

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

August 20, 2009

Present:

Scott Parson, Chair
Marty Ott
Irene Hansen
Mark Forbes
Deena Loyola

Karl Bentley, Vice Chair
Bill Bleak
Eli Anderson
Bruce Hamilton

Lois Bulloch
Glenn Greenhalgh
Mary Tullius
Wendy Griffith

Visitors:

Heather Shilton
Jay Christianson
Dennis Haslam
Dave Harris
Barbara Riddle

Jeff Packer
Ron Taylor
Spence Kinard
Kenzi Airmet

Susan Zarekarizi
Rick Graham
Fred Hayes
Mike Woodall

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

Chair Parson reviewed the agenda. He asked board members for approval of the board agenda as presented.

MR. GLENN GREENHALGH MADE A MOTION THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE STATE PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD AGENDA. MR. BILL BLEAK SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Parson asked board members for review and approval of the June 25, 2009 board meeting minutes.

VICE-CHAIR KARL BENTLEY MADE A MOTION THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 25, 2009 BOARD MEETING. MR. ELI ANDERSON SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chair Parson asked Board Member Eli Anderson if the minutes accurately reflect the secondary motion. Mr. Anderson replied that they do. There was discussion regarding the Antelope Island Wildlife Management Plan information in the June minutes.

Director's Report

Director Mary Tullius directed board members to a handout they received regarding the awards that were given for 2008. We are in the process of attending the region meetings to present these awards to the employees. She reviewed the individual awards and the employees who received them.

Director Tullius also discussed the five-year construction plan. This is what is presented to DFCM so they are aware of our priorities. This list is compiled and submitted to DNR. They then take all of the Department's priorities, combine them, prioritize them, and forward them on to DFCM for their approval. Chair Parson suggested that each board member "adopt" one of the projects. Director Tullius encouraged

board members to contact Building Board members to discuss the different projects. The information for the Building Board is included in the board packet. Once we receive the updated list of Building Board members, the information will be sent out. Chair Parson asked that the board member and also a member of the Utah State Parks Friends group in the specific district, go together to talk with the Building Board member.

At the last board meeting when fees were discussed, Chair Parson asked that a timeline be developed for a request for an entrance fee surcharge that would go back into maintenance or a capital renovation program. This project will require additional research to develop. Director Tullius assured Chair Parson that we will discuss this further and have a presentation ready for the next fee discussion.

Director Tullius asked Jeff Packer, Spence Kinard, and Mark Forbes to update the group on a presentation that was made to the Interim Committee yesterday on the proposed beverage container legislation. Mr. Jeff Packer felt the presentation went very well. Ms. Robin Watson sent an email out this morning to the beverage associations to set up a meeting to gain their support. He didn't feel this group totally understood what we were asking for at the presentation. Mr. Spence Kinard feels this would benefit not only State Parks, but also the environment. Mr. Kinard said the Friends Group now needs to draft a bill. Mr. Mark Forbes said there has been a lot of effort put into this proposed legislation. A meeting will be set up with the bottling manufacturers to help them understand what we're trying to do. Chair Parson asked Mr. Forbes to review the basic information of the bottling bill. Board members were given a handout, which outlines the information.

Salt Lake City Sports Complex Update

Director Tullius referred board members to the background information included in the board packet regarding the Salt Lake City Sports Complex. She introduced Rick Graham, Director of Public Services for Salt Lake City. Mr. Graham thanked the board and Division administration for their support. Mr. Graham mentioned that one of his assignments for Salt Lake City is parks. Mr. Graham introduced Dennis Haslam, Consultant for Salt Lake City. Mr. Graham reviewed the background information for this sports complex. Mr. Graham referred to two diagrams of the sports complex. He explained these diagrams and noted that this will be a two-phase project. This sports complex plan started back in 1993, and was originally planned to be a multi-sport complex. Salt Lake City has set aside a \$22.5 million bond for this project, but this was underestimated when it was designed. This is more likely a \$40 million project for the two phases. The bond that was approved included the agreement that Salt Lake City would raise another \$7.5 million as match money. They have now secured a \$7.5 million gift from Salt Lake Real Soccer. There is some property Salt Lake City would like to purchase that is owned by private citizens and they are in the process of negotiations at this time. If they are successful in purchasing this property, they would add approximately 14 acres. When both phases of the project are complete, it would include 18 soccer fields, 8 baseball/softball diamonds, a full compliment of parking stalls, concession and restroom facilities, pathways that guide visitors through the complex, a championship-style stadium, an embanked piece of land that could possibly be used for developing an indoor facility so it could be used year-round, fencing for the facility, and a landscape barrier that would separate the Salt Lake City portion from the Davis County line. He would like to have an access road off of north Redwood Road that would tie into the frontage road. This would provide another access to the OHV site. In the future, they hope to have a different plan for the 2300 North and I-215 road interchange. They would also like to have lighting at the facility in order for them to be able to use it in the evenings during certain times of the year. Mr. Graham hopes the State Parks Board is happy with the outcome of this transaction.

