I. CALL TO ORDER: Director Bosanko called the regular meeting to order at 7:02pm.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Director Bosanko led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

III. ROLL CALL:
- Director Bielkiewicz: Present via conference phone
- Director Bosanko: Present
- Director James: Present
- Director Sutton: Present
- Director Bradley: Present via conference phone until 7:30pm

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Ronald Hopp, Executive Director; Dennis Weiner, new Director of Administrative Services; Patricia Parkin, Director of Administrative Services; Colin Insley, Director of Parks Planning and Construction; Derek Eberhardt, Manager of Recreation Facilities; Barb Butler, Manager of Recreation Programs; Tom Woodard, Director of Golf; Richelle Riley, Recording Secretary; other Foothills staff and members of the public.

Potential conflicts of interest were disclosed pursuant to Colorado Revised Statutes 18-8-308(2), 24-18-109(3)(a), 24-18-110, and 32-1-902(3).

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

MOTION: Director Bosanko moved that the Foothills Board of Directors approve the December 8, 2015 agenda as submitted. Director Sutton seconded the motion. Poll of the Board: Director Bielkiewicz, aye; Director Bosanko, aye; Director James, aye; Director Sutton, aye; Director Bradley, aye. The motion was approved.

V. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

A. May 3, 2016 Mill Levy Election Discussion

Ronald Hopp recalled that at the last board meeting, there was the decision to have a mill levy election on May 3rd of 2016. The discussion was revolving around a mill levy amount, possibly a sunset and some general ideas, as well as discussion about ways to promote and get the word out about the mill levy election itself. A copy of the updated financial forecast was provided to the Board that takes the District through 2031. Staff feels strongly that if the public were to support a mill levy effort and allow taxes to be raised, they would have an expectation that things would be better. Staff senses the area where things need to be better is probably in the parks system, Mr. Hopp elaborated.

From the previous iterations of the financial forecast, the number has been changed from $600,000 in enhanced services to $400,000 given that the District is probably looking at a diminished mill levy amount, Mr. Hopp explained.

Mr. Hopp outlined the spreadsheet, and concluded the District could probably survive doing little to no capital for about two years, but the third year shows a deficit. Mr. Hopp described the different mill levy scenarios demonstrated on the spreadsheet. This is the same document that has been provided in past meetings, the only difference is that it shows $400,000 in enhanced services versus $600,000.

Mr. Hopp reminded the Board that the discussion tonight was going to revolve around what is a palatable mill rate, to gain consensus on whether or not to pursue a sunset and what that sunset would be, and if the Board has any general thoughts about how some of those capital dollars could be spent. Mr. Hopp opened the floor for discussion. He mentioned the general thought was if the District is going to ask for a lesser operating mill amount, staff would pursue a potential extension of the bond in 2020. The thing about the bond is it would have to be 100 percent obligated for capital, Mr. Hopp explained. There was discussion about sunset provision, mill levy amount, and the possibility of property taxes going up again.
The Board discussed and agreed upon 1.75 mills along with a 10 year sunset. Director James observed that 1.75 mills would be a bump up of about five dollars per month for the home valued at $400,000, and it takes the District out to about 2023/2024.

Regarding possible projects, Mr. Hopp suggested that will affect how the ballot language sounds and looks, as well as the TABOR information; staff wants to be as inclusive and factual as possible to make sure people have an understanding of how it is going to be utilized. He suggested the bulk of it is going to be for operations and in future years could have the opportunity to provide some capital improvements. Staff would be happy to have the Board’s ideas as they deliberate messaging and getting information out to the public. Mr. Hopp indicated priority lists have been provided to the Board in the past and there is about $60 million worth of items. Mr. Hopp indicated that parks probably need the most attention.

Mr. Hopp suggested staff may focus efforts and messaging on enhancement and quality of life, and safety measures. He proposed the general sense could be being stewards of existing infrastructure and taking care of the things the District currently has, but if the Board has specific items they would like to see, staff would like to hear that as well. Director Bielkiewicz suggested that an enticing, tangible item would sell. Mr. Hopp agreed there is probably some room for that and it would be more in line with what could be funded for the possible 2020 bond extension. There was discussion about getting things a little bit more personalized per ward, and including that in the messaging to the voters.

Mr. Hopp indicated he met with a consultant and thinks she could be very helpful for messaging, ballot language and TABOR language. Staff are planning on pursuing that assistance. He reiterated there will be a Resolution at the last board meeting in January, 1.75 mills for an election on May 3, 2016 with a 10-year sunset, ballot language to be determined.

Mr. Hopp informed the Board that Jefferson County Open Space has recommended the $3 million grant for Clement Park, now it goes to the Board of County Commissioners for approval. Mr. Hopp acknowledged Deanna Hirsh, with the Columbine Courier was in attendance.

VI. ADJOURNMENT:

The special meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm. The next regular board meeting will be held at 6pm on Tuesday, January 26, 2016, at Peak Community & Wellness Center, 6612 South Ward Street, Littleton.

Submitted by:

Richelle Riley, Recording Secretary