



**AGENDA - RECREATION DISTRICT REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

**Wednesday**, April 1, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. in Card Room C / Zoom

**Zoom Details:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9687107160> **Meeting ID:** 968 710 7160 – **Passcode:** HgrdMeet1

BOARD MEMBERS	PRESENT	OTHERS	PRESENT
Supervisor Bill Kulkoski		GM J.B. Belknap	
Supervisor Karen Mars		Controller Lynn Brew	
Supervisor Peter Overs		District Counsel Tom Hart	
Supervisor Jayne Schwarz		Assistant GM Karon Bennett	
Supervisor Howard Young		Residents	

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** – Counsel Hart
- II. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Supervisor Overs
- III. **ROLL CALL** – Karon Bennett
- IV. **DISCIPLINARY APPEAL HEARING** – Stephen Leadbetter
- V. **INSTALLATION OF NEWLY ELECTED MEMBERS AND OATH OF OFFICE** – Counsel Hart
  - Nominations for the Position of Chair
  - Nominations for other Board Positions
    - Vice Chair
    - Treasurer
    - Secretary
    - Assistant Treasurer/ Secretary
  - Designation of Committee Liaisons
  - Dates and Locations for 2027 Board Meetings
- VI. **DISTRICT COUNSEL’S REPORT** - Counsel Hart
- VII. **GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT**– GM J.B. Belknap
- VIII. **COMMITTEE REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS**
  - Library Committee – March 19
  - Long-Range Planning Committee – Technology Subcommittee March 26
  - Facilities & Amenities Committee – March 30
- IX. **OLD BUSINESS**
- X. **NEW BUSINESS**
  - HGRD Vendor Insurance -Supervisor Mars
  - Letters from Mr. Schmidt – Bee Hives and Softball Trophy Display
- XI. **RESIDENT COMMENTS**
- XII. **UPCOMING MEETINGS**
  - Monday, April 6, 2026 — Resident Events Committee — 1:00 p.m. CR-C/Zoom
  - Monday, April 13, 2026 — Long-Range Planning Committee — 9:00 a.m. CR-C/Zoom
  - Monday, April 13, 2026 — Golf Committee — 1:30 p.m. CR-C/Zoom
  - Thursday**, April 16, 2026 — Joint Board Meeting with Finance Committee (Insurance) — 9:00 a.m. CR-C/Zoom
  - Monday, April 20, 2026 — Facilities & Amenities Committee — 9:00 a.m. CR-C/Zoom
  - Monday, April 27, 2026 — Joint Board Meeting with Finance Committee (Mid-Year Review) — 9:00 a.m. CR-C/Zoom
- XIII. **ADJOURNMENT**



**MINUTES - RECREATION DISTRICT REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

Wednesday, April 1, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. in Card Room C / Zoom

BOARD MEMBERS	PRESENT	OTHERS	PRESENT
Supervisor Bill Kulkoski	X	GM J.B. Belknap	X
Supervisor Karen Mars	X	Controller Lynn Brew	Excused
Supervisor Peter Overs	X	District Counsel Tom Hart	X
Supervisor Jayne Schwarz	X	Assistant GM Karon Bennett	X
Supervisor Howard Young	X	Residents	9

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** – Counsel Hart opened the meeting at 9:00 AM.
- II. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Supervisor Overs led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. **ROLL CALL** – Assistant GM Karon Bennett took roll call; attendees are listed above.

**DISCIPLINARY APPEAL HEARING** – Counsel Hart led the Public Hearing for resident, Stephen Leadbetter, to discuss his appeal of a 30-day suspension imposed on him following an incident in the lounge where he used profane language toward staff. The Board heard testimony from Mr. Leadbetter, Food & Beverage Director Janine Stepanich, and resident Barbara Callahan, which confirmed Mr. Leadbetter used offensive language when speaking to an HGRD employee. In keeping with the HGRD Policies & Procedures, any person who engages in conduct while on District property, which is deemed to be offensive, disorderly, a threat to good order, or in violation of District Policies & Procedures, District Rules & Regulations, or otherwise detrimental to the best interests of the District, is subject to disciplinary action. *After reviewing the evidence and discussing the relevant conduct rules, Supervisor Overs made a motion to uphold the suspension. Supervisor Mars seconded the motion. **The motion was approved unanimously.*** Mr. Leadbetter will continue his 30-day suspension from all access to and use of Recreation District facilities, specifically including, but not limited to, the golf course, lounge/bar, ballroom, fitness center, and pool. The suspension will be lifted on April 29, 2026.

