

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

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

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

December 22, 2016

10:00 A.M. Mountain / 9:00 A.M. Pacific

5657 Warm Springs Ave.

Boise, Idaho

Minutes – Thursday, December 22, 2016

Call to Order – Chairman Doman

Chairman Doman called the Board teleconference to order at 10:05 A.M. MT, December 22, 2016. The Chairman directed a roll call. Board Members in attendance via the phone were:

Chairman Doman – Present
Board Member Crimmins – Present
Board Member Black – Present
Board Member Bob Hansen – Present
Board Member Boren – Present
Board Member Gordy Hansen – Absent

Also present or on the phone during all or portions of the teleconference were the following individuals:

David Langhorst – Director
Betty Mills – Management Assistant to the Director
Keith Hobbs – Operations Administrator
Anna Canning – Management Services Administrator
Steve Martin – Financial Officer
David White – North Region Manager
Garth Taylor – South/East Region Manager
Dave Claycomb – Recreation Resource Bureau Chief
Ray Houston – LSO Budget Analyst
Matt Warnick – Department Financial Management Analyst Sr.

Additions or Deletions to the Printed Agenda

Mr. Crimmins requested to add an update on HR845 at the end of the meeting.

Mr. Bob Hansen made a motion to include HR845 to the agenda. Mr. Black seconded the motion. The chairman asked for further discussion, hearing none, the chair called for a vote on the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda Items

- October 27, 2016 Teleconference Minutes – Mr. Bob Hansen requested a change to the minutes under the Boise Cascade Land discussion. Mr. Hansen provided his suggested changes to the Board and will provide Ms. Mills with the changes in writing.

Mr. Bob Hansen made a motion to approve the October 27, 2016 meeting minutes as amended. Mr. Boren seconded the motion. The chairman asked for further discussion, hearing none, the chair called for a vote on the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Campsite Motorcycle Capacity Increase – Keith Hobbs

Mr. Hobbs reported that during the June 23, 2016 IDPR Board teleconference with staff recommendation, the IDPR Board directed staff to begin the Rule Promulgation process to amend IDAPA 26.010.05(a) to increase the maximum capacity of motorcycles permitted on Idaho State Park campsites from two (2) to four (4) and to provide additional rule clarity. The negotiated rulemaking process was initiated, which required the review and approval of the proposed rule change by the Division of Financial Management and the Legislative Services Office. Additionally, two opportunities for public comment were provided. No public comment was received on the rule change. Currently, the amendment to IDAPA 26.010.05(a) is considered a Pending Rule, and as such the IDPR Board is required to adopt the Pending Rule, prior to legislative review. Mr. Hobbs stated that the managers of each park would still have the authority to make the determination, on whether or not a campsite is large enough to accommodate a trailer with multiple motorcycles or tricycles. Board and staff discussion followed.

Mr. Crimmins made a motion to approve Docket 26-0120-1601 (Pending Rule), which will amend IDAPA 26.010.05(a) to increase the maximum capacity of motorcycles on Idaho State Park campsites from two (2) to four (4). Mr. Hansen seconded the motion. The chair asked for further discussion, hearing none, the chair called for a vote on the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

CEC – Randy Doman

Chairman Doman introduced the topic by noting the Governor's budget for FY2018 includes a 3% Change in Employee Compensation (CEC). There was a wide-ranging discussion among the Board about targeting the CEC raises to certain employees including an "inversion concept" of giving more to those at lower pay levels and less to those higher levels; giving more to field or park employees and less to HQ or admin employees, or; giving more to "lower graded" non-seasonal employees. Director Langhorst pointed out that there are several more steps before we can count on that 3%, and that normal procedure is to wait for CEC "instructions" from DFM before drafting the IDPR plan for implementing CEC. Director Langhorst also said that these instructions usually direct agencies to base their CEC plan on merit and that he had a concern about employee morale if we skewed the plan toward certain positions. Board and staff discussion followed. Chairman Doman requested to see a matrix of what an increase to our lower paid employees would look like, during the February Board meeting.

Boulder White Cloud Meetings Update – Keith Hobbs

Mr. Hobbs reported on the process for the three recently created wilderness areas which include the Hemingway-Boulders Area, the White Clouds Wilderness Areas and the Jim McClure-Jerry Peak Wilderness Area. A first draft of the management plans have been produced by the responsible agencies. There are two separate management plans being produced. They are running somewhat concurrently, however the comment period has been extended to January 31, 2017. This will allow additional time for the community to make comments on opinions for this plan. Mr. Hobbs will provide a copy of these management plans to the Board members. The most significant meetings will be held in Ketchum, Stanley and Challis. IDPR park staff were in attendance for the Challis meeting and will attend other meetings as deemed to be of importance for IDPR. The Board would like to be notified when this type of meeting is being held so they have the option to attend with IDPR staff and be more

involved in these discussions. Mr. Claycomb stated that IDPR provides an official agency comment on Official agency letterhead which includes all of the Board members names. Mr. Claycomb stated that in the past, the Board has not been involved in that process but hears the Board's interest and will ensure the Board has the opportunity to review the IDPR draft comments and incorporate the Boards collective thoughts along with IDPR's comments, prior to them being sent out. Board and staff discussion followed.

