

IDAHO PARK AND RECREATION BOARD TELECONFERENCE MEETING
"To improve the quality of life in Idaho through outdoor recreation and resource stewardship."

August 8, 2013

Originating at IDPR Headquarters
Conference Dial-in Number: (424) 203-8400
Participant Access Code: 1076643#

AGENDA

Thursday August 8, 2013

9:06 a.m. MDT Call to Order

Welcome guests
Additions or deletions to the printed agenda
Request for Decision on Sticker versus Registration
Out-of-State Fee Increase
Director's Report

10:16 a.m. Adjourn

9:06 a.m. Chairman Correll called the Idaho Park and Recreation Teleconference Board Meeting to order at 9:08 a.m. MDT, August 8, 2013. Board members and staff in attendance via phone:

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

Also present during the meeting were the following individuals:

Nancy Merrill, Director
Jan Johns, Executive Administrative Assistant
Tammy Kolsky, Reservation Manager
Steve Martin, Fiscal Officer

9:07 a.m. The Chair asked for any changes or deletions to the agenda. Director Merrill asked that the agenda item *Request for Decision on Sticker versus Registration* be changed from an Action Item to Discussion Only Item.

9:08 a.m. Ms. Buxton moved to amend the agenda item *Request for Decision on Sticker versus Registration* from an Action Item to Discussion Only Item. Mr. Hansen seconded the motion. The Chair asked for any further discussion. Hearing none, the Chair asked for a vote on the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

9:09 a.m. Director Merrill presented the Data Summary Sales Registration Realignment. Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation (IDPR)'s Information Technology program will need to have a new computer program to run the Registration System. This change will need to take place approximately in 2015. In working with Idaho Department of Transportation (ITD), the ITD registration computer program will not allow vendors to be in the system other than the county DMVs. The county DMVs are not supportive to adding IDPR Registration System and new equipment to their sites or asking their employees to work between two (2) different systems. ITD's new computer registration system will not work with a registration sticker program or the information needed to collect for sales of stickers. House Bill 116 which was the 2013 legislation to do away with the vendor system was opposed by the constituents, which means a vendor system will be needed.

Director Merrill and staff met with Idaho Department of Fish & Game (IDF&G) to review their registration system which is run by ActiveNetwork which also runs the IDPR registration

system. After review, staff decided that it was not economically sound to partner with IDF&G vendor system.

Director Merrill said that the least costly and most effective path would be to use an "off the shelf" computer program. At this time, IDPR uses two (2) "off the shelf" programs through ReserveAmerica and ActiveNetwork. ActiveNetwork would provide the software and hardware to vendors.

In order to keep our Coast Guard grants, the Boat Registration Program would have to stay with ITD as well as the Restricted Plates Program as the program is already in statute with ITD. Thus, the vendor program would be removed for boating and restricted license plate registration. By removing these two (2) programs from the vendors, this would allow a recreation sticker "only" program which is being proposed by the Registration Task Force Committee and sold through the vendor program. This sticker program would enable registration to be available via walk-in, mail-in or online.

The cost for an "Off the Shelf" program is a five (5) year average and any upfront cost for vendor equipment would be supplied by ActiveNetwork.

Discussion followed.

Ms. Buxton felt that this was a "piece meal" approach and that the cost and long-term management was not practical. She expressed concern having the boats in one (1) program and the vehicles in another.

Director Merrill said there would be no costs incurred for Boat Registration and Restricted License Plates to stay with ITD. The costs for programs that need to be looked at are three (3):

1. Purchasing an Off the Shelf
2. Connecting with ITD's registration system
3. Building an in-house system

Originally, when talks began with ITD, the cost to connect to the existing Legacy Registration system at ITD was approximately \$28,000. However, ITD is changing to a 3M Registration System and, at this time, is unable to quote a cost for a connection with IDPR. Since this system is an Off the Shelf System, adding an IDPR Vendor System to the program would result in change orders to their new system. A 15% administration fee would be saved if IDPR built its own system.

Mr. Martin spoke to the cost concerns. The costs for IDPR will be \$1.25 to \$1.5 million per year for the next five (5) years. The total revenue from all programs involved with registration takes in \$750,000 per year resulting in a shortage of \$500,000 to \$750,000 per year for the next five (5) years in order to accomplish any of those options.

Director Merrill said that any of these changes would probably require statute changes.

