these students which reminded her of the work the district is doing in partnership with Beaverton School District around prom dresses and hygiene items.
- ✓ Attended the elected officials tour of the Washington County courthouse, which was eye-opening in terms of the dire situation for that facility.
- ✓ Provided an overview of the most recent Fiduciary Committee meeting via email.

President Minor provided the following updates and comments:

- ✓ Also attended the Joint Advisory Committees meeting and appreciates the ways in which the functional plans are being updated for consistency across all plans.
- ✓ Echoed her fellow board members' comments of gratitude around the planning efforts for the lobby day in Salem.
- ✓ Encouraged her fellow electeds to take the Oregon Rises Above Hate pledge to actively combat hate and prejudice.

Agenda Item #7 – Consent Agenda

Tya Ping moved that the board of directors approve consent agenda items (A) Minutes of March 12, 2025 Regular Board Meeting, (B) Minutes of April 9, 2025 Regular Board Meeting, and (C) Quarterly Financial Report. Alfredo Moreno seconded the motion. Roll call proceeded as follows:

Felicita Monteblanco	Yes
Miles Palacios	Yes
Alfredo Moreno	Yes
Tya Ping	Yes
Barbie Minor	Yes

The motion was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

Agenda Item #8 – Unfinished Business

A. 2025 Legislative Session

Aisha Panas, deputy general manager, and Kylie Grunow with Meriwether Strategies, the district's state legislative consultant, provided an update on the 2025 Oregon Legislative Session currently in progress via a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was entered into the record, and which included the following information:

- Recap: THPRD Lobby Day – April 15, 2025
- Key Dates
 - January 21: First Day of Session
 - March 21: Post Work Sessions
 - April 9: First Chamber Deadline
 - May 9: Post Work Sessions
 - May 14: Revenue Forecast
 - May 23: Second Chamber Deadline
 - June 18: Target Sine Die
 - June 29: Constitutional Sine Die
- Session To Date
 - Issues & Status
 - Final third of session: budget
 - Big funding decisions yet to be made: transportation package, wildfire, agency budgets
 - Federal funding uncertainty: impacts negotiations on other bills affecting housing, labor, healthcare, etc.
 - ~3,435 bills introduced to date
 - ~20% of bills are placeholders
 - Tracking 382 bills overall; tracking 57 for THPRD specifically
- THPRD Testimony
 - Recreational Immunity
 - E-Micromobility Bill
 - RV Registration Fee / Abandoned Vehicle Fund
 - Concealed Handguns Policy Authority
 - Afterschool / Childcare Funding

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

Alfredo Moreno expressed support for the work being done around raising awareness of and advocating for special districts.

Felicita Montebianco commented on the value of the meetings with legislators and noted the newly appointed Senator Courtney Neron Misslin who's area of representation covers a small portion of the district near Conestoga Recreation & Aquatic Center.

B. General Manager's Report

The following presentations were provided as listed within the General Manager's Report included in the board of directors' information packet:

- Bond Planning Update
 - Aisha Panas, deputy general manager, and Bruce Barbarasch, Sustainability manager, provided an update on the work underway planning for a potential replacement measure for the 2008 Bond Measure, via a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was entered into the record.
- THPRD's 70th Anniversary
 - Chelsea Nikirk, community engagement specialist, provided an update on the district's plans to celebrate THPRD's 70th anniversary throughout 2025, via a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was entered into the record.

Doug and the presenters offered to answer any questions the board may have.

Bond Planning Update

Aisha and Bruce requested board guidance on the following areas in order to advise the work being done in building the potential replacement bond measure package:

- Confirmation of project categories:
 - Recreation, Parks & Community Spaces
 - Buildings & Facilities
 - Environmental Stewardship
 - Accessible & Safe
 - Connected Trails
- Proportion of funds to each category
- Ratio of new projects to replacement projects
- Types of new projects
- Approval to form Bond Task Force

Confirmation of Project Categories

- ✓ Felicita Montebianco referenced the ADA focus area within the Accessible & Safe category and how disability justice may be considered as well, noting that ADA is the minimum requirement and she would like to see THPRD do more than the minimum.
- ✓ Alfredo Moreno looks forward to seeing what the lead projects will be for each of these categories that will spark public interest and hopes consideration will be given to projects that larger user groups have been needing, such as additional synthetic turf fields.
- ✓ The board members expressed support for the categories as proposed.

