

COUNTY SERVICE AREA 81
Committee Meeting Minutes
February 19, 2026

1. The meeting, held at Live Oak Park, was called to order by Stephani Baxter at 9:00 am.

In attendance: Chair Stephani Baxter, committee members Sean O’Callaghan, Susan Reed, David Throop and Bryan Hanewinkel. San Diego County staff present were Jake Enriquez, Riley Dewitt-Rickards, Mark Kieser, Lauren Raduc and Nancy Santillan. Also present were Kirk Philo and Nate Hines with the Fallbrook Sports Association. Absent were committee members Kari Hoyer and Jim Loge.

Stephani donated an American flag. David led us in the pledge of allegiance.

2. Open Agenda –None

3. Approval of the January 15, 2026, minutes – After a committee edit, Susan made a motion to accept the January minutes as corrected. The motion was seconded by David and passed unanimously.

3. Financial Report – David presented the financial report. There was some confusion with the way the numbers flow through each month. Jake brought up January on the tv screen for review. The PLDO fund balance as of the end of January was \$872,000.00. Stephani moved to have the financial report accepted as presented, it was seconded by Bryan Hanewinkel and passed unanimously.

4. Park Updates – Park Ranger Lauren Raduc reported Rainbow is having a Volunteer Day on Saturday, March 21 from 9:00 am to 11:30 am to help beautify the park by picking up litter, mulching around the tree basins and additional landscape improvements. The tree maintenance was completed at Clemmens Lane Park providing additional safety around the sycamore and cypress trees. They participated in the Fallbrook Community Center’s Valentines Day event for the seniors, which was a success. On January 28th they conducted a “reading with the ranger” at the Fallbrook library. It was so successful that another is planned for Village View Park on March 25. New signage is being provided for Village View Park letting the public know the skate and dog park portion of the park will be closed in case of inclement weather.

5. Community Center - Nancy Santillan reported 35 cubic yards of mulch were delivered and is being spread at the Fallbrook Community Center. The back lawn has been reseeded, and they are busy getting ready for President’s week camp where they have 25 little campers signed up. They hosted a Senior Volunteer Day in partnership with the Center for Senior Well Being. There were about 150 participants. They are gearing up for Breakfast with the Bunny on March 28 and then have a spring camp in the last week of March. Jake shared a short video of the senior event and complimented Nancy and her staff for engaging the seniors and their quality of life.

6. Village View Park – Riley Dewitt-Rickards discussed the shade structures at the park, including the skate park and the dog park. The county designer looked at the original design plans for the park and said the structure design for the skate park was still feasible, but she wasn't sure about the dog park. Riley said there is a very critical storm water drainage system that runs beneath the dog park with a collection basin that cannot be punctured. There was discussion about the optimal location for the shade structures, taking into consideration the sun patterns and line of sight. There are still no estimated costs. The 5-year-old estimate for the original plans was about \$200,000.

7. Ballfield Update – Riley said they have been asked to look at all feasible options to replace the ballfields on Ivy Street, the land formally owned by the North County Fire Department. Some options are:

- Accelerating the construction of the Bonsall ballfields – rush that construction
- Build at Rio Prado
- Acquire land closer to the ballfields being displaced

Riley wanted our feedback. Bryan pointed out that the Bonsall ballfields would not be lit. Riley said it would probably be the same scenario for the Rio Prado Park.

Discussion ensued about ADA compliance on the two existing Ivy Street ballfields if the County took over. Jake stated multiple factors could trigger public dollars being required for ADA improvements. Sean stated that even before the possibility of losing two ballfields, the Fallbrook community was already suffering from a shortage of ballfields. He felt it would be a shame to lose them from a historical perspective and their central location downtown. Lack of ballfields has been a huge issue for several years.

Fallbrook Sports Park – Kirk Philo, President of the Fallbrook Sports Association and Nate Hines, the assistant manager, made a presentation for ballfield lighting on field number one at the Fallbrook Sports Park (aka Ingold Sports Park).

Phase 1 – retrofitting of existing lights for fields #1, #2 and #3

Phase 2 – 3 new poles and fixtures for field #1

- Need new lights to improve player safety.
- Landlord has approved it.
- Major deviation permit is being submitted.
- The bid from Musco Lighting is \$615,000 for both phases.
- Phase 1 is being funded by the Community Benefit Program Grant of \$214,140 and funds from FSA in the amount of \$100,000.
- Requesting \$300,860 for phase 2.

Bryan explained that currently the outfield lights on field 1 are from a cell phone tower and 1 pole of lights on the first base line of the field. The managers of the park do not schedule any games or league play on field #1 for night games or practice.

Nate said the park is currently booked for the rest of the year and the additional field for night play/practice is greatly needed.

Sean asked if they had applied for any grants. The answer was, yes, from the Community Benefit Program for Phase 1 but not for Phase 2. Sean said he was concerned about the funding of the Village View shade structures which was number 1 on the priority list.

Sean was afraid the Ingold project cost would be increased with unknown costs. Bryan stated the project is all inclusive and there should be no additional costs. Kirk said the only unknown cost was the filing of the major use permit. Bryan stated FSA has a county grant from former Supervisor Bill Horn for major use permit revisions in the amount of about \$27,000 that would cover any county fees.

Kirk said timing is everything and this is an opportunity to have all 3 ballfields lit properly.

Sean said he would need to know what would happen to the project if CSA did not approve the full amount.

Jake said multi source funding projects have the strongest leverage in obtaining PLDO funds. He emphasized the importance of understanding the timing and process for board letters. Jake recommended researching the Neighborhood Reinvestment Program and the Community Investment Grant as a possible source of other funds.

Sean suggested it be a voting item for next month and Stephani said she will put it on the agenda.

Park Land Search – Jake said there is an active search for park land, and they have been looking at properties but are not able to disclose the property addresses. Susan mentioned we used to get a list of potential properties which was very useful. Jake said he would send us all a copy of a Board Letter to the committee for reference.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55.

The next meeting will be held on March 19, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Reed