

**BOARD OF UTAH STATE PARKS AND RECREATION MEETING  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
SOLDIER HOLLOW CONFERENCE ROOM  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH**

**MARCH 14, 2008**

**Present:**

Scott Parson, Chair	Karl Bentley, Vice Chair	Glenn Greenhalgh	
Lois Bulloch	Gael Hill	Marty Ott	Eli Anderson
Irene Hansen	Bill Bleak		
Joe Hull	Mary Tullius	Mark Forbes	Bruce Hamilton
Hollie Brown	Seth McArthur	Wendy Griffith	Jamie Fields
Rock Smith			
Eric Stucki			

**Visitors:**

Ivan Djambov, Legislative Fiscal Analyst

---

Chair Parson welcomed board members and staff to the Utah State Parks and Recreation Board meeting.

Chair Parson asked board members for review and approval of the board agenda as presented.

**VICE-CHAIR KARL BENTLEY MADE A MOTION THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE STATE PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD AGENDA. MS. IRENE HANSEN SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Approval of Minutes**

Chair Parson asked board members for review and approval of the December 11, 2007 board meeting minutes.

**VICE-CHAIR KARL BENTLEY MADE A MOTION THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 11, 2007 BOARD MEETING. MS. LOIS BULLOCH SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Director's Report**

Deputy Director Bruce Hamilton mentioned the Managers' Academy went very well. The Academy focused on building better managers and leaders of State Parks. The planning process for the Rocky Mountain State Parks Executive Conference is going well. The conference will be held in St. George the end of April. We are still looking for vendors to attend the conference and/or sponsors for events. If anybody knows of vendors that would like to participate, have them contact either Bruce or Nichole Mallory. Bruce reviewed the promotions and hirings that are listed in the board packet. Chair Parson asked about the problems with hiring camp hosts. There have been a few more people interested, but the gas prices have been a factor in this. Chair Parson also asked about the south marina of Willard Bay being closed. The decision has been made to close the south marina this year. Bruce mentioned they have also been talking with the Bureau of Reclamation regarding hunting at Huntington State Park. It was decided to not allow hunting at this time. It will be the responsibility of BOR to post this information. Director Tullius also mentioned the dam repair at Deer Creek that will happen this year. This is going to significantly affect our operations and revenue this year. We are trying to prepare for this.

Deputy Director Mark Forbes said the budget and expenditures are in line so far this year. We are carefully watching fuel and motorpool costs, which will affect our operating budget the most. Chair Parson would like us to keep fuel costs in mind for our later discussion on fees. The Department is involved in a baseline utility study to look at our utility costs. The Communications and Marketing group is very busy right now. One of the biggest programs we are working on right now is Children in Nature. The Friends group is going very well and we will discuss that later. Our biggest struggle right now is our reservations system, as it is very outdated. We are working on a request for proposal to replace this system.

Chair Parson thanked the staff for the effort they put forth to compile this information for the board. He encouraged the board members to review the information in the board packet on the parks in their respective areas.

Director Tullius referred board members to Page 29 in the board packet. There are several planning projects going on right now. On Page 32 and 33, the Development section's projects are listed. We received a few awards recently. The Pacific Southwest Regional Council of NRPA 2008 Citation Organization Award was presented at a meeting in California several weeks ago. We will be also be presented a heritage award from the Heritage Foundation in April. We received this award for the stabilization renovation restoration project at Old Iron Town in Southern Utah. One of the initiatives we are working on is the Great Outdoors. This is a nationwide movement and campaign to get people out of doors. We have a working group that is developing a number of activities. The first activity will be held on June 7<sup>th</sup> and one park in each region will be holding the same activity on the same day. Another thing we are working on is the park renovation campaign. Deena Loyola is putting a brochure together with photos of aging facilities, paving replacement needs, etc. This will be given to the legislators along with their free pass and a letter from State Parks. We would like help from the board members to get this to county commissioners and legislators. Chair Parson suggested that some of these packets be hand delivered to the legislators if possible. Director Tullius said all staff have been instructed that they cannot go over budget this year. We have had a significant increase in motorpool costs this year. Motorpool was centralized, which increased our costs by \$200,000 to \$300,000 from last year. We had a leadership team meeting last week and staff from Motorpool attended. We had a good discussion with them regarding ways to cut costs. There was an excellent leadership training held last week also. Director Tullius hired an instructor from the University of Utah for this training, which focused on the goals for the leadership team. Director Tullius mentioned that State Parks has a scholarship of \$2,500 available. This was at the request of DNR Director Mike Styler. The information is passed along through Dr. Steve Burr at Utah State University. We review the applications and select a candidate, and are hopeful that we will get some strong candidates this year.

### **Budget and Legislative Report**

Director Tullius reviewed the budget report, which she sent a document to the board members this morning. There was some money given to State Parks for Trails and Pathways during the legislative session. The total amount received, per Ivan Djambov, was \$750,000. The Bear Lake Marina looked good for a period of time. Presentations were made to the legislature, but there was not enough funding for all of the projects presented and it was not high enough on the list. This could possibly come back next year. There is a handout that was given to the sub-appropriations committee and Director Tullius will send to the board members as soon as possible. Chair Parson asked Director Tullius to add columns to the document she created at the beginning of the legislative session detailing what we were requesting. He would like her to add columns to include the outcome and the total received. She will do this and email it out to the board members.

