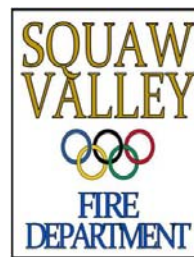




## SQUAW VALLEY PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICT



### Parks and Recreation Services

**DATE:** March 24, 2015

**TO:** District Board Members

**FROM:** Mike Geary, General Manager

**SUBJECT:** Parks & Recreation Services

**BACKGROUND:** At the February 24, 2015 Board Meeting, a request was made to place on a future Board Meeting agenda a discussion about providing a forum to discuss Parks & Recreation services in the valley. Specifically, the forum would discuss impacts of Squaw Valley Real Estate's (SVRE) proposed *Village at Squaw Valley Specific Plan* (VSVSP) including input from the community about its desires and priorities on how to mitigate such impacts with funds expected from Placer County Park Dedication fees and County Service Area assessments for Parks & Rec. services and facilities.

In 1997, the District passed Resolution 1997-28, attached, which adopted a policy statement in regard to the purchase, operations and maintenance of the Squaw Valley Park property. In 1999, the District passed Resolution 1999-08, attached, which declared the intent of the District to assume responsibility for Parks & Rec. facilities in Olympic Valley contingent upon the District's ownership of Squaw Valley Park.

In 2003, the District and Placer County were in negotiations for an agreement to transfer the Squaw Valley Park and Parks & Rec. services from the County to the District. The agreement was never executed. See letter from the PSD to the County, dated Sept. 12, 2003, attached.

In 2004, Placer County notified the District of its intent to keep the Squaw Valley Park in County ownership with the possibility of transferring operational responsibilities to the District. There was considerable discussion about the pros and cons of the District's involvement, including fiscal and administrative responsibilities. Ultimately, it was determined that the SVMAC should continue its involvement regarding the park with Placer County.

Placer County currently owns Squaw Valley Park and the Squaw Valley Bike Trail and provides maintenance services in the summer months only through a contract with the Tahoe City Public Utility District. Tahoe City PUD has responsibilities to provide Parks & Rec. services to its customers within its boundaries; they receive property tax revenue to provide these services. The TCPUD's Parks & Rec. Department began in the early 1960's and employs nine full-time staff in addition to seasonal and part-time staff.

In 2011, the District agreed to provide maintenance and snow removal services on the Squaw Valley Bike Trail during the winter months only. This expansion in service by the District was, and continues to be, contingent on receiving 100% of the funds required to provide the service from grants from the County's Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) administered through the North Lake Tahoe Resort Association (NLTRA), and donations from local businesses as well as Squaw's property owners and business associations.

On March 5, 2015, the Squaw Valley Municipal Advisory Council (MAC) formed a Parks & Recreation Sub-Committee to address Parks & Recreation issues in the valley. This sub-committee is intended to interact with the community and Placer County to address impacts and mitigations associated with Parks & Rec facilities in Squaw Valley from SVRE's VSVSP. The goals of the sub-committee are to conduct a community survey to get input on how Park Dedication Fees anticipated from the VSVSP should be spent in Olympic Valley.

**DISCUSSION:** Our Mission Statement reads in part:

*... provide leadership in maintaining and advocating for needed, high-quality and financially sound community services for the Valley. These include, but are not limited to water, emergency services, and sewer and garbage collection.*

The District's enabling legislation (Water Code; Div. 12, section 31130) allows the District to construct, maintain, and operate Park & Rec. facilities.

*Mission Creep* is defined (by Wikipedia) as the expansion of a mission beyond its original goals and objectives, often after initial successes. Mission creep is often considered undesirable due to the dangerous path of each success breeding more ambitious attempts, only stopping when a final failure occurs. However, if an expansion of service is comprehensively and cautiously evaluated for its impacts to the District's financial health, staffing, our existing levels of water, fire, and sewer services; and adequate contingencies are provided, then services needed or desired by the community can be added to the District's suite of services it provides.

**ALTERNATIVES:** There are many alternatives with how to move forward regarding the District's participation in providing Parks and Rec. services. Here are a few:

1. Maintain the District's current role providing maintenance and snow removal services on the Squaw Valley Bike Trail during the winter months.
2. Use the MAC's Parks & Rec. Sub-Committee to collect input from the community.
3. Consider providing specific Parks & Rec. services on a case-by-case basis by evaluating the expenses needed to provide the service at a level commensurate with the PSD's standards and by identifying dedicated revenue to support the service. The identification of secured funding for services is critical to avoid impacts to the District's revenues from property tax and water and sewer user fees.

