

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION

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

Quarterly Board Meeting

February 8, 2023

IDPR Headquarters

5657 E. Warm Springs Ave.

Boise, ID 83716

Zoom Meeting Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82547569935?pwd=S1JGTHpuZmlIM2swTkh1ZG9TRmVHZZ09>

Meeting ID: 825 4756 9935

Passcode: 563511

MINUTES

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

Call to Order - Chairman Beckley called the meeting to order at 9:00am and requested a roll call.

- Chairman Beckley - Present
- Board Member Fatkin - Present
- Board Member Black - Present
- Board Member Roach - Present
- Board Member Eastwood - Present

Also present during all or portions of the meeting either in person or on the phone were the following individuals:

- Susan Buxton, Director
- Troy Elmore, Operations Division Administrator
- Adam Zaragoza, Management Services Administrator
- Kathy Muir, Grant Manager
- Tami Iasonides, Management Assistant
- David White, North Region Bureau Chief
- Craig Quintana, Public Information Officer
- Dave Claycomb, Rec Bureau Chief
- Debbie Hoopes, HR Officer
- Joy Vega, Deputy Attorney General
- Steve Martin, Financial Officer
- Ron Jenks, Park Manager
- Surat Nicol, Park Manager
- Heidi Burks, Contracts Officer
- Seth Hobbs, Registration and Reservation Program Manager
- Chris Zajchowski, Assistant Professor/Parks, Tourism, and Recreation Ecology U of I
- Nathan Blackburn, Park Manager
- Steve Gustafson
- Charlie Bryan
- JT More
- Ryan Neptune
- Jim Balch

- Matt Germino
- Emme Tulloch
- Lorna Hammond
- Liz Conner

Welcome and Introductions / Chairman Beckley and Director Buxton

Chairman Beckley and Director Buxton welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Additions or Deletions to the Printed Agenda

The Chairman asked if there were any additions or deletions to the printed agenda. Director Buxton requested to move the avalanche training to after the executive session.

Mr. Roach moved to have the avalanche training after the executive session rather than in the middle of the meeting. Motion was seconded by Mr. Eastwood. The Chairman asked for further discussion, hearing none, the Chairman called for a vote on the motion. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes December 22, 2022.

Mr. Black moved to approve the minutes as written. Motion was seconded by Mr. Roach. The Chairman asked for further discussion, hearing none, the Chairman called for a vote on the motion. Motion carried.

Director's Report & Legislative Update

Director Buxton reported on the following topics:

- **Budget**
Provided a brief update on the budget and deferred maintenance.
- **Legislation**
Provided a brief update on current legislation and what is to come with regards to the remainder of the legislative session. We have been providing a lot of background information on what we do, keeping legislators informed on IDPR.
- **Introduction**
Director Buxton introduced and welcomed Chris Zajchowski, as our shared Professor with U of I, he will act as a consultant on outdoor recreation issues for IDPR providing research and academic expertise.
- **Change in Employee Compensation (CEC) Pay Plan**
The CEC committee put together a report for recommendation for salary adjustments across the state to bring salaries to a more comparable rate. This year they recommended a 4% increase statewide.

5020 Policy Update

Ms. Muir provided information on the policy update to add "motorized" to the boating category of the policy language.

Mr. Fatkin moved to update Policy 5020 to add "motorized" to the boating category. Motion was

seconded by Mr. Black. The Chairman asked for further discussion, hearing none, the Chairman called for a vote on the motion. Motion carried.

Moorage Fee Public Hearing

Mr. Hobbs provided information and a staff recommendation for moorage fees for the 2023 boating season at Dworshak, Hells Gate, Heyburn and Lucky Peak State Parks as all of these parks operate marinas.

Chairman Beckley opened the public hearing to those in person then those present via zoom who wished to speak on the subject at 9:37am.

- JT More, Slip holder - Mr. More voiced his concerns about the fee increase and the methods of comparison used in determining the rate of increase. Mr. More is worried that raising the prices while decreasing the experience is deterring from what IDPR is trying to accomplish, based on our mission.
- Charlie Bryan, 20-year Spring Shores Renter - Mr. Bryan voiced his concerns about the amount of the fee increase and the comparable used. He feels that the location of Spring Shores is not the same as others and the comparison in the feasibility study is not fair. He would like consideration be given to those individuals who have supported the Marina for so long. Mr. Bryan also suggested that a senior discount be given.
- Matt Germino, Slip Renter - Mr. Germino stated that he feels that the report provided has many flaws. He disagrees that the marinas used compare. Mr. Germino questions whether there are other options or if there is a way that IDPR could adjust revenue, such as charge for ramp use, rather than raise cost.
- Jim Balch, Boat/Slip User - Mr. Balch voiced his concerns over safety at Lucky Peak as well as boat damage from wake boats.
- Alex Hammond, Slip Owner - Mr. Hammond voiced his concerns about the yearly rates for a marina that isn't usable for part of the year, the marina is closed from October - March.
- Chad Kluender, Slip Owner - Mr. Kluender has concerns about what he sees as a flawed comparison.
- Phil Lambpert, Longtime User at Heyburn SP - Mr. Klender is concerned about what he feels is an exorbitant rate increase in comparison to other boat slips that operate year-round. He feels that the prices should be fair all around the state, not increasing one park more than another.
- S. Baker - Mr. Baker agrees with the others in their concern with comparing Spring Shores to areas such as McCall. He doesn't feel they are comparable.
- Larry Laxson, Valley County - Mr. Laxson stated that the same concerns and conversations are happening in Valley County.