Discussion followed on the "Pay to Play" sticker option. Chairman Correll noted that the Recreation Sticker Program as opposed to the Registration Program would keep the Tax Commission, insurance and law enforcement agencies from being involved. Chairman Correll asked Director Merrill if she knew how these entities would respond to the "Pay to Play" Program. Director Merrill said they had conveyed that they would oppose this program. Mr. Correll asked if they would be willing to participate in cost sharing. Director Merrill said she did not know but would need to have that discussion.

Mr. Crimmins said that he believed that both the insurance and law enforcement agencies would not be involved with the Registration sticker information. However, he did believe that the Tax Commission would need to be involved and perhaps willing to share costs.

Chairman Correll voiced his concern about the law enforcement of the Registration Sticker Program. Mr. Martin said that, currently, in the fees collected, there is \$1.00 set aside in the current Registration Program that is for law enforcement. However, the \$1.00 is mostly for search and rescue. Enforcement was continued to be discussed and whether or not statute would have to be changed.

Ms. Buxton said that the sticker was more of a tax than a registration which is of vested property interest and there is not vested property interest in a sticker. A sticker is more of an additional tax than it is a fee as the users are not getting a property right in exchange for the sticker. Ms. Buxton requested a legal analysis of the enforcement of a sticker. If law enforcement cannot be used to force compliance to having a registration sticker, then why would anyone bother to buy one? Ms. Buxton felt that this is a large concern and until it is defined, deciding on registration or a sticker is premature.

Chairman Correll asked that Mr. Strack send the Board a legal analysis of the pros and cons of the elimination of the Recreation Registration and proceeding with a Recreation Sticker Program.

Ms. McDevitt agreed that the sticker program will need to be enforced as well as be in statute.

Director Merrill said that the Registration Task Force had discussed increasing the registration fee in order to pay for the cost of a new Registration Program.

Chairman Correll asked for a basic flow chart as to status of where the Registration Program and "Play to Pay" options are.

Registration Task Force is to meet the second week in September. A teleconference Board meeting will follow.

Mr. Doman asked for the total number of vendors. Director Merrill responded that the number was between 300-350 vendors. Mr. Doman shared his concerns of running two (2) systems as well as the law enforcement needs a payment to enforce the sticker program.

Discussion regarding the objective of the open houses followed.

Mr. Hansen asked if the snowmobiles were different from other OHVs in regards to registration. Mr. Hansen asked if staff had thought about contacting the snowmobilers via survey, asking them for their opinion on how best to register snowmobiles. Director Merrill concurred that would be a good idea and said that staff would go forward with a survey with snowmobilers.

10:02 a.m. Out-of-State Fee Increase

Ms. Kolsky said in response to the recommendations that the IRC and DFM staff are requesting the Board consider charging out-of-state campers more for serviced campsites than the rate charged our Idaho residents.

Department staff is requesting this increase to be in addition to the serviced campsite fee increase approved by the Park Board at the May 2013 Park Board meeting.

This Agenda item is to request that fees for all serviced campsites be increased by \$3 per night for out-of-state residents for camping season 2014 and to request the Park Board to direct staff to proceed with the Temporary and Proposed rule process in order for the requested \$3 increase to be included in the IDAPA approved fees.

The projected fiscal impact for this fee increase has been calculated by averaging the Agency's January – December site specific out-of-state occupancy for the last three (3) calendar years. This projected fiscal impact further assumes no decrease in occupancy.


Serviced Sites Average Nights	Projected Revenue Increase
35,513	\$106,539

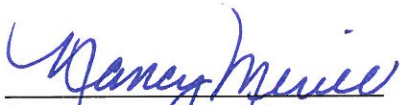
10:12 a.m. Ms. Buxton moved to accept staff recommendation as presented. Mr. Hansen seconded the motion. The Chair asked for any further discussion. Hearing none, the Chair asked for a vote on the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

10:13 a.m. Director's Report

Director Merrill discussed the organizational chart and that both the Executive staff and the Director were working on job descriptions for the Management Services Administrator and Operations Administrator positions. The announcements for the positions will be sent out on August 23 and will run for two (2) weeks. Interviews will begin on September 9 -11. Mr. Crimmins asked if the Director had run costs on the new organization versus the old organization. The Director responded there will be a cost savings for an Operations Administrator in place of a Deputy Director as well as Management Services Administrator in place of a Social Economic/Comprehensive Planner position. The cost may increase somewhat but worth it to maximize the agency. The Social Economic/Comprehensive Planner position will not be filled.

10:16 a.m. Mr. Hansen moved to adjourn. Mr. Crimmins seconded it. The Chair asked for any further discussion. Hearing none, the Chair asked for a vote on the motion. Motion approved unanimously.


Charles Correll, Chair
Idaho Park and Recreation Board


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