**FISCAL/RESOURCE IMPACTS:** The District does not receive any property tax revenue dedicated to provide Parks & Rec. services. Placer County is responsible for providing Parks & Rec. services in Squaw Valley and receives tax revenue from property owners in Squaw Valley specifically for that purpose. Without additional revenue, any work evaluating or performing Parks & Rec. services will be funded from the District's allocation of property tax revenue. Consumption of property tax revenue adversely impacts the PSD's water and sewer rates.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Continue to listen to the community and consider our Mission Statement. Remain cognizant of mission creep and costs associated with providing additional services. Don't assume additional responsibilities without identifying dedicated and secured funding for the services. Ensure that additional services assumed by the District can be delivered at the same level of service the Board requires and the community expects.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- Resolution 97-28 – Policy Statement about Purchase, Operation & Maintenance of the Squaw Valley Park – Sept. 25, 1997
- Resolution 99-08 – Declaration of Intent to Assume Responsibility for Park & Recreation Facilities in Squaw Valley – April 29, 1999
- Letter from District to Placer County – regarding Squaw Valley Park Draft Agreement – Sept. 12, 2003
- Letter from Placer County to District – regarding Squaw Valley Park Operations and Ownership – Oct. 25, 2004
- Board Meeting Minutes – Review of Letter from Placer County regarding Squaw Valley Park – Nov. 30, 2004

**DATE PREPARED:** March 17, 2015

**RESOLUTION 97-28**

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
SQUAW VALLEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT  
ADOPTING A POLICY STATEMENT IN REGARD TO PURCHASE,  
OPERATION & MAINTENANCE OF USFS/PLACER COUNTY PARK PROPERTY

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Squaw Valley County Water District met with Staff and interested citizens at a Strategic Planning Workshop to establish the direction of the District for the coming years; and,

WHEREAS, it was determined the District's purpose is to address the needs of the community for local services unmet by other governmental entities or private enterprise; and,

WHEREAS, it was also decided the mission of the District is to provide, maintain, and advocate for needed, high-quality, and financially sound governmental services for our community, including, but not limited to, water, fire protection, sewer, and garbage; and,

WHEREAS, the District is in favor of studying the feasibility of taking on the leadership in developing and maintaining park and recreation facilities in Squaw Valley if it can be done in a fiscally responsible manner; and,

WHEREAS, Placer County is in the process of buying a piece of property, located in Squaw Valley, from the U. S. Forest Service with the intent of developing a park on the site; and,

WHEREAS, the District is the only local government agency in Squaw Valley; and,

WHEREAS, the District has minimal Staff and limited facilities at this time to conduct an investigation, however, it may be beneficial to the District and the community to get involved in the acquisition of this property and provide recreation and other services to the community of Squaw Valley; and,

WHEREAS, Placer County currently has the responsibility for providing recreation facilities in Squaw Valley, but has expressed an interest in selling the U. S. Forest Service/park property to the District with the understanding that the District will maintain the park facilities built there; and,

WHEREAS, many members of the community have expressed an interest in the park and recreation facilities being put in the local control of the District; and,

**RESOLUTION 97-28**  
**PAGE TWO**

WHEREAS, the funding for park and recreation activities should be provided from sources other than water, sewer, and garbage fees paid to the District; and,

WHEREAS, the District and the Squaw Valley Municipal Advisory Council have formed a Joint Committee to investigate services within the Valley and said Committee has asked the District to formulate a policy statement in this regard;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Squaw Valley County Water District that the District is interested in investigating these possibilities in coordination with the Squaw Valley Municipal Advisory Council and Placer County and proceeding with assuming these responsibilities if proven to be feasible.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 25th day of September, 1997, at a Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Squaw Valley County Water District duly called and held at the Squaw Valley Fire Station Meeting Room by the following vote:

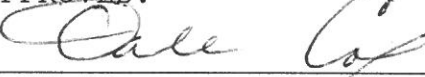
AYES: Directors Arnold Allen, Dale Cox, Bill Fiedler,  
Eric Poulsen, and Stan Tomlinson