Chairman Beckley closed the public hearing at 10:16am.

Staff and Board provided further clarification on the need for fee increases. It is necessary in order to pay for ongoing maintenance and improvements. Board members discussed the option to spread out the increase and spread it over a three-year period rather than all at once. They also discussed the difficulties in having every variable to compare in a rate study.

Mr. Black moved to increase Idaho State Park annual moorage rental fees as recommended by 8% as described over a three-year period, including a CPI increase. Motion was seconded by Mr. Fatkin. The Chairman asked for further discussion, hearing none, the Chairman called for a vote on the motion. Motion carried.

EBL Boise Zip Assignment

Mr. Elmore provided information on the modification of Section 7 of Concession Agreement 001-EAG-SLC-020415 and authorization of the assignment from EBL Boise, LLC to Gateway Parks. Mr. Steve Gustafson (EBL Boise, LLC) provided information on what led to him entering into a letter of intent with Mr. Ryan Neptune (Gateway Parks) and provided steps taken in order to fulfill the State's requests. He stated that both he and Gateway Parks have fulfilled the requirements. Mr. Neptune spoke of his plans to continue to employ students and provide full-time jobs to the community. He stated that his staff is already running a zipline, therefore already have insurance and other things in place.

Mr. Roach moved to approve the application of assignment to consent and allow EBL to assume the agreement to Gateway Parks. Motion was seconded by Mr. Black. The Chairman asked for further discussion, hearing none, the Chairman called for a roll call vote on the motion.

- Chairman Beckley - Yes
- Board Member Fatkin - Yes
- Board Member Black - Yes
- Board Member Roach - Yes
- Board Member Eastwood - Yes

Motion carried.

Park Naming/Policy 8030

Mr. Zaragoza provided an update on the progress of the revisions to Policy 8030 and 7080 Naming Conventions and Sponsorships. Mr. Zaragoza provided information on the suggested changes; the Board should have authority to name new parks, 5-year time frame before commemoration of a monument.

Challis Hot Springs

Director Buxton provided information on the acquisition of Hammond Hot Springs property. The property will become part of Land of the Yankee Fork State Park.

Mr. Black moved to accept the property as real property and authorize the Director to sign all documents necessary to complete the property acquisition. Motion was seconded by Mr. Roach. The Chairman asked for further discussion, hearing none, the Chairman called for a roll call vote on the motion.

- Chairman Beckley - Yes
- Board Member Fatkin - Yes
- Board Member Black - Yes
- Board Member Roach - Yes
- Board Member Eastwood - Yes

Motion carried.

Heyburn Specific Pass to Address Overnight Use at Float Homes

Mr. White provided background information on Heyburn Park specific annual passes and asked the Board to approve their sale to leaseholders and their families for \$80.

Mr. Roach moved to approve the sale of the Heyburn State Park Specific Annual Pass to Heyburn lease

holders for their family and friends at a cost of \$80 per year to cover the cost of MVEF and overnight use. Motion was seconded by Mr. Fatkin. The Chairman asked for further discussion, hearing none, the Chairman called for a vote on the motion. Motion carried.

Program Reports

Chairman Beckley asked if there were any questions on the Program Reports program reports provided. Hearing none, he moved to the next agenda item.

Recognition and Thank You for Service to Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation

Director Buxton thanked Board members Pete Black and Doug Eastwood for their service to IDPR and the Board.

Public Comment

Lorna Hammond thanked IDPR and everyone involved for their help in the Hammond property acquisition.

Executive Session

Chairman Beckley announced that no executive session will be held.

Avalanche Training

Mr. Claycomb provided a background on the Avalanche Training Program. Avalanche training and participation will take place after the meeting is adjourned.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:00 PM.



Chairman Brian Beckley
Idaho Park and Recreation Board



Susan E. Buxton, Director
Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation