

# CITY OF PALM DESERT STAFF REPORT

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MEETING DATE: May 22, 2025

PREPARED BY: Michelle Nance, Senior Deputy Clerk

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION AMENDING AND RESTATING APPOINTMENTS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PALM DESERT RECREATION FACILITIES CORPORATION (PDRFC)

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## **RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt a Resolution entitled "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALM DESERT, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING AND RESTATING THE APPOINTMENTS OF GINA NESTANDE, EVAN TRUBEE, PHIL SMITH, AND OSCAR ARMIJO TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PALM DESERT RECREATION FACILITIES CORPORATION, AND RESCINDING ANY PRIOR RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT HEREWITH."

## **BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:**

The Palm Desert Recreation Facilities Corporation (PDRFC) is a nonprofit public benefit corporation incorporated on February 19, 1997, to support the development and operation of recreational facilities within the City of Palm Desert. Its primary function is to lease, operate, and manage the restaurant and bar at Desert Willow Golf Resort.

Pursuant to the Corporation's Bylaws, the Board of Directors must consist of no fewer than two and no more than nine members, with no more than 50 percent of the Board comprising elected officials or senior management employees of the City of Palm Desert. Directors serve one-year terms and may be reappointed without term limits. Each Director remains in office until the end of their term and until a successor is appointed and qualified.

Currently, the PDRFC Board includes four members appointed by the City Council: two elected officials and two community members with a demonstrated interest in recreation and public service. In addition to appointing Directors, the Bylaws authorize the Board to appoint officers, including a President/Chief Executive Officer, Vice President(s), Chief Financial Officer, Secretary, and any assistant officers as needed.

At the upcoming annual Board meeting, the following officer appointments are recommended:

- President/Chief Executive Officer: Richard Cannone
- Vice President: Martin Alvarez
- Chief Financial Officer: Veronica Chavez
- Secretary: Anthony Mejia

On January 9, 2025, the City Council reappointed Councilmember Gina Nestande and designated Mayor Pro Tem Evan Trubee as the alternate. However, the intended action was to appoint Mayor Pro Tem Trubee as a voting member. The accompanying resolution clarifies and formalizes his appointment as a voting Director.

Additionally, staff recommends reaffirming the appointments of Phil Smith and Oscar Armijo, who have served on the Board since their original appointments in 2009. This action ensures the official record accurately reflects their ongoing service.

To streamline future appointments, staff will align the annual appointment of the PDRFC Board of Directors with the City Council's broader annual appointments to liaison roles, subcommittees, and external organizations, typically conducted in December or January.

**Legal Review:**

This report has been reviewed by the City Attorney's Office.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

There is no financial impact associated with this action.

**ATTACHMENT:**

1. Articles of Incorporation
2. PDRFC Board Bylaws, dated June 9, 2003
3. Draft Resolution – Affirming and Restating Appointments to the Board of Directors