NOES: None


ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

APPROVED:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dale Cox, Board President  
SQUAW VALLEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Valerie Elder, Board Secretary

## **RESOLUTION 99-08**

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SQUAW VALLEY PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICT DECLARING THE INTENT OF THE DISTRICT TO ASSUME THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR PARK AND RECREATION FACILITIES IN SQUAW VALLEY**

WHEREAS, the Squaw Valley Public Service District's purpose is to address the needs of the community for local services unmet by other governmental entities or private enterprise; and,

WHEREAS, the mission of the District is to provide, maintain, and advocate for needed, high-quality, and financially sound governmental services for our community, including, but not limited to, water, fire protection, sewer, and garbage; and,

WHEREAS, the District's enabling legislation, Division 12 of the Water Code, Section 31130, states:

"A district may use any water or land under its control for recreational purposes and in connection therewith may construct, maintain, and operate any works or facilities appropriate or ancillary to such recreational use; provided, that recreational use of water shall be subject to the approval of the public health authority having jurisdiction."

WHEREAS, the District has considered the feasibility of taking on the leadership in developing and maintaining park and recreation facilities in Squaw Valley; and,

WHEREAS, Placer County is in the process of acquiring real property, located in Squaw Valley, from the U. S. Forest Service with the intent of developing a park on the site; and,

WHEREAS, the District is the only local government agency in Squaw Valley; and,

WHEREAS, the District has determined it is beneficial to the District and the community to acquire this property and provide recreation and other services to the community of Squaw Valley; and,

WHEREAS, Placer County currently has the responsibility for providing recreation facilities in Squaw Valley, but has expressed an interest in selling the U. S. Forest Service park property to the District subject to terms and conditions of transfer satisfactory to the District; and,

WHEREAS, the community has expressed an interest in park and recreation facilities being put in the local control of the District;

**RESOLUTION 99-08**  
**Page Two**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Squaw Valley Public Service District that the District intends to assume the responsibility for park and recreation facilities and services in Squaw Valley upon assuming ownership of the USFS property.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 29th day of April, 1999, at a Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Squaw Valley Public Service District duly called and held at the Squaw Valley Fire Station Meeting Room by the following vote:

AYES: Directors Dale Cox, William Fiedler, Eric Poulsen, and Stan Tomlinson

NOES: None

ABSENT: Director Tom Lovely

ABSTAIN: None

APPROVED:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dale Cox, Board President  
SQUAW VALLEY PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICT

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Valerie Elder, Board Secretary





**SQUAW VALLEY PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICT**

1810 Squaw Valley Road  
Post Office Box 2026  
Olympic Valley, CA 96146-2026

Phone: (530) 583-4692 FAX: (530) 583-6228

EXHIBIT

F-6

Page 1 of 2

September 12, 2003

Mr. John Ramirez, Administrator  
Placer County Parks & Grounds Division  
11476 C Avenue  
Auburn, California 95603

RE: Squaw Valley Park  
Draft Park Agreement

Dear John:

I have added the your suggested changes to the draft park agreement as requested. Although, this does not imply the District's approval, it does provide a basis for discussion. A copy is enclosed for your review. At our August 26, 2003, Board of Directors Meeting the issue of transferring the park and all public park services to the District was discussed in some length. During this discussion, the particular issue of park financing, both capital and operational costs, was discussed and, as you can imagine, questions came up that require additional information. Can you please provide the following information:

1. What is the status of the construction contract, including the original contract price, current total contract price, outstanding change orders, and scheduled completion date? Are there other foreseeable, yet undefined, change orders forthcoming?
2. Can you provide a spreadsheet showing all sources of revenue and current and anticipated expenditures to complete the park?
3. Can you provide a more complete description of all of the public park services the District would acquire under this agreement including current open spaces? Legal descriptions or Assessor's Parcel Numbers and value of the assets would be helpful.
4. Do you have a complete annual operating budget (revenues and expenses) for all of the public park facilities and services provided in Squaw Valley that the District would assume under this agreement?