IV. **INSTALLATION OF NEWLY ELECTED MEMBERS AND OATH OF OFFICE**

- A. As the first order of business, Counsel Hart gave the Oath of Office and swore in Karen Mars as a member of the Board of Supervisors.
- B. Counsel Hart asked the Board for nominations for the offices of the Board for the following year.
  - *Supervisor Young nominated Supervisor Overs as Chair. Supervisor Kulkoski seconded the nomination. **Supervisor Overs was elected unanimously.***
  - *Supervisor Overs nominated Supervisor Young as Vice Chair. Supervisor Kulkoski seconded the nomination. **Supervisor Young was elected unanimously.***
  - *Supervisor Mars nominated Supervisor Schwarz as Treasurer. Vice Chair Young seconded the nomination. **Supervisor Schwarz was elected unanimously.***
  - *Supervisor Kulkoski nominated Supervisor Mars as Secretary. Vice Chair Young seconded the nomination. **Supervisor Mars was elected unanimously.***
  - *Supervisor Schwarz nominated Supervisor Kulkoski as Assistant Secretary/Treasurer. Vice Chair Young seconded the nomination. **Supervisor Kulkoski was elected unanimously.***
  - **Designation of Committee Liaisons** – *Supervisor Kulkoski made a motion to appoint the committee liaisons as listed:*
    - *Facilities & Amenities Committee Board Liaison Supervisor Mars*
    - *Finance Committee Board Liaison Supervisor Schwarz*
    - *Golf Committee Board Liaison Chair Overs*
    - *Long-Range Planning Committee Board Liaison Vice Chair Young*
    - *Resident Events Committee Board Liaison Supervisor Kulkoski*

*Vice Chair Young seconded the motion. **The motion was approved unanimously.***

C. **Dates and Locations for 2027 Board Meetings** – *Supervisor Kulkoski made a motion to approve the Board's meeting dates, times, and locations for 2027 as presented. Supervisor Schwarz seconded the motion. **The motion was approved unanimously.*** (Attachment A). The Board will discuss the potential need to move the Budget Workshops to July rather than June at a later date.

V. **DISTRICT COUNSEL'S REPORT** - Counsel Hart stated that the summary judgment hearing for the Dragon Sports Recreation legal issue will take place on April 8, 2026.

VI. **GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**– GM J.B. Belknap provided the following update:

**CLIS 2-Wire Project** – SFWMD issues permits providing the number of gallons of water per day which may be withdrawn from the aquifers. Based on the District's permit and the current water withdrawal rate. The group had a discussion on motorizing a well pump, which would increase the amount of water received from the well on Number 4 from 100 gallons per minute to 200 gallons per minute. *Vice Chair Young made a motion to authorize the General Manager to have the well pump #4 motorized for \$3,300 by Kirkwood Electric. Supervisor Mars seconded the motion. **The motion was approved unanimously.*** Stahlman-England is proposing to install several new gate valves and gaskets in the Embarcadero/Rio Nuevo area. The total project remains under the \$2.8 million budget allocated.

**Chlorination & Flushing** - GM Belknap reported that the backflow valve at the Portofino pump has been repaired, and the chlorine injection system is now operational. We are introducing chlorine tablets into the wet wells as part of a preventative maintenance program to improve irrigation water quality and reduce mineral buildup. Mainscape will support this effort with routine system flushing to maintain performance.

**Storage Containers** - The storage container project remains under site development review and is currently delayed due to LDO revisions, with follow-up underway to explore expediting the process.

**#17 bulkhead** – The project continues through the zoning review process, with a peer review expected later this month, while additional feedback from SFWMD is still pending.

**Bocce North Shade Structure** - Waterway has been authorized to move forward with the remaining two canopies. The material has been ordered, and an installation date will be scheduled once it's received.

**Bridge Concerns** - An engineering evaluation of the bridge has been completed, with a report expected next week., A camera has been installed and the amount and type of traffic using the bridge is being reviewed.

**#9 Tee** - Preparations for the construction of a new tee on hole #9 are scheduled to begin in late April, with construction anticipated in May.

VII. **COMMITTEE REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Long-Range Planning Committee** – Denise Fell reported on the subcommittee's first meeting, where they discussed opportunities related to POS usage, event ticket sales, and website functionality. The group is still in the discovery phase and will not be making recommendations yet.

**Facilities & Amenities Committee** – The committee discussed insurance and licensing requirements, for residents who use District facilities to provide services to other residents for a fee. They agreed to review certificates of insurance to ensure proper coverage and protection for the district, with JB and Supervisor Mars offering to help create a comprehensive policy. The board recommitted the vendor insurance discussion for further research and recommendations.

