

ADMINISTRATIVE BULLETIN NO. 31

Issued: October 8, 2007

Adopted: July 29, 2003

SUBJECT: POLICY ON THE NAMING OF COUNTY OWNED FACILITIES

In Kern County, many people have contributed and will continue to contribute to society in many different ways. Many deserve to be honored. Such recognition can take many forms. Commemorative naming is but one of the many options to consider when memorializing individuals and their accomplishments.

Policy

The naming, re-naming, and/or dedication of a County owned facility shall be authorized by the County Board of Supervisors following a request made to the General Services Department and subsequent recommendation to the Board for a resolution to name or dedicate a County facility, to name or dedicate a room within a County facility, or place a memorial plaque on, within, or near a County facility. This policy does not apply to Park related facilities that are governed by a separate policy.

The following policy guidelines shall be adhered to by the Board when it considers action to name, re-name, or dedicate a County facility, room or place a plaque:

- Generally, County facilities and property shall be named to reflect their location and primary function.
- Names that cause confusion are generally unacceptable.
- Duplicate names within a political jurisdiction are normally unacceptable.
- Prior ownership of land is not typically sufficient grounds to justify Board approval of a commemorative name.
- No facility shall be named for a private individual unless that individual contributed or arranged for a majority of the funding that was used to construct the facility or acquire the land upon which the facility is situated.
- In the event that multiple donors contribute funds toward the construction or acquisition of a County owned facility, the Board shall favor a functional title with plaques honoring those who contributed.

- A room within a County owned facility may be named to honor an individual for that person's service to the community even though that individual may not have contributed funds toward the construction or acquisition of the facility. The person being honored by the naming should either have had a direct long-term association with the County or have made a significant contribution to the County and the community.

A long-term association is defined as twenty years or more of continued or periodic service. An association of a lesser amount of time requires unanimous agreement on the part of the Board as to the importance of that association.

A significant contribution is defined as an action to produce substantial long-term improvements.

A commemorative naming of an individual with an outstanding national or international reputation shall be considered even if the person was not directly associated with the facility in question.

- Generally, a County owned facility shall not be named for a public official while that official remains in office. A decision to name a County owned facility for a public official while that official remains in office shall require a unanimous vote of approval by the Board of Supervisors.
- Generally, a County owned facility shall not be named for a public official or private individual unless that person has been deceased for a minimum of one year.
- A decision to name a County owned facility for a public official when that official is not deceased shall require a unanimous vote of approval by the Board of Supervisors.
- The naming or dedication of a County owned facility, room, or placement of a plaque shall be consistent with all governing laws and regulations pertaining to such action, including concurrence with the regulations of other governmental agencies.
- The re-naming of a County facility shall require the unanimous vote of approval by the Board of Supervisors.
- The naming of a County facility shall require a 4/5 vote of approval of the Board of Supervisors.

Procedure

A proposal to commemorate an individual can originate from the public at large, a County Department, or a member of the Board. All requests shall be submitted or forwarded in writing to the General Services Department, which shall evaluate the proposed request and make a recommend to the Board of Supervisors consistent with the above guidelines.

All requests shall contain the following information:

- The name wishing to be used and the reason, which must fall within the above stated policy guidelines.
- The location of the County facility or property for which the proposal is being submitted.

- Each request shall include a minimum of three written endorsements of support for the name and its application. Such evidence can be letters from local residents and/or administrative agency personnel or petitions containing signatures.
- A list of a minimum of three organizations in the community that are familiar with the historical significance of the nominated name or the public service record of the nominee.
- The name, address, and telephone number of the person submitting the proposal. The General Services Division shall evaluate each proposal in accordance with the adopted guidelines and shall make a recommendation to the Board. In addition to verifying the information submitted on the naming request an accounting of the associated costs to be incurred in the event of a re-naming or the placement of a plaque, including but not limited to: signage, stationary, facility maps, mounting expense, dedication ceremonies, etc. shall be prepared and included with staff recommendation to the Board.

