



Original



Yellow

These are the second draft revisions based on what the Arts & Heritage Commission suggested from the first round of revisions (next page)



Sunrise Line Adjustment



Yellow Line Adjustment



Original



Yellow



Sunset

Arts and Heritage Commission Votes on these first round of revisions of logos was mixed:

Original: 2 second favorite votes; 2 least (fourth) favorite votes

Yellow: 1 most favorite vote; 3 third favorite votes

Yellow with Line Adjustment (not shown here but shown on revisions first page): 1 most favorite vote; 2 second favorite votes; 1 least (fourth) favorite vote.

Sunset: No one like it :)

Sunrise Line Adjustment: 2 most favorite votes; 2 least (fourth) favorite votes

Sunset Line Adjustment: No one like it :)



Sunrise Line Adjustment



Sunset Line Adjustment



City of Blue Lake

Staff Report

Agenda Item #: 8

Meeting Date: March 24th 2026

Prepared By: Samantha Green

Subject: Appointment for Parks and Recreation Commission

Recommended Action: That the City Council:

1. Review and consider the received application for reappointment to fill the vacancy on the parks and recreation commission
2. Reappoint Jeff Bird to the Parks and Rec Commission; and
3. Other direction as appropriate

BACKGROUND

The terms of three (3) of the five City's Park and Recreation Commissioners were set to expire on January 30th 2026. Two of the three applicants were reappointed during the city council meeting held on Jan 27th 2026. City Council is asked to consider reappointment of Jeff Bird, who has previously served on the commission, to the third term ending January 30th 2028.

DISCUSSION:

Members of the City's committees serve an important role in advising staff and the City Council on matters that influence and shape the future of the community. The Commission is an advisory committee and consists of five members who serve for a 2-year term period, serving on staggered terms. At least four members shall be residents of the City or all shall reside within the one-mile sphere of influence of the City. One member need not be a resident within the City nor reside within the one-mile sphere of influence but shall work within the City or the one-mile sphere of influence. All members shall be appointed by the City Council.

Council is asked to review the received application for reappointment for the term period ending in January 2028.

Members of the Park and Recreation Commission are required by the Political Reform Act and the City's Conflict of Interest Code, to file Statements of Economic Interest, Form 700, disclosing personal assets and income within 30 days of appointment, annually thereafter and upon leaving office. Commissioners must disqualify themselves from participating in decisions which may affect their personal economic interests. Statements of Economic Interests are public documents retained by the City Clerk and may be inspected by any member of the public.

Park and Recreation Commissioners

Name	Term Expiration	Status
Bettina Eipper	January 30, 2028	Reappointed at Jan 27 2026 meeting
Jan Henry	January 30, 2028	Reappointed at Jan 27 2026 meeting
James Brown	January 30, 2027	Filled
Tim Daniels	January 30, 2027	Appointed at Feb 24 2026 meeting
<i>Jeff Bird</i>	<i>January 30, 2028</i>	<i>Application for Reappointment</i>

FISCAL IMPACT

There are no fiscal impacts associated with this action

ATTACHMENTS

1. Parks and Recreation Commission duties and powers
2. Application from:
 - a. Jeff Bird

Review Information:

City Manager Review: ☒ Legal Review: ☐ Planner Review: ☐ Engineer: ☐

Comments:

Memorandum

To: Blue Lake City Council and
Blue Lake Parks and Recreation

From: Blue Lake Saddle Club

Date: March 20, 2026

Subject: Proposed Fee Increases Across Parks and Recreation Facilities

While the Blue Lake Saddle Club understands and empathizes with the need to increase revenue in the City of Blue Lake, we feel that the proposed increases will effectively harm, or even kill, all existing recreation programs. While we do not agree with the increases across the board, we will limit our comments specifically to the Blue Lake Arena fees.

We appreciate the time and effort Emily Wood has taken to revise the proposed fee increase schedule; however, it is important that only “like” facilities be used to compare fee structures. Humboldt County cannot be considered equivalent to counties such as Sonoma, San Joaquin, San Francisco, and Alameda, among others. Those are large counties with higher pay scales and the cost of participating in equine activities in those areas is astronomically more expensive. We believe there are only two equine facilities that should be used as a comparison to the Blue Lake Arena which allow use by individuals and sponsor events.