Proportion of Funds to Each Category (i.e., allocation percentages)

- ✓ Tya Ping expressed the need for more information on what the potential bond projects might be before this discussion can be meaningful and added that some projects may touch multiple categories.
- ✓ Felicita described her initial thoughts around the improvements needed to the district's older recreation centers in multiple category areas, as well as that parks and open spaces are truly accessible to all so perhaps are deserved of more funding, and the grant funding potential for environmental stewardship projects.

- ✓ President Minor wondered if the board having access to the list of projects under review by staff might help them better formulate direction in this area.
- ✓ Tya asked how a particular category is determined when a project is applicable to multiple categories. Bruce replied that the primary purpose of the project would be used in order to determine the category and provided some examples. Tya expressed concern around the potential for misinterpretation of the allocation pie chart when projects are impacting multiple categories.
- ✓ Alfredo noted that he hasn't heard a lot about a lack of connected trails so perhaps that category could be a smaller percentage. He expanded upon his previous comment around additional synthetic turf fields, noting the benefits of all-weather spaces. He also described the benefit that could arise if some of the projects have ancillary benefit to others, such as the district's partnership with Beaverton School District around sports fields, that might prompt support from people who are not avid THPRD users. Regarding environmental stewardship, being able to point to ways in which the district is helping mitigate wildfire and climate change risks would be beneficial, in addition to improvements to our facilities that remain in dire need of HVAC and air quality upgrades.

Ratio of New Projects to Replacement Projects

- ✓ Tya described the public's desire to see change when approving a bond measure so that they feel like their tax dollars are working. This does not necessarily mean only new items should be considered, but replacement items should be updated at that time, as well, not simply replaced like for like. As Barbie mentioned earlier, seeing the list of projects could help aid this discussion. Initially, her opinion is to defer to adding new projects, but she also wants to be cognizant about having a budget that needs to be able to keep up with those new projects. Replacing an outdated item with an entirely new one would be a way to accomplish this without a net gain of items to maintain. She doesn't want to see the bond add to future budget strains. General Manager Doug Menke referenced the comments heard from the Levy Task Force around the district addressing its deferred maintenance needs, noting that being able to enhance those projects at the same time is a unique opportunity.
- ✓ Alfredo described the need for excellent storytelling in upgrading existing facilities but believes the district would still need a headliner project to create some excitement.
- ✓ President Minor noted that her opinion is somewhere in the middle and described the importance of being able to tell both of those stories, from the excitement of a headlining project to also being mindful of the potential narrative around requesting funding for items that have not been able to be maintained.

Types of New Projects

- ✓ Tya described a four-season park concept that enables outdoor play in all types of weather, including a covered playground, noting that the area could also be used for emergency operations, such as for handing out food or supplies.
- ✓ Alfredo described community center spaces that can be used more broadly; a destination park but taking into consideration limiting the district's new footprint as described earlier by Tya; a splash pad in an area that doesn't already have one; and weatherproof amenities that extend the time of play, like synthetic turf. Doug described the balance of reduced maintenance costs for synthetic turf fields and increased usage hours, but also the higher replacement costs. He described the opportunity to redesign the district's administrative building for public use once a new administration building is purchased.
- ✓ Felicita described reflecting on the district's role around community centers and community gathering spaces; she loves the idea of an outdoor covered area; the use of installation art to make the area more iconic; and having a destination park in every quadrant.

Approval to Form Bond Task Force

- ✓ Felicity suggested consideration of including someone who served on the Vision Task Force and a Beaverton city councilor.
- ✓ Tya suggested that different ages be represented, including teens and seniors, as well as ability, both neuro and physical, and people involved in all different types of sports and all of the district's recreation centers.
- ✓ Alfredo suggested that geographical representation be considered as well as past committee candidates and someone who is not as well known to the board and district administration that has a more critical eye.
- ✓ President Minor suggested that the board and district staff look back on the lessons learned from the Levy Task Force effort.
- ✓ Tya added that diversity should also be considered and suggested reaching out to the district's community partners.
- ✓ Holly Thompson, Communications directors, provided a brief overview of the outreach work district staff is planning and noted that the upcoming polling effort will help inform the messaging.

THPRD's 70th Anniversary

The board members expressed appreciation to district staff for this work and excitement for the varied ways in which the community will be engaged to celebrate this milestone, from the parks passport concept, to free and reduced admissions for programs and special events, the storytelling potential, and how these efforts contribute to the overall branding for the district.

Agenda Item #9 – Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Barbie Minor, President

Alfredo Moreno, Secretary

Recording Secretary,
Jessica Collins