VIII. **OLD BUSINESS** – No old business was presented.

IX. **NEW BUSINESS**

**HGRD Vendor Insurance** – Every person who is an independent contractor who is doing business with the Rec District should have Herons Glen as an additionally insured on their insurance policy. A full review of the vendor's certificate of insurance is underway for Farmers' Market vendors to make sure that Herons Glen is added as additional insured and a waiver of subrogation submitted.

**Letters from Mr. Schmidt – Honeybee Hives Location Request** - Edward and Shirley Schmidt presented their request to maintain honeybee hives in Heron's Glen, explaining they initially had a location in Lakeville but now need to find an alternative site. The board expressed concerns about residents with serious allergies to bee stings, potential covenant violations regarding raising and breeding of animals, and commercial activity on District property. The valuable service the couple provides to the community was acknowledged. The board requested counsel review the Community Covenants and deed restrictions before making a final decision.

**Softball Trophy Display Discussion** - Edward and Shirley Schmidt presented their request for the placement of softball trophies and displays. The board shared with the Schmidts that the previous display was moved as part of our design renovation. To maintain consistency, all sports teams' displays and all individual recognitions were moved to the Administrative hallway. Some board members suggested alternative methods to promote the softball team such as using community bulletins or setting up booths at activities fairs. , No motion was made to revisit the placement of the trophy display.

- X. **RESIDENT COMMENTS** - Resident Mark Dorman reported that he watched as his sprinklers only ran for 5 seconds while neighbors received 10-15 minutes of water. The Board explained that the new weather-based system operates on rotating schedules (odd/even addresses) with general timeframes rather than specific times, and confirmed they would investigate the resident's specific situation. They agreed to have Mainscape check the system's functionality and provide a report, suggesting the resident use a catch device to verify water delivery. The Board also noted that additional water cannot be provided for turf replacement during drought conditions per District policy.

XI. **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

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Monday, April 27, 2026 — Joint Board Meeting with Finance Committee (Mid-Year Review) — 9:00 a.m. CR-C/Zoom

- XII. **ADJOURNMENT** took place at 10:35 a.m.

Submitted By:

 04/16/2026  
Karon Bennett, Assistant GM Date

Approved By the HGRD Board:

 04/16/2026  
Peter Overs, HGRD Board Chair Date

# Attachment

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## Recreation District Board of Supervisors Meetings 2027

All meetings will begin at **9:00 a.m.** in Card Room C unless otherwise noted below:

<p>Board Meeting January 11</p> <p>Joint Board &amp; Finance Meeting (Auditors) Not Presented through Zoom January 25</p> <p>Board Meeting February 08</p> <p>Board Meeting February 22</p> <p>Meet the Candidates March 03 @ <b>6 p.m.</b></p> <p>Board Meeting March 08</p> <p>Election Day March 23</p> <p>Board Meeting March 24</p> <p>Board Organizational Meeting April 01</p> <p>Board Meeting April 12</p> <p>Joint Board &amp; Finance Meeting April 26 (Mid-Year Review)</p> <p>Board Meeting May 17</p>	<p>Board Workshops (Budget) June 14, 15, 16, and 17 <i>Note: Thursday's meeting may be canceled if business is complete.</i></p> <p>Board Meeting June 18 (Preliminary Budget)</p> <p>Board Meeting July 19 @ <b>9:30 a.m.</b></p> <p>Joint Board &amp; Finance Meeting (Health Benefits) August 16 @ <b>9:30 a.m.</b></p> <p>Public Hearing/Annual Budget Monday, August 30 @ <b>6 p.m.</b> in the Ballroom</p> <p>Board Meeting Sept 20 @ <b>9:30 a.m.</b></p> <p>Board Meeting October 04</p> <p>Board Meeting October 18</p> <p>Board Meeting November 01</p> <p>Board Meeting December 06</p>
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### THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND ALL MEETINGS.

**Location:** Herons Glen Golf & Country Club 2250 Herons Glen Blvd. | North Fort Myers, Florida 33917  
**Zoom:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9687107160> | Meeting ID: 968 710 7160 – Passcode: HgrdMeet1  
**HGRD Board of Supervisors Email:** [hgrdboard@hgrdnfm.com](mailto:hgrdboard@hgrdnfm.com)

Any person requiring special accommodation at meetings because of a disability or physical impairment should contact Herons Glen at (239) 731-4501 at least five (5) calendar days before the meeting. If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Herons Glen Recreation District concerning any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, (s)he will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, (s)he may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.