

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

“To improve the quality of life in Idaho through outdoor recreation and resource stewardship.”

**Teleconference Board Meeting
Director’s Regular Monthly Update
December 5, 2013**

Originating at Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation Headquarters
Boise, Idaho

**Conference Dial-in Number: (424) 203-8400
Participant Access Code: 1076643#**

AGENDA

- 8:00 a.m.** Call to Order
8:00 a.m. Roll Call
8:05 a.m. Additions or Deletions to the Printed Agenda
8:10 a.m. Approval of Minutes
- May 21-22, 2013
 - July 29-31, 2013
 - August 8, 2013
- Registration MOU Request
IRC Letters to the Governor
USFS Travel Plan Update
- Director’s Report
 - Governor’s Natural Resource Officer Change
 - Staff Changes
 - Report on ITD / Legislator’s Meeting

9:00 a.m. Adjourn

8:04 a.m. Chairman Correll called the December 5, 2013 Teleconference Board meeting to order at 8:04 a.m. with the following Board members in attendance:

Tom Crimmins, Hayden Lake
Randy Doman, Cottonwood
Susan Buxton, Boise
Jean McDevitt, Pocatello
Bob Hansen, Menan

Also present during all or a portion of the meeting were the following individuals:

Nancy Merrill, Director
Jan Johns, Administrative Assistant
Anna Canning, Administrator Management Services
Keith Hobbs, Administrator Operation Division
Steve Strack, Deputy Attorney General, Natural Resources Division

Roll call taken.

Ms. McDevitt asked who was taking minutes. Director Merrill answered that Anna Canning was taking the minutes for this meeting.

Ms. Buxton moved to accept the 5/21/2013 and 5/22/2013 minutes. McDevitt seconded. All ayes; motion passes.

Ms. Buxton moved to accept the 7/21/2013, 7/22/2013, and 8/8/2013 minutes. Mr. Crimmins seconded. All ayes except Doman abstained. Motion passes.

MOU REQUEST

Mr. David Claiborne (with IRC) has requested an MOU instead of the letter previously sent with Director Merrill's signature. Director Merrill briefed the Board on the meeting Staff had with Brackett, Palmer, and Hagedorn at Idaho Transportation Department. Legislators were pleased with IDPR's efforts—particularly with reference to keeping the vendor system and with keeping the program in IDPR. Ms. Canning added brief information regarding the meeting with the legislators and the MOU. Ms. Buxton discussed the fact that the Board has not fully discussed the decisions of the Registration Realignment Task Force (RRTF) or had the opportunity to study and ask questions of participants. She stated that making decisions on the details of the MOU makes her uncomfortable.

Ms. Buxton moved to decline the request to enter into and MOU at this time. McDevitt seconded.

Discussion: Director Merrill asked Mr. Hobbs to discuss his experience with the snowmobile community. Mr. Hobbs said his experience at the open house meetings, particularly, that the main concern of the community was that they want IDPR to keep the program and keep the vendors. Mr. Hobbs also commented that he is hesitant to set a precedent of entering into MOUs with other user groups.

Mr. Doman commented that the MOU is too specific and poor timing. The Board doesn't have all the information. Ms. Buxton added that, "Our letter states that we expect them to work with us and not push legislation this year."

Call for vote: All ayes; motion passes. Ms. Buxton asked for the exact wording on the motion.

RV LETTERS FROM IRC TO MEMBERS

Director Merrill gave information regarding conversation she had with Ms. Butler of the Governor's office. The Governor's office has not received a lot of call from the RV users. Ms. Butler comment was that, "While what they are doing is disconcerting and inflammatory to our Board, the Governor is not concerned that this is the proper way to get comments."

Mr. Hansen questioned Mr. Strack if he had received a response from IRC's attorney regarding the original set of letters on the issue. Mr. Strack commented that he had not received a response. Mr. Crimmins stated that he did not view it as inflammatory, "This is what we as a Board told them to do. The Governor and Legislators make the budgets." Ms. Buxton commented that the Board has pleaded their budget case. Let's make sure those parks stay open and in good shape. Ms. Buxton described a recent tour of Washington and Utah parks. She reiterated what IDPR needs to do is keep parks open and employees paid.

No Board action taken.

UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE TRAVEL PLAN

Director Merrill commented that IDPR wants to get ahead of the pack with regard to responding to comments; she referenced the presentation Mr. Doman made at the last Board meeting. Mr. Hobbs briefed the Board on his recent efforts. Mr. Hobbs had called Mr. Doman to get more direction as to his thoughts on how to get out in front of the comment process. The goal is that staff needs to be involved when draft alternatives are being considered rather than commenting on the final alternatives. Mr. Hobbs has a call into Senator Risch's Director of Natural Resources, Mike Roach, asking that staff be involved as a recreation partner in the plan. Mr. Hobbs commented that he also want to talk with Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) contacts to see how they got included early on in the process.

Mr. Crimmins commented that this was a good course of action. His thoughts are that IDFG is in the process because the US Forest Service has wildlife folks that use IDFG staff as a resource. He further commented that the Board needed to get US Forest Service recreation folks to seek out them as a resource. Mr. Hansen stated that BLM should be a partner as well. Mr. Doman agreed. Mr. Doman commented that Mr. Hobbs did a good job summarizing the situation. Mr. Doman wants Senator Risch involved because there are inconsistent laws regarding road-less rules. "They should be consistent." He

further commented that when the US Forest Service does deviate, they should need to prove to IDPR why it can't have recreation in potential wildlife areas. There is not an endangered recreation species.

Ms. Buxton commented that the State of Idaho does have other laws.

Mr. Doman discussed that the Clearwater Basin Collaborative is trying to get a staff member that has recreation duties. "We need to strategically push for more recreation positions in the USFS so that IDPR have more people to communicate with."

Mr. Crimmins stated that the other acts are permissive rather than restrictive. The restrictive is followed more. He went on to state that recreation is not a priority because it is not being funded.

Director Merrill commented that IDPR has the right guy (Keith Hobbs) for the job. Staff will reach out to Mr. Roach and try to establish a relationship. Then staff will reach out to the two USFS supervisors. She committed that this would be at the top of the priority list.

Mr. Crimmins commented that consistency is good if it leans our way. His "intel" is that it may lean the other way toward more restrictions. IDPR should focus on which way it wants to go rather than being consistent.

Director Merrill commented that staff would strategize on two or three key items, "What is that message, and how is staff going to present it?"

DIRECTIVE TO STAFF: Mr. Hobbs will reach out to Mr. Roach and try to establish a relationship. Then he will reach out to the two USFS supervisors. Part of this effort will be two or three key messages. No time commitment provided other than it would be a top priority.

Chairman Correll asked if there were any other items that needed to be discussed.

Director Merrill commented that staff is working on the JFAC presentation and that the hearing is on January 27th. She added that she is hoping to hear this week on whether we will get the monies requested from the Governor's office. She is feeling positive about that effort. She is also hoping to move IRC in a new direction—one that we can move together. Director Merrill also provided a general update on things at headquarters and the parks.

Chairman Correll questioned how things were going with ITD with regard to the registration program. Mr. Hansen relayed a conversation he had with a person who was fully aware of ITD working with IDPR as partners moving forward with new programs by both organizations. Director Merrill added that staff will work with ITD folks to make sure those connections work in the future. Ms. Canning added that Mackenzie Stone, Registration/Accounting Supervisor is working on a letter for Mr. Strack on clarifying some statutory requirements.

Ms. Buxton commented that she would like to have the Chairman sign a thank you letter to Ms. Butler of the Governor's office who is retiring.

DIRECTIVE TO STAFF: Director Merrill will provide a thank you letter from IDPR to Ms. Butler.

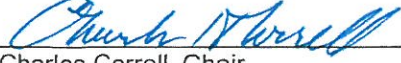
QUARTERLY MEETING DATES

Ms. McDevitt asked that quarterly Board meeting dates and times be set for the upcoming year.

February 12 and 13 th	Boise
May 21 st and 22 nd	Pocatello
July 30 th and 31 st	Boise
November 12 th and 13 th	Boise

Mr. Hansen motioned to adjourn. Ms. Buxton seconded. All ayes; motion passes.

9:12 a.m. Meeting adjourned.



Charles Correll, Chair
Idaho Park and Recreation Board

Nancy Merrill, Director
and Ex-Officio Member of the Board