



**Hendry LaBelle Recreation Board**  
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February 16, 2023

A regular scheduled meeting of the Hendry LaBelle Recreation Board was held on the above date at 6:00 PM at the Hendry-LaBelle Recreation Office, 310 Cowboy Way, LaBelle, Florida.

City Commissioner Daniel Akin called the meeting to order at 6:00PM. Opening Prayer was led by County Commissioner Mitchell Wills. Members also present were City Commissioner Bobbie Spratt, Schoolboard Member Amanda Nelson and County Commissioner Rowdy Howard. Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion to accept January 19, 2023 and February 2, 2023 minutes was made by County Commissioner Mitchell Wills and seconded by Schoolboard Member Amanda Nelson. All in favor, motion passed unanimously.

Interim Director Steven Lynn told the Board about the estimate for the irrigation at Forrey Park and this item might have to go out for bid so the figures were not presented until we decide what needs to be accomplished. This information will go to Rock for evaluation. The panel that will have to order will take about 10 months to get. County Commissioner Mitchell Wills also stated not to be surprised about delays in anything at this time. Discussion was had to go ahead and order any supplies that we need. County Commissioner Mitchell Wills also agreed and this might save some time and money. We would just need to get

labor to install. The decision was to get the information to Rock and to the Board on materials and pricing for the next meeting.

FP&L was discussed and Lilly spoke and quoted the demand fee that were given her from FP&L. No comments were given other then the high rate of the fees for service.

Discussion was had about repairing the parking lot at the boat ramp. We are still waiting on an estimate from Road and Bridge for the repairs. County Commissioner Mitchell Wills made a motion that the Board give permission to move forward with this decision from a choice made by the Chairman and Director on what company to hire, seconded by City Commissioner Bobbie Spratt. All in favor, motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Daniel Akin requested the information from Richelle Battams who was not present. The issue is to fence in the pickleball court. A four foot fence was recommended and a request of how much Richelle Battams was willing to fundraise for the cost of the fence was asked.

Interim Director Steven Lynn presented the Board with the Fourth Amendment which needs errors corrected that he requested several weeks ago and they were not made. He requested from the Board if they still wanted him to sign these papers even though they were not fixed? County Commissioner Mitchell Wills stated that the correct language needed to be on there. County Commissioner Mitchell Wills stated that Steven was acting Director and not the Secretary to the Board and that should be corrected. He also stated that other things were highlighted and needed to be fixed as well before signing. County Commissioner Mitchell Wills also brought up that there are 4 different names for the park on Forrey. County Commissioner Mitchell Wills stated that the Sports Park and the Regional Park are too close and a change needed to be made. The legal description for LYDA area Sports Park is "Hendry County Sports Park". This is the issue. A motion was made to call the new park on Forrey "Forrey Park" by City Commissioner Bobbie Spratt and seconded by County Commissioner Mitchell Wills. All in favor, motion passed unanimously.

Gracie Mortin explained about the insurance for the Skate Park. PRN is who holds the insurance. The insurance stated is not a desirable decision. They would cover

but will need to consider other options like a fenced in area. If the actual skate park area needs a separate fence around it or if the existing fence is sufficient. A recommendation to move the existing dog park at Hendry County Sports Park was made and put the skate park in that area. Just move the Dog Park to the front of the park. It was stated that this was a skate park at one time in the past. The Board recommended that we find the original paperwork for the old skate park and see what options might be available.

County Commissioner Mitchell Wills passed a page to everyone for a West Recreation Tax Assessment and what different options to raise taxes to might bring into the budget. It lists current, \$25.00, \$50.00 and \$75.00 increase. He asked that everyone take a look at this and come back to the table to discuss the options.

Interim Director Steven Lynn asked about his position and the fact that he has been serving in this capacity for over 5 months on probation and would like to request a permanent appointment to Director. He has turned in his application for this position. Chairman Daniel Akin will check with HR to see if any other applications for the position have been handed in. The Board will come back with an answer for the next meeting.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Daniel Akin asked if there were any other concerns and everything had been addressed. Chairman Daniel Akin adjourned the meeting. Meeting was dismissed at 6:32 pm.