Deputy Director Mark Forbes sent an updated legislative report out this morning. He reviewed the following bills that affected us: HB 51 (Water Right Forfeiture Protection), HB 53 (Impact of Administrative Rules on Small Business), HB 75 (Inventory and Review of Commercial Activities), SB 45 (Competitive Activities of Local Entities), HB 154 (Motorboat Education Requirements Urban Trails), HB 319 (Review and Approval of Grants), HB 362 (Motor Fuel Tax – OHV Refund Amendments), SB 76 (State Parks and Rec Amendments), SB 181 (Street Legal ATV Amendments), SB 238 (Aquatic Invasive Species Interdiction Act), and SB 243 and SB 244 (Procurement Code Exemption for This Is The Place and Authorization for SP to support Foundations). Deputy Director Forbes said he and Director Tullius are planning legislative tours and he would like to include the board. They will keep the board members updated on the plans. Chair Parson said as a board, they should develop a game plan earlier for reaching the governor and making sure they advocate for the needs of State Parks. He also feels they could work closer with DNR Administration. Director Tullius has asked all park managers to attend the county commission meetings, and the region manager to attend the Association of Government meetings. She invited the board members to attend these meetings also. The park manager will be asked to contact the board member to let them know when these meetings are scheduled. It was suggested that Parks provide either a quarterly or bi-annual report to each county commissioner.

### **Update on Friends of State Parks**

Director Tullius said the Friend of Utah State Parks was formed in November and they have worked very hard to get started. They have been meeting regularly since then. They have developed by-laws and elected officers. The officers for this group are: Barbara Riddle, President; Gordon Topham, Vice-President (he may need to relinquish this position because he has come back to work part-time for State Parks); Cathleen White, Secretary; and Steve Roberts, Treasurer. The other board members include Ken Bassett, Uintah County; Lane Beattie, Salt Lake Chamber of Commerce; Steve Burr, Utah State University; Jamie Dalton, former employee; Jack DeMann, former board member; Fred Finlinson; Christine Fox; Terry Green, former employee; Gael Hill, former board member; Spence Kinard, Davis County;

Dan McConkie, former county commissioner; Marty Ott; Jeff Packer, former board chair; Lynn Pett, former Murray City Mayor; Cathleen Sparrow; Lucille Tuttle, former board member; Scott Truman, former board member; and Kent Tibbetts, former board member. The group sent a letter and bookmark to legislators discussing the challenges and successes of State Parks. They will hold their annual meeting in Wasatch County on April 18<sup>th</sup>. Chair Scott Parson and Director Mary Tullius will be attending this meeting and making presentations. All board members are invited to attend this meeting. They will be discussing several issues at this meeting. Board member Marty Ott feels it is a very dedicated group.

### **Land and Water Conservation Grant Approval**

Chair Parson welcomed Seth McArthur to the meeting and asked him to review the grants that are listed on Page 36 of the board packet. Mr. McArthur reviewed the projects and explained this is the priority ranking for the projects. Mr. McArthur hasn't seen the appropriation yet, but guesses there will be between \$310,000 and \$320,000 appropriated. The grant will fund what it is able to according to the priority ranking approved by the board. He reviewed the criteria used to prioritize the projects. There was discussion regarding what the board actually approves.

**MS. LOIS BULLOCH MADE A MOTION THAT THE LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION GRANT RANKING AND FUNDING UP TO THE AMOUNTS REQUESTED BASED ON FEDERAL APPROPRIATION BE APPROVED. MR. JOE HULL SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **Flight Park Area Management Plan**

Mr. Rock Smith, Planning Manager, introduced Jamie Fields, who is a new planner for State Parks. She has been with us since October. Ms. Fields and Assistant Region Manager Eric Stucki reviewed the Issues and Recommendations and Highlights for the Flight Park Area. Director Tullius mentioned that State Parks needs to develop division rules for this area. Mr. Stucki mentioned there is a north side park that is managed by Salt Lake County. He said this has been confused with the Flight Park Area. He also mentioned there is a kiosk containing rules, park history, and also neighborhood information. It was suggested that we include UDOT's donation in the text of the park history information. Chair Parson commended the staff for their hard work on this plan.

**MS. IRENE HANSEN MADE A MOTION THAT THE FLIGHT PARK STATE RECREATION AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN DATED MARCH 2008 BE APPROVED AS PRESENTED. MR. ELI ANDERSON SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **State Parks Miscellaneous Fees Approval**

Director Mary Tullius apologized for the confusion with fees this year. The process was a little different this year and we have learned some lessons. She reviewed the proposed fee changes. These are items that for one reason or another were left off of previous documents.

**VICE-CHAIR KARL BENTLEY MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED FEE CHANGES AS PRESENTED. MR. MARTY OTT SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **Board Member Gael Hill's Service**

Chair Parson thanked Ms. Gael Hill for her service to the State Parks Board. Ms. Hill thanked the Board and State Parks. She would like to continue being involved with State Parks. Chair Parson mentioned the board will miss her great insight and background. He would like her to be a leader for the State Parks Friends Group in her area. She said she will do what she can to advocate for State Parks. Director Tullius thanked Ms. Hill for her involvement on the issues she has been a part of during her years as a board member. There is a plaque being made to honor Ms. Hill and this will be presented to her at a future meeting.

### **2008 Meetings**

Chair Parson discussed the meetings for 2008. There will be a two-day meeting held in June and a three-day meeting in October. It was decided the next meeting will be held on June 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> in the Uintah Basin, staying in Heber and traveling to the Uintah Basin area. Wendy will send out possible dates for October (Thursday-Friday).

**Upcoming Board Meeting**

**VICE-CHAIR KARL BENTLEY MADE A MOTION THAT THE STATE PARKS BOARD CONVENE INTO A CLOSED SESSION TO START THE NEXT BOARD MEETING FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING REAL ESTATE AND CONTRACT STRATEGY AND LITIGATION ISSUES, PURSUANT TO THE CONTRACT EXEMPTION AT UTAH CODE ANNOTATED 52-4-5 (1A). MR. BILL BLEAK SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Chair Parson thanked everybody for their participation in the meeting and the meeting was adjourned.