

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
GROVELAND COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT  
GROVELAND, CALIFORNIA**

**July 14, 2008  
9:00 a.m.**

The Board of Directors of Groveland Community Services District met in regular session on the above mentioned date with Directors Richard Lennen, President, John Gray, Vice President, Gus Allegri, Wesley Johnson, and Steve Perreira being present. Also present were General Manager Jim Goodrich, District Engineer Randy Klaahsen, District Council David McMurchie, Secretary to the Board Vicki West, and Administrative Staff Member Lena Spilman.

President Lennen called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

***Agenda Approval***

Director Allegri moved, seconded by Director Gray, and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the agenda as written.

***Public Comment***

No Comments

**Action Items**

***Consent Calendar***

Director Allegri moved, seconded by President Lennen, and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the consent calendar.

- A. Approve Minutes of the June 23, 2008 Regular Board Meeting
- B. Waive Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions except by Title

***Adopt Amended Resolution 5-08, A Resolution of Intention to Levy Assessments for FY 2008-09, Preliminarily Approving Engineer's Report, and Providing for Notice of Hearing for the Groveland Fire and Rescue District***

*The Board adopted the amended Resolution to reflect a change in date of the public hearing on the proposed assessment. The date will be moved from July 14, 2008 to July 28, 2008, allowing additional time for staff to provide proper notice of the hearing to the public.*

*Director Johnson moved, seconded by Director Allegri, and the motion passed unanimously, to adopt the amended Resolution.*

***Consider and Approve Lease Agreement with Southside Senior Services, Inc. (SSSI) for Locating and Operating The Gathering Place on GCSD Land near Leon Rose Field.***

General Manager Goodrich, spoke to the Board and the Public on the history of Groveland Community Services District's efforts to establish The Gathering Place. Mr.

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Goodrich explained that the current lease agreement encompasses up to 3 acres close to Leon Rose Ball Field. The building to house The Gathering Place will be owned by GCSD and will be leased to Southside Senior Services, Inc. for \$1 a year for 30 years, with 4 possible 15-year extensions. While SSSI would assume financial responsibility for the construction of the proposed 17,000 square foot building or buildings, as well as all associated operational and maintenance costs, the building itself and the property on which it is to be constructed would remain the property of GCSD.

Chief Financial Officer for SSSI, Catherine Santa Maria, spoke to the Board and members of the public, urging them to support this project. The Gathering Place, she explained, would be a meeting place for active adults to pursue a healthy life style, receive support, socialize and engage in intergenerational activities and programs. Mrs. Santa Maria explained that this project has been a long time in the making, and that SSSI has already gathered 500 signatures and raised approximately \$250,000 from local residents in support of The Gathering Place. Mrs. Santa Maria further explained that in order to obtain the grants and federal funding necessary to move forward with this project, The Gathering Place must first procure a permanent location. After receiving the necessary federal funding and grants, SSSI hopes to support their services through possible commercial sub-leases of their building space, such as a physical therapy center or gym.

Some members of the public expressed concern that the proposed building, as it would include a large event facility, would pose a threat to local businesses who rely on income from hosting weddings and other special events. Mrs. Santa Maria assured the Board and members the public that SSSI does not wish to compete in any way with local businesses, and agreed to host only those events that would exceed the capacity of local venues.

Director Perreira voiced concern that The Gathering Place lacked public support and would be an underutilized resource in the Groveland Community. Director Perreira continued that he would like to see this issue go to a community vote to determine the level of support there would be for such a project before entering into an agreement. In response to this concern, Mrs. Santa Maria reminded all present that the financial burden for this project would not come from either GCSD or members of the community, and that it would be completely funded through grants. She suggested that, while already obtaining 500 community signatures, she could easily increase that number. Mrs. Santa Maria assured Director Perreira and others concerned with underutilization of the facilities, that this service would not only be utilized, but that our community is poorly lacking any such services for our large population of active seniors.

Director Gray agreed with Mrs. Santa Maria's assertions, maintaining that there is a compelling need for something like The Gathering Place in this community. Director Allegri agreed, and stated that with the inclusion of a few minor modifications to the lease agreement to reflect the concerns brought forward during the course of the meeting, he would support the proposed project.

*Director Allegri moved, seconded by President Lennen, and the motion passed, to approve the amended lease agreement with Southside Senior Services, Inc. for locating and operating the gathering place on GCSD land.*

*Ayes: President Lennen, Directors Allegri, Johnson and Gray. Noes: Director Perreira*

***Consider Adoption of Section 600—Facilities Development, as the District’s Comprehensive Set of Policies and Procedures Regarding the Processing and Evaluation by the District of Developers/Owners Requests to use GCSD Services***

The Board continued the discussion concerning Section 600—Facilities Development Manual from the previous meeting. Amendments were made to the document, and the item was continued to the next meeting.

**Information Items**

***Staff Reports***

***A. General Manager’s Comments***

General Manager Jim Goodrich introduced Union Democrat Reporter James Damschroder as the new reporter assigned to cover the GCSD Board of Directors meetings. Mr. Goodrich also announced that he had received great feedback concerning the new fire retardant station installed behind the District. A formal station, paid for by the U.S. Forest Service, is now operational at the District to provide both a source of reclaimed wastewater for the fire retardant mixture used in fighting forest fires and a staging area for the vehicles and helicopters needed. The station can be operational within a half a day, and greatly reduces the cycle time in picking up and dropping retardant during an emergency close to Groveland.

***B. Engineer’s Report***

District Engineer Randy Klaahsen reported on the progress of capital projects and responded to questions and comments from the Board.

***Adjournment***

Director Johnson moved, and the motion was seconded by Director Allegri, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 11:38 am.

APPROVED:

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Richard Lennen, President

ATTEST:

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Vicki L. West, Board Secretary