1. Orick Rodeo Grounds. This facility, located in Orick, California, is owned and operated by Orick Chamber of Commerce. It offers many more amenities than Blue Lake: 17 pens for camping, electricity, running water for troughs or to wash your horse, restrooms with showers, access to Redwood National Park trails, access to Pacific Ocean beach riding, as well as a full sized arena and dry camping. There is an overnight camping fee of \$15 and a day use fee of \$5 for parking.
2. McKinleyville Rodeo Grounds (MRA). This property is owned by the County of Humboldt and the facility is owned and operated by the McKinleyville Rodeo Association. The grounds consist of a large roping arena, bathrooms, electricity, cook shack, and announcer's booth. This organization requires a \$25 annual membership fee for individuals to drop in and use the facility at any time. The base daily rental fee for events is \$150 a day; however, there is a sliding scale for use based on rental providing reciprocal services or work. There is no parking fee.

Events that the BLSC sponsor are geared toward fun, family, equine activities. The Saddle Club is diligent, year round, staying on top of the maintenance of the arena: dragging, watering, clearing brush, pulling weeds, repairing broken fencing, and picking up garbage. We have purchased and installed a removable round pen that provides additional opportunities for individuals to work with their horse. Each event brings visitors to the City, which increases visits to local businesses. The trail to the river, to the brewery, distillery, and other locations also brings in additional tax revenue.

Events sponsored by the Saddle Club are not huge money makers. The majority of events barely break even. At the present time, any given show would have approximately 15 competitors with accompanying family members and/or friends. Expenses including insurance, judging fees, and awards eat most of the income. We have been lucky enough to make enough profit, combined with other donations and fundraisers, to cover our insurance premium which is approximately \$1,200 annually.

The BLSC proposes that the Horse Arena Fees be nominally increased to \$75 per half day and \$125 for full day. There should be no parking fee. We would also propose that the arena area be used only as intended when the property was donated to the city—as an equine arena. The arena and/or grass area should not be used for any event other than an equine event. Equine events primarily require trailering in and without the grass area to park a horse trailer, there will not be any use of the arena itself. We believe the only exception to this should be the Medieval Festival which should be grandfathered in and can technically be considered an equine event since the arena is being used for equine exhibitions.

Further, we believe the City should consider how to cover the cost and provide a Porta Potty to the Arena area. The prior unit was in constant use between the pickle ball players, the tennis players, the basketball players, the horseshoe group, hikers, bikers, mothers and baby strollers, and just individuals that stop specifically to use the porta potty. A park facility with this much use should definitely provide bathroom facilities.

If you have any questions or require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me, on behalf of the Blue Lake Saddle Club.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Dana Rivinius, Secretary
925-918-0063
drivinius@aol.com



Emily Wood <parksdirector@bluelake.ca.gov>

New version of proposal

Julie Vinum <vinumjulie@gmail.com>

Fri, Mar 20, 2026 at 8:11 AM

To: Blue Lake Parks and Rec <parksdirector@bluelake.ca.gov>

Emily I added one more part to this letter if you could please read this version I would be grateful. Thanks again!

> Dear Members of the Blue Lake City Council,

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> I am writing to express my concerns regarding the recently increased and proposed fees for use of the public horse arena.

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> I have been a member of the Blue Lake Saddle Club for the past 12 years and have served as the leader of our mounted archery group for the last four years. The proposed fee increases would make it financially unfeasible for me to continue hosting regular practices at the arena.

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> These practices are entirely volunteer-led. I personally donate both time and resources, including providing insurance coverage, bows, arrows, and targets. I also offer instruction to participants on how to safely and properly shoot from horseback. Our group's primary goal is to prepare and perform at the Medieval Fair, which serves as a fundraiser for Coastal Grove Charter School PTO as well as other schools and non-profits including Blue Lake School, Blue Lake Horse Archers, and Blue Lake Parks and Recreation.

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> When compared to nearby facilities, such as the McKinleyville Rodeo Arena and the Orick Rodeo Grounds, the proposed fees appear disproportionate—especially given the current lack of amenities at the Blue Lake arena. At present, the arena does not provide basic infrastructure such as restrooms, lighting, or electricity. In contrast, the Orick Rodeo Grounds offer overnight pens, restrooms with showers, free camping, a full rodeo facility, an announcer's booth, bleachers, and accessible water throughout the grounds. Similarly, the McKinleyville facility includes restrooms, a full-sized arena, a large grass area for free parking and camping, a snack shack, and an announcer's booth.

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> Given these comparisons, the proposed fees for the Blue Lake arena are difficult to justify. At the current rates, it is unlikely that the facility will be used for community events such as ours.

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> Additionally, I would like to highlight the significant contributions made by the Saddle Club over the years. Members have invested thousands of dollars and countless hours of labor to maintain and improve the arena, ensuring it remains open, accessible, and enjoyable for the public.

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> I respectfully ask that the Council reconsider the proposed fee increases in light of these factors. Continued community use of the arena depends on maintaining reasonable and accessible pricing.

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> Thank you for your time and consideration.

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> Sincerely,

> Julie Vinum

Sent from my iPhone