Partial Listing of Dedicated County Facilities

Public Defenders Building, 1315 Truxtun Ave.
Dedicated on October 18, 1993 to William L Weddell, Kern County Public Defender 1969-1995

Baker Library, 1400 Baker St.
Dedicated in 1915 to Colonel Thomas Baker

Beale Memorial Library, 701 Truxtun Ave.
Dedicated to General Edward Fitzgerald Beale by Mary & Truxtun Beale

Holloway/Gonzales Library, 506 E. Brundage Lane
Dedicated in 1975 to Dr. Ruth Love Holloway and Dr. Raymond Gonzales

Clara M. Jackson/McFarland Library, 500 Kern Ave., McFarland
Dedicated in 1974 to Clara M. Jackson

Rathbun Library, 200 West China Grade Loop
Dedicated in 1981 to Bryce C. Rathbun

Wanda Kirk/Rosamond Library, 3611 Rosarond Blvd., Rosamond
Dedicated to Wanda Kirk

Wilson Library, 1901 Wilson Road
Dedicated in 1970 to Eleanor N. Wilson

Communications Facility, 2601 Panorama Drive
Dedicated in 1996 to William E. Whiting, Superintendent of Civil Defense and Communications

Mary K. Shell Mental Health Facility, 2151 College Ave.
Dedicated in 1997 to Kern County Supervisor Mary K. Shell

Wasco County Building, 810 H St.
Dedicated to CCC, Civilian Conservation Corp in 1939

Airport Meadows Field, 1401 Skyway Dr.
Dedicated to Cecil Meadows , Director of Airports

Ben Austin Senior Center, South H & McKee Road, Greenfield
Dedicated to Kern County Supervisor Ben Austin

Superior Court Facility, 1415 Truxtun Ave.
Dedicated to Kern County Supervisor Karl Francis Hettinger

Ed Oakley Memorial Hall, Caliente
Dedicated to Ed Oakley

Hummel Hall 2500, 20th St., Rosamond

DiGiorgio Park and Recreation Building 701 West Haven
Dedicated to Mr. DiGiorgio, the farmer who donated the land.

James G. Bowles Juvenile Hall, 1831 Ridge Road
Dedicated to Superior Court Judge James G. Bowles.

Probation Warehouse, 1831 Ridge Road
Dedicated to Leo Cuevas, Institution Services Director

Probation Services Building, 1819 Jessie St.
Dedicated to Mary Levors Home

Miriam Jamison Children's Center, 1010 Shalimar Dr.
Dedicated to Dr. Miriam Jamison

Kern County Probation Camp Owens, Kernville
Dedicated on May 14, 1939 to the Camp's founder, Superior Court Judge Erwin W. Owen

San Lynn Ball Park, Bakersfield
Dedicated to Sam Lynn, local business man

Stramler Park, Bakersfield
Dedicated to Frank Stramler, Director of Kern County Parks and Recreation

Mt. Abel, California
Dedicated to Kern County Supervisor Stanley Abel

Hart Park, Bakersfield
Dedicated to Kern County Supervisor John O. Hart.

Lake Ming, Bakersfield
Dedicated to Kern County Supervisor Floyd L. Ming

Lake Woollomes, Delano/McFarland
Dedicated to Kern County Supervisor W.R. Woollomes

Lake Evans, Buena Vista
Dedicated to Kern County Supervisor, R. H. Evans

Lake Webb, Buena Vista
Dedicated to Kern County Supervisor Vance A. Webb

A.W. Noon Park, Buena Vista
Dedicated to Kern County Supervisor A.W. Noon

The above is a partial compilation of major County facilities that have been dedicated and/or named for renowned individuals as of July 22, 2003. In addition, there exist throughout the County numerous dedications of plaques, rooms, fountains, benches, trees, rocks, and flagpoles. Some dedicated facilities, such as libraries and camps, have subordinate dedications within the confines of the larger facility.