Snowmobile Trails in Valley County Update – Dave Claycomb

Mr. Claycomb provided a brief update on the snowmobile trails in Valley County. Mr. Claycomb reported that messaging was sent out in a local paper regarding the land purchase by the Wilks Brothers in Valley County and a portion that extended into Boise County, stating that the land would be closed to everyone. Mr. Claycomb stated that some of IDPR's connectivity especially in Valley County would be affected if the Wilks Brothers had taken that stance but reported this is not the stance the Wilks Brothers are taking. When the land sale went through, IDPR did a comparison of our trail map to the land purchased by the Wilks Brothers to determine the routes of conflict and then spoke to Valley County and the Boise County grooming programs. Mr. Larry Laxson obtained the phone number of one of the Wilks Brothers and contacted him. He stated that the comments in the paper were blown out of proportion and were not in fact their official position. This land purchase has not affected grooming in this area, this winter. Currently, both counties are grooming those routes today. No additional enforcement has been requested of the sheriff's office or added restriction to access this area and the Wilks Brothers communicated to Mr. Laxson that this would be the case through this winter. Mr. Claycomb spoke to the Idaho Recreation Council and Valley County regarding the possibility of a long term lease for access through those routes in particular. Mr. Claycomb stated IDPR has a good track record of securing this type of a lease and requested for IDPR to have a seat at the table with Valley County representatives during this discussion in the spring. Board and staff discussion followed.

Economic Impact Study Update – Keith Hobbs

Mr. Hobbs provided a brief update on three of IDPR's current projects. In 2014 the first economic impact study was completed by the University of Idaho on the Off Road Vehicle usage in Idaho. This study prompted a further study to determine the economic impacts and economic significance of IDPR programs on the state as a whole. Following this study, three additional studies were implemented working with the Department of Economics at Boise State University.

- 1) Idaho Powerboating Impact Study has been drafted and reviewed by IDPR staff. It is available for public release.
- 2) Idaho State Park Economic Impact Study has been completed with over 8,500 state park users responding to the survey. This analysis has started and is expected to have a final draft available during the summer of 2017. A preliminary report will be available to IDPR for the 2017 Legislative Session for use by the Director.
- 3) Idaho Snowmobiling Economic Impact Study has been completed and a final draft report will be available in early 2017.

Mr. Hobbs stated that in rather rapid succession, IDPR will have some important data which will help us quantify the impact of our programs on the state as a whole. Mr. Hobbs stood for questions. Board and staff discussion followed. Mr. Doman requested one executive summary of all of these studies so the Board would be able to better communicate the results with the public. Director Langhorst stated that IDPR is adhering to the scheduled process that was submitted in the strategic plan. Mr. Hobbs reported that each of these studies will include an executive summary. Mr. Hobbs responded that IDPR can consolidated all of these executive

summaries into one summary. Mr. Doman requested one consolidated summary be provided to the Board.

2017 Board Meeting Dates and Locations – Betty Mills

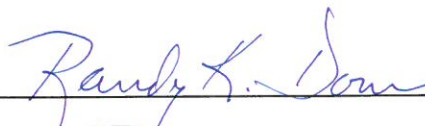
Ms. Mills reviewed the proposed dates and locations for IDPR Board teleconferences and meetings for 2017 that were previously emailed to the Board. Mr. Boren stated that he had conflicts with three of the proposed dates. Board and staff discussion followed.

Mr. Bob Hansen moved to accept the adjusted meetings dates and locations for 2017. Mr. Black seconded the motion. The chair asked for further discussion, hearing none, the chair called for a vote on the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

HR 845 Update

Mr. Crimmins stated that HR 845 is the National Forest Trails System Stewardship Act to increase volunteerism. Mr. Crimmins thinks there is a real opportunity for IDPR to partner with the National Forest and to step up and become involved. There are liability issues for volunteers, they are covered under workmen’s comp but if volunteers were hurt, the workers comp charges would go directly to the Forest service. HR 845 states these charges would be spread throughout the agency. Mr. Crimmins stated another opportunity for IDPR is the identification of cooperative agreements in section 6 of this bill. It recognizes that the state may be involved with the cooperative agreement. It gives IDPR the opportunity for both the motorized and non-motorized programs to be involved in this program. Mr. Crimmins encouraged the Board members to obtain a copy of this bill if they have not already seen it. Director Langhorst commented that IDPR is engaged and will host the next non-motorized meeting scheduled for January 11, 2017. It will be suggested for this group to write a proposal for one of the 20 pilot projects that will be selected to assist with funding for this program. Board and staff discussion followed.

Mr. Hansen moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Doman seconded the motion. The chair called for a vote on the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 11:33 A.M.



Randy Doman, Chairman
Idaho Park and Recreation Board



David R. Langhorst Director
Ex-Officio Member of the Board