Mr. Dennis Haslam said he has been involved with this project for about one year. He was invited to assist with this project by Mayor Becker due to his past experience with sports complex development. Their vision is to have a high quality facility so they will be able to sustain high levels of use and use it for competition level sports. He thinks the use of this facility would be twenty to thirty percent for basic parks and recreation leagues and teams, ten to twenty percent for tournaments that would be an economic boost to the valley. Mr. Haslam feels they would be able to host major tournaments in this facility. They would like it to be a high quality complex so that high quality players will be enticed to come here. It needs to be maintained according to some very high standards. Mr. Haslam believes the City Council will

approve the land transfer on September 8, and they can then begin further design and development of the entire project. The bonds will then be issued within the next six to nine months. They expect to have some sponsors for this project, but are not ready to make any announcements at this time. The question was asked if the Real Salt Lake gift was already in place. The letter of credit has been issued to Salt Lake City and once the land transfer is in place and the bonds issued, this will happen. He was asked about winter use of the facility and he explained that in the future they would like to have a covered facility that could be used during the winter.

The question was asked about the operation of the Modelport and where it will be located. Mr. Graham said there are two locations being considered, but a final decision has not been made. There is a concern that the Modelport is only guaranteed to be open for four years from the date the agreement is signed, rather than four years from the date it's relocated. Chair Parson referred board members to Page 15 in the board packet regarding the relocation of the Modelport. Mr. Graham is uncomfortable with changing the contract to read four years from the relocation, but said if there is no other way to move this agreement forward, he would agree to change it. There was discussion among the board members and they agreed that once the agreement is signed as presented, it is Salt Lake City's decision as far as what to do with the Modelport.

MR. GLENN GREENHALGH MADE A MOTION THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE TRANSFER OF THE PROPERTY ESTIMATED AT APPROXIMATELY 142 ACRES SOUTH OF THE JORDAN RIVER OHV PARK TO SALT LAKE CITY CORPORATION FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PUBLIC SPORTS COMPLEX. MR. ELI ANDERSON SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Antelope Island State Park Wildlife Management Plan Update

Chair Parson invited Antelope Island State Park Manager Ron Taylor to update board members on the wildlife management. Mr. Taylor reported that Mr. Jericho Whiting was chosen as the final member of the committee that was put together as requested by the board. Other members of the team include Steve Bates and Scott McFarlane as biologists, and State Parks Director Mary Tullius and Wildlife Resources Director Jim Karpowitz. He mentioned that Mr. Steve Bates and Ms. Jolene Hatch were invited to attend a two-day conference in Park City regarding managing disease issues with wildlife. A meeting was then held with the three biologists, along with Park Manager Taylor. A specific plan will be presented on the management of bighorn sheep to State Parks Director Mary Tullius and Wildlife Resources Director Jim Karpowitz by November 1, 2009. At the meeting, it was also discussed whether or not Antelope Island is overpopulated with bighorn sheep at this time. They don't feel there is a population problem right now. They will do a professional study to determine what the population is right now. This study will be conducted on ground and also by fly-over with a helicopter. This plan will then be considered an addendum to the Wildlife Management Plan. It was suggested that the Board make a motion to support the Antelope Island Wildlife Management Plan. Director Tullius said once the plan is given to and approved by the two directors, it will then be presented to the Board for their approval. Chair Parson reviewed the wording regarding hunting on Antelope Island, which was approved at the last meeting. The Board will make the final decision on whether or not hunting is allowed. Chair Parson asked that the park manager keep the board informed of the situation on Antelope Island, especially if there are issues. Region Manager Jay Christianson suggested that the board make a motion that the park manager be required to report to the board annually on the wildlife management.

MR. GLENN GREENHALGH MADE A MOTION THAT THE BOARD ACCEPT MR. CHRISTIANSON'S RECOMMENDATION WHICH INCLUDES THAT THE PARK MANAGER BE REQUIRED, ON AN ANNUAL BASIS, TO MAKE A PRESENTATION TO THE STATE PARKS BOARD ON THE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PLAN. MS. IRENE HANSEN SECONDED THE MOTION.

There was discussion regarding this motion and a substitute motion was made.

MR. GLENN GREENHALGH MADE A SUBSTITUTE MOTION THAT THE BOARD MUST APPROVE THE ANTELOPE ISLAND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PLAN AND ALSO REQUIRE THE PARK MANAGER TO UPDATE THE BOARD, ON AN ANNUAL BASIS, ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THAT PLAN. MS. IRENE HANSEN SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Taylor invited all board members to the balloon festival at Antelope Island over Labor Day weekend. Ms. Barbara Riddle, Davis County Visitor and Convention Bureau, reviewed the events scheduled that weekend.

Chair Parson asked Mr. Spence Kinard and Ms. Barbara Riddle to discuss the Friends of Utah State Parks' position regarding hunting on Antelope Island. This group has written a letter, which has been given to each board member, for the support of all other options before hunting is allowed on Antelope Island. Ms. Riddle discussed what an extraordinary place Antelope Island is. She said there has been a lot of media attention, including a two-page article in the LA Times about Antelope Island. Mr. Jeff Packer mentioned that the language in the Wildlife Management Plan is very important because it is a very important document. Chair Parson wants to make sure the Antelope Island Wildlife Management is written very carefully to ensure that it is clear that the management issues are totally understandable.

