

RESOLUTION NO: 122014-01

CALWA RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

WHEREAS, the Calwa Recreation and Park District (the 'District') is a special district operating pursuant to the Public Resources Code, Recreation and Parks Districts §§ 5780 *et seq.*, and;

WHEREAS, the District is governed by a Board of Directors consisting of five (5) members who are elected for a term of four (4) years; and

WHEREAS, the District currently holds its Board of Directors' elections pursuant to the UDEL (Uniform District Elections) election in November of odd numbered years; and

WHEREAS, such elections are conducted by the Fresno County Clerk pursuant to Elections Code section 10517; and

WHEREAS, the costs of the UDEL election conducted by the Fresno County Clerk in odd numbered years is reimbursed to the County by those special districts that have their Board of Directors elected during said odd numbered years; and

WHEREAS, historically all special districts held their elections in odd numbered years; and

WHEREAS, the costs incurred by the Fresno County Clerk to conduct the odd numbered year elections were shared by all the special districts that had their elections in odd numbered years; and

WHEREAS, over the past several years most special districts in Fresno County have migrated their election cycle to the November of even numbered years thereby leaving fewer special districts to share the cost of reimbursing the Fresno County Clerk's office for its election costs in odd numbered years thereby causing a significant increase in the amount each special district has had to reimburse the County for its odd numbered year election; and

WHEREAS, the cost of said odd numbered year election is paid for by and creates a significant financial hardship for the District; and

WHEREAS, moving the District's elections to coincide with the statewide general elections, will result in a significant cost savings to the District; and

WHEREAS, generally, voter participation is greater for statewide general elections than for special local elections including special district Recreation and Parks Districts; and

WHEREAS, the Board seeks to enhance voter participation and specifically to increase the percentage of voters participating in the District's Board election; and

WHEREAS, the Board believes that rescheduling to ‘even-year elections’ will enhance voter participating and further increase the percentage of voters participating in the District’s Board election;

WHEREAS, it is the view of the Board that starting with the 2015 Board elections, the public interest will be better served by election of its Board members pursuant to ‘even-year elections’ in conjunction with the statewide general elections; and

WHEREAS, as result of these facts the Board desires to change the date of the future Board member elections to be consolidated with the California statewide general election in order to increase and enhance voter participation; and

WHEREAS, the District desires to conserve its financial resources and to advance the financial and logistical interests of the District and the citizens therein, and

WHEREAS, the District’s Board of Directors desires their election to coincide, and be held in conjunction with, the statewide general election, which is held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of each even numbered year; and

WHEREAS, California Elections Code section 10404, subdivision (b), authorizes the Board to adopt and submit such resolution to the board of supervisors not later than 240 days prior to the date of the currently schedule election for Board members; and

WHEREAS, Elections Code section 1303 authorizes the board of a special district to require that its elections of governing board members be held on the same day as the statewide general election, by submitting a resolution to the Fresno County Board of Supervisors; and

WHEREAS, the resolution becomes operative upon the approval of the Board of Supervisors pursuant to Elections Code Section 10404; and

WHEREAS, the current Board of Directors has two members whose term will expire in November 2015 and three members whose terms will expire in November of 2017 as is more particularly described in Exhibit A, attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, while the Board recognizes the significant cost savings to the District resulting from aligning the District’s election with the statewide general elections, this factor is not the sole motivation for the Board’s decision; but is an additional benefit that furthers the District’s policy of fiscal responsibility; and

WHEREAS, while the Board recognizes that the terms of its members would be extended as a result of aligning the District’s elections with the statewide general elections, this is not the reason for the Board’s decision; and

WHEREAS, if the change in election date is approved by the Fresno County Board of Supervisors, the Board requests that the new election date be moved from November 2015 to November 2016, with Board members whose terms would have expired in November 2017 being extended to November 2018, as required by Elections Code Section 10404(i), and as more particularly set forth in Exhibit A attached hereto which is incorporated by this reference; and

WHEREAS, if the change in election date is approved by the Fresno County Board of Supervisors, the specific dates for the tiling of nomination papers, notices, canvass of votes, certification of election results, and all other procedural requirements of the Elections Code pertaining to the general election of Board members are as set forth in Exhibit B, attached hereto and incorporated by this reference.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved:

1. That the above recitals are true and correct; and the Board adopts this resolution to consolidate the election date for members of the Board with the California statewide general election in November in even years at the same time and place as the statewide general election as conducted by Fresno County Clerk/Registrar of Voters pursuant to Elections Code Section 10404.
2. This resolution consolidating the District election with the statewide general election, shall first become operative with the general statewide elections held on November 8, 2016 and each subsequent Board member election shall be held two years thereafter in November of even years.
3. For those District Board members whose terms of office would have expired in November 2015, their terms of office will be extended to November 2016 and for those Board members whose term would have expired in 2017, their terms of office will be extended to November 2018 as is more particularly set forth in Exhibit A, attached hereto.
4. The District's Chair or her designee will forward this resolution to the Fresno County Board of Supervisors explaining the rationale for the resolution and requesting formal approval of the change by the Board of Supervisors at a public meeting within 60 days after submission and after the resolution has been posted in accordance the law.
5. The District's Chair or her designee will notify the Fresno County Elections Office that the District is prepared to pre-pay the estimated expenses of mailing notice of approval of the change in election date by the Fresno County Board of Supervisors as required by Elections Code Section 10404(f).
6. The District's Chair or her designee is authorized to take such additional and further actions and execute any instruments and documentation as may be required by the Fresno County Board of Supervisors or other County officials in order to effectuate the change of dates for the election of District members as required by this Resolution.
7. This resolution shall be submitted to the Fresno County Board of Supervisors for approval pursuant to Elections Code Section 10404 subdivision (b)(2) and shall become effective upon such approval.
8. The District, in accordance with Election Code Section 10520, shall reimburse the County for the actual costs incurred by the Fresno County Clerk/Registrar of Voters in conducting the District's election of Board members during the general election, within 45 days of being presented with an invoice.

9. The specific dates for the filing of nomination papers, notices, canvass of votes, certification of election results, and all other procedural requirements of the Elections Code pertaining to the general election of Board members are as set forth in Exhibit B, attached hereto and incorporated by this reference.

This resolution is approved and adopted this 18th day of December, 2014, at the regular meeting of the Calwa Recreation and Park District, by the following roll call vote, to wit:

Director: Raul Guerra	Aye	No	Absent	Abstain
Director: Mary Rosales	Aye	No	Absent	Abstain
Director: Paul Garcia	Aye	No	Absent	Abstain
Director: Felicia Salcido	Aye	No	Absent	Abstain
Director: Sandra Celedon	Aye	No	Absent	Abstain

Date: _____

Mary Rosales, Chairperson of the Board of Directors

I, the undersigned, hereby CERTIFY that the foregoing Resolution Number 122014-01 was duly passed and adopted by the Calwa Recreation and Park District on _____ at its regular meeting on said date.

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR
FOR CALWA RECREATION
AND PARK DISTRICT:

Attest: _____
Luis Mendoza, District
Administrator