John Ramirez  
September 12, 2003  
Page 2

The District understands that proportionate to the population of the rest of the County, Squaw Valley has been allocated more than its share of Park Bond Act grant funds. At the same time we would like to remind the County that, per capita, Squaw Valley contributes more revenue to the County than most other regions, and that, except for the grant funds, the park has been financed from funds derived almost entirely from Squaw Valley. The investment of grant funds in Squaw Valley Park will improve Squaw Valley as a destination resort and thereby return dividends to Placer County in the future through increased revenues. With that stated, the District is still willing to consider participation in funding the park construction as consideration to acquire Squaw Valley Park for this community once we have received and examined the above requested information.

John, we appreciate your time and effort to move these discussions ahead. Maybe it is time we get together to discuss the agreement; please let me know.

Sincerely,



Richard L. Lierman  
General Manager

RLL/lid  
Enclosure

cc: Honorable Supervisor Rex Bloomfield, Placer County Board of Supervisors  
Ed Heneveld, Squaw Valley Municipal Advisory Council

Rick/John Ramirez Park Transfer Cover Letter September 12, 2003

EXHIBIT  
F-8  
Pg 1-3

October 25, 2004

Mr. Richard L. Lierman  
Squaw Valley Public Service District  
P.O. Box 2026  
Olympic Valley, Ca 96146-2026

Dear Rick,

On August 18, 2004, staff of the County Department of Facility Services met with you to discuss the future operation and ownership of Squaw Valley Park. This is a brief summary of the items we talked about.

#### FUTURE OWNERSHIP

You mentioned the Squaw Valley community had a desire to have local control over the operation of Squaw Valley Park. We believe the easiest way to do this will be to keep the park in County ownership and, if desired by the community, eventually transfer operational responsibilities to the Squaw Valley Public Service District (SVPD). The County could enter into such an agreement similar to other agreements that are in place between the County and the North Tahoe Public Utility District and the County and the Tahoe City Public Utility District. Copies of these agreements are attached.

#### FUNDING

Funding for maintenance of Squaw Valley Park is paid through a combination of Transient Occupancy Tax funds, County Service Area (CSA) assessments and park user fees.

Funding for future improvements could be provided through a combination of County Park Dedication Fee funds and community donations.

It is the County's understanding that, if ownership were transferred to SVPD, operational income from our CSA could no longer be legally collected and therefore SVPD would need to develop your own method of funding ongoing maintenance and associated management costs.



## SCHEDULING OF USE – PARK RESERVATIONS

As we discussed, County staff has considerable experience developing use schedules as well as resolving conflicts between sometimes conflicting park demands. Currently, we are planning to continue to perform these responsibilities during calendar year 2005. If you would like to have this responsibility transferred to the SVPD after 2005, let me know and we can work on transitioning this responsibility.

## TOT LOTS

As we discussed, state law requires routine inspection and documentation of tot lot conditions and repairs by state certified playground inspectors. We have two such individuals on our maintenance staff. Currently, responsibility for inspections of the playgrounds as well as repair of the tot lots lies with the County. If the SVPD would become the owners of the park, SVPD would need to assume this responsibility.

## COMMUNITY DUMPSTERS

Community dumpsters would be handled by the SVPD on SVPD property, and not on the County Park Property.

## WATER TREATMENT PLANT

You asked that we check on the possibility of the SVPD constructing a small, non obtrusive, Water Treatment Plant on the park property. Although we have no objection to such a concept, our review of the deed leads us to conclude that such a use is not allowed. We would be happy to send a copy of the deed to your counsel and perhaps he might obtain a favorable interpretation from the Forest Service.

## TRAILS

Under the maintenance agreement, the County would expect the SVPD to assume responsibility for maintenance of the Squaw Valley Bike Trail.

As we also discussed, should ownership of the park be transferred to SVPD it would only make sense that the district assume all recreation responsibilities as well. Such responsibilities would be maintenance of the Squaw Valley Bike Trail as well as all efforts related to planning, construction, and maintenance of future bike, hiking and equestrian trails throughout the valley.

## FUTURE RESPONSIBILITIES

Responsibility for future improvements, such as removal of dead trees near high use areas and construction of a fence around the wetlands is currently the responsibility of the County, as is responsibility for monitoring the Special Use Permits for the park. Should the SVPD assume ownership of the park, these responsibilities would transfer to the SVPD.

**SQUAW VALLEY PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICT LETTER**  
**DATED OCTOBER 25, 2004**  
**PAGE 3 OF 3**

I hope this letter provides an accurate summary of our discussion.