Board Member Irene Hansen thanked Barbara Riddle for all of her hard work for Antelope Island. Her support is very much appreciated. Ms. Hansen challenged Ms. Riddle to become an advocate of State Parks as part of the promotion for tourism money statewide.

Property Management Rules Approval

Chair Parson asked Lands and Environmental Coordinator Susan Zarekarizi to review the property management rules before the Board for approval. It was felt that it was time some rules be established for real property issues within state parks. There was discussion regarding the proposed rules. Ms. Heather Shilton, from the Attorney General's office, mentioned these rules will most likely be amended on a yearly basis.

MS. LOIS BULLOCH MADE A MOTION THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE STATE PARKS PROPERTY RULES AS PRESENTED. MR. MARTY OTT SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

New Division Strategic Planning Process

Director Tullius said the majority of the goals and objectives in Vision 2010 have been completed successfully. She feels this is because the plan was straight forward and also because an implementation plan was endorsed in every employee's performance management plan. It is now time to convene a team to work on a new strategic plan. She feels that a team of about 10 people should be formed to develop a new strategic plan. It was suggested that the new plan be a 10-year plan. Chair Parson feels the Division accomplished a lot of things because of Vision 2010. Director Tullius mentioned that each employee has a copy of Vision 2010 and that they are involved in the implementation of this plan. The plans and objectives are included in performance plans and evaluations, with an annual report made every year.

FY 10 Budget Information

Director Tullius said we are preparing budget requests for FY 11. They will be holding meetings with DNR and our legislative analysts next week to discuss building block requests for the next legislative session. She mentioned we will be asking for funds from our restricted accounts for our BOR project and some funds from our park fees restricted funds, as well as general funds. It is important that we don't let our BOR partnership falter. We will be requesting funds for our critical maintenance needs and boating dock repairs. She reviewed the requests they will make for this year. We were asked to come up with scenarios for a 1 (\$100,000), 3

(\$312,000), and 5 (\$520,000) percent budget cuts. She mentioned that we are at minimal staffing and cannot function with an additional budget cut. Director Tullius asked for guidance from the board on how we handle additional budget cuts. She mentioned a few ideas she has come up with, including a one-day, per-year furlough for State Parks employees, a two-day furlough and one or two park closures, etc. There was some discussion regarding park closures and what the criteria should be. Board members agreed to have some discussion if there are additional budget cuts on what should be done. Chair Parson asked if it would be reasonable to include a process for budget cuts in the next strategic plan. It is felt that this would be too complicated. The suggestion was made to have the Friends lobby in behalf of State Parks.

OHV Grant Approval

Mr. Fred Hayes, OHV Program Coordinator, thanked Chair Parson for all he has done for State Parks over the years, and his support and service.

Mr. Hayes presented the OHV grant recommendations, which include three projects. He reviewed and explained each project.

MS. IRENE HANSEN MADE A MOTION THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE OHV GRANT RECOMMENDATIONS AS PRESENTED. MR. BILL BLEAK SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Ms. Irene Hansen congratulated Mr. Hayes on his award for Manager of the Year.

Boating Advisory Council Rule Change

Mr. Dave Harris, Boating Program Coordinator, explained the Boating Advisory Council's recommendation for the council restructuring. Mr. Harris was asked if he has ever had any problems getting a member from each group. There has been an interest from several people, so Mr. Harris didn't feel this would be an issue.

MR. GLENN GREENHALGH MADE A MOTION THAT R651-202-1 BE APPROVED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

R651. Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation.

R651-202. Boating Advisory Council.

R651-202-1. Boating Advisory Council.

A Boating Advisory Council, consisting of ~~seven~~ nine members, has been appointed by the board to represent boaters and others in boating matters. There is one member from each of the following interests: ~~[United States Coast Guard Auxiliary,]~~ Boating safety and education organizations, sailing ~~[or non-powered craft]~~ users, ~~[wildlife and outdoor recreation associations]~~, boating anglers, marine dealers, personal watercraft users, ~~[river runners]~~ outfitting companies, paddle craft users, water sports users and ~~[a youth member]~~ motorboat users.

KEY: boating

Date of Enactment or Last Substantive Amendment: ~~[January 15, 2005]~~ October 22, 2009

Notice of Continuation: April 18, 2006

Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: 73-18-3.5

VICE-CHAIR KARL BENTLEY SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Next Board Meeting

Director Tullius asked board members when the best time would be to hold the next board meeting. It was decided to schedule the meeting for November 5 at Camp Floyd.

Upcoming Board Meeting

MR. GLENN GREENHALGH 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). VICE-CHAIR KARL BENTLEY SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

VICE-CHAIR KARL BENTLEY MADE A MOTION THAT THE STATE PARKS BOARD MEETING ADJOURN.