

IDAHO OUTDOOR RECREATION FUND ADVISORY COUNCIL
IDFG HQ – Owyhee Conference Room– Boise
600 S Walnut, Boise, ID 83712
Meeting Minutes
 November 7, 2023

Advisory Council Members	Guests	Guests Continued
Chair, Skylar Jett, Idaho Business Outdoors	Kendra Kenyon	Patxi Larrocea
Susan Buxton, Director IDPR	Todd Wernex	Susan Kolbay
Jim Fredricks, Director IDFG	Dave Bingham	Kenzie Castor
Dustin Miller, Director IDL	Johanna Defroot	Darren Damon
Rep. James Petzke	Larry Laxon	Kathy Muir
Gretchen Hyde, Director Rangeland Commission	Lisa Herriot	
Mark Pratt, Past President Idaho Cattle Association - Zoom	Robert Anderst	
Kari Kostka, Nature Conservancy - Not Present	Sydney Kennedy	
Benn Brocksome, Founder Idaho Sportsman	Abby Delmas	
Senator Lent	Michelle Anderson	
Laurel Sayer, Mining – zoom	Aaron Lieberman	
Sandra Mitchell, Motorized Trails	Jason Wright	
Seth Griggs, Idaho Association of Counties	Sydney Plum	

Call to Order

Skylar Jett called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Welcome

Skylar Jett welcomed Idaho Outdoor Rec Council to the November meeting and went through the Council Roll Call.

Consent Agenda

Approval of October 19, 2023 Minutes. Buxton wanted to amend the meeting to add the word “minutes” to the header. Brocksome approved with amendment and Griggs seconded.

All in favor, minutes approved.

Jett introduced Kathy Muir with ID Parks and Grant. Muir is a grant administrator for IDPR handling over \$10 million a year in grants for the department. Muir presented best practices for grading grant applications to the Council. Muir explained that scoring is difficult and it is important for the reviewer to be consistent with scoring for each application and avoid variances in scoring. Scoring and the average system will work. Other important points Muir made is to keep bias at home and scoring documents are public documents so the scorer needs to have justification for scoring because there will be criticism. A good application will have good detail so the reviewer is clear on what the project is, the cost, and how they plan to complete the project. The budget needs to be logical. If there is equipment is it a need versus a want.

Griggs asked if a project could be partially funded. Buxton said that is a good consideration. Fredericks wanted to point out that the council decided in October that the November would be a first cut and they would be invited back.

Pratt asked Muir what kind of criticism should be avoided or what is her feedback that IDPR has been criticized about. He also said that the council needs to make sure there is a need for service burden. Miller asked if a match should be required. Jett said that it was decided that a match wouldn't be required but it will still be something that can be beneficial to the overall project. Griggs said that while match isn't requested, local support and match should be included on projects if available.

It was decided that the council would create a subcommittee with Jett, Brocksome, and Kostra to create a criteria rating guide modeled after the IDPR one.

The council discussed that a new final deadline would be set for November 17th for projects to be considered for the \$5 million dollars and this first round of projects. The council would then do a pre-score and grade the projects. The group would then come together and discuss scoring and make final scores and decisions at the December 14th meeting. The highest scores would then be recommended to the Governor for his recommendation. The final recommendations will be taken to the IDPR board for final approval.

Griggs asked if his scores could be taken into consideration if he wouldn't be able to attend.

The council then heard from organizations that submitted preliminary projects.

Kenzie Carter, grant writer for valley county presented their project on a campground near Boulder Lake Road. The concerns from the council were the service burden this could be adding to the county. Kenzie said they have been working with the county and that there would not be additional burden. Director Miller said that there needs to be a discussion with IDL because endowment lands need to be taken into consideration and not continue with the land use permits. There needs to be more security for IDL. Sayer commented that this area is a mess and needs help including toilets and the road is not in good condition. Buxton said there are hidden costs including access, sheriff dept, EMT, ect.

Craig Utter was not available to discuss the Payette Land Trust (PLT) project but Miller commented that this is a trailhead location and that IDL managing the timberground here is challenging and that IDL will need to look at the best use of the land. Sen. Lent said he thinks that this project and the trailhead wouldn't cost much to create a right away and asked if there is a way to provide right away easement and still meet constitutional mandate. Lent said he felt like this project should be done in some way. David Bingham commented there was support for this from Valley County, City of McCall, CIMBA, and others.

Kendra Kenyon presented the Idaho Parks Foundation for Plantation Island. Buxton commented that it would be difficult to have IDPR to maintain and that the City or Ada County should look into buying it.

Jason Wright spoke about the Donnelly Snowmobile Club parking lot. The area would create parking for the Tamarack Falls Trailhead. They would create the parking lot and then transfer to Valley County. The council asked Wright to provide more information on support from the county and match.

Sydney Kennedy from ISDA presented a project related to Quagga Mussels and creating a dedicated campaign and revamping the ads, signage, tourism outreach, and printed materials. Buxton said the agency should consider dry stations and more permanent outreach.

Nikeela Abrahms presented the Idaho For All application to purchase all terrain track chairs and adaptive recreation equipment. Buxton asked Abrahms to add more details about what type of shortage and needs for equipment. Griggs said he would like to see more info on who is responsible, reservation system and explaining the maintenance needs.

The Council then encouraged applicants to review the applications and if applicable to get letters of support and match.

Jett, reiterated the agreed upon timeline. Final applications due November 17th by 5PM. She will compile the new applications and send them to the council to review prior to the December 14th meeting. Scoring will not be shared until the December 14th meeting. The Council will come with scores, discuss as a group, and then finalize scores to submit to the governor for recommendation.

Adjourned

Skylar Jett adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 7, 2023, at the Fish and Game office from 9:00-12:00 p.m.