Please feel free to call me at (530) 889-6807 with any questions.

SINCERELY,

---

JOHN RAMIREZ, ADMINISTRATOR  
PARKS AND GROUNDS DIVISION

JER:dh

Attachments

cc: Albert Richie

svpsdbulletpts



### **REVIEW PLACER COUNTY LETTER REGARDING SQUAW VALLEY PARK**

President Cox commented about the need to obtain a permit from Placer County to use the park.

Director Poulsen said Placer County would not give us ownership, but would give us the fiscal and administrative responsibilities, which may not be advantageous.

Director Wilcox advised the County Service Area fund is \$6000 per year for the park maintenance.

Rick Lierman recounted that the District, allowing us to be involved in the administration of Squaw Valley Park when we took ownership, passed a Resolution.

Rick Lierman said when the park was being designed the District had input as to the process through the Squaw Valley Municipal Advisory Council. The District presented several issues to be negotiated with Placer County. The County ran out of money while the park was being constructed and came to the District with a request for \$500,000. The District denied the request.

Rick Lierman advised that he went to meet with the representatives from Placer County. Rick said he asked them for a proposal that the District may consider. The letter attached is the proposal from Placer County. Rick said some of the issues that need to be addressed have to do with the level of service at the park, what the community expects, scheduling, when is it opened and closed, the future use of property, and who determines the use of the property, the community or Placer County. Also, Rick asked where does the money come from for maintenance and capital issues.

Director Wilcox commented that he would like to see the Squaw Valley Park be locally managed.

Pam Rocca indicated that Squaw Valley Municipal Advisory Council (SVMAC) is the lead on obtaining the feedback from the community. Pam Rocca said the SVMAC has a park committee and will continue to have meetings on what the community wants for the park.

President Cox commented that Placer County has asked the District for money, which in turn is asking the community for funds. The Resolution was adopted taking the responsibility of owning the park and the District has no responsibility for the park unless the District is going to assume ownership. President Cox said the District is not going to take the lead from SVMAC. The District deals with what is presented to the Board from Placer County.

Director Murphy commented that Placer County neglects the needs of the community. Director Murphy feels it is contrary that Placer County could run the park for the community better than the District.

Director Wilcox explained one option is that Placer County would continue to own the park and contract with the District to maintain the park. The other option is for the District to own and maintain the park. Director Wilcox preferred that we own and maintain the park, providing it is financially and administratively possible.

There was extensive discussion as to the confusion of ownership of the park and the fiscal and administrative responsibilities.

President Cox advised to table the Squaw Valley Park issue for further discussion. President Cox indicated the District would let the SVMAC continue participation with Placer County regarding the park. President Cox said if a request comes to the District for funds we would make it an Agenda item.

#### **STATUS REPORT-FIRE DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS/CAPITAL PROJECTS**

Chief Bansen advised there was a house fire with little damage and the fire crew did a great job. Chief Bansen summarized his report to the Board and offered to answer any questions. It was commented there was a dumpster fire and Chief Bansen relayed that hot ashes were put in the dumpster in front of the District office. He advised that the fire was extinguished quickly.

Brad Dutton asked Chief Bansen if the District would consider eliminating Truckee Fire Protection District as a transport agency.

Chief Bansen commented that the direction from the Board is to implement an Advanced Life Support program. Chief Bansen said the transport issue is complicated and dynamic. Chief Bansen said statistically Truckee Fire Protection District's availability, from Station 92, is more consistent, reliable, and less effected by traffic.

#### **STATUS REPORT-WATER & SEWER OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE REPORT/CAPITAL PROJECTS STATUS**

Rick Lierman advised Jesse McGraw was out due to an injury while on vacation. Rick said the report is in order.

#### **STATUS REPORT-TAHOE TRUCKEE SANITATION AGENCY (T-TSA)**

President Cox reported that the treatment plant is over budget as expected. President Cox reported that everything is flowing at T-TSA.

#### **STATUS REPORT-SQUAW VALLEY MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL**

No comments.

#### **STATUS REPORT-LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION**

Director Moberly indicated that there was a meeting in November. There was nothing that impacted the District.

#### **STATUS REPORT-GROUNDWATER FUEL OIL CONTAMINATION**

Rick Lierman indicated there was no report.