Members of Committees and Boards

STAFF REPORT

For the Meeting of October 26, 2026

Title/Subject

HFAC Lifeguard Rescue Recognition

Summary and Background

The Hermiston Family Aquatic Center welcomes more than 80,000 visitors during its operating season, which extends from May through the end of October. During the 10-week public swim season, lifeguard staff averaged one rescue or assist per day. These responses reflect the vigilance, preparation, and attentiveness required of staff as they watch the water and protect patrons. While many of these responses happen without public recognition, each requires staff to remain alert, recognize distress, and act quickly.

On August 6, 2026, lifeguards responded to a patron who experienced a medical emergency while coming down a waterslide. The patron briefly lost consciousness and required rescue from the slide pit area.

Mason recognized the emergency, activated the facility's Emergency Action Plan, and entered the water to assist. Hunter and Daniel responded to support the rescue. Together, they extricated the patron from the water using a backboard and provided emergency care. The patron regained consciousness and made a quick and full recovery.

The team's quick response, coordination, and professional conduct helped bring the patron to safety while maintaining a calm environment for other visitors.

This recognition honors Mason Miracle, Hunter Link, and Daniel Faaeteete for their actions and commitment to patron safety. Their response demonstrates the importance of lifeguard training, preparation, and teamwork, and reflects the readiness of the entire aquatic center staff.

Tie-In to Council Goals

Focus Area - Wellness: A Healthy Community

Fiscal Information

N/A

Alternatives and Recommendation

Alternatives

Recommended Action/Motion: Recognize the three HFAC staff members for their response and service to the community.

Submitted By:

Brandon Artz, Parks & Recreation Director