

Flathead County Weed/Parks/Recreation

MINUTES

Meeting of the Board of Directors

Meeting Date: March 2, 2020

Members of the Board in attendance:

Jim Buechle, Clyde Fisher, Jessica Treweek, Pete Woll, Lori Moran

Members of the Board not in attendance:

Also in attendance:

Jed Fisher, Superintendent; Gordon Jewett, Assistant Superintendent; Haily Hoff, Clerk

Others Present:

Linda Tutvedt

Call to Order

A meeting of the Board of Directors for Flathead County Weed, Parks & Recreation was held in the conference room at 311 FFA Drive, Kalispell, Montana, on March 2, 2020. The meeting convened at 8:31 AM, President Woll presiding.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes for the February 3, 2020, meeting of the Flathead County Weed, Parks & Recreation Board of Directors were distributed to the members of the Board.

Jim Buechle moved to approve the February 3, 2020 Board minutes.

Jessica Treweek seconded the motion.

There being no discussion and all in favor – the motion was carried.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Foy's to Blacktail Trails

Gabe Dillon was unable to attend the meeting.

Parks & Recreation Department Report

Jed spoke with Gabe previously regarding his role with Flathead Trails Association. It is understood that we must attempt to maintain existing trails with little to no funding. A long-term funding mechanism is preferred for future projects and maintenance but is currently non-existent. The Commissioners would like to see a formal evaluation of necessary trail maintenance within the existing sections that Flathead County is responsible for. The proposed cost of said evaluation will be approximately \$30,000 provided by Robert Pescia & Associates. The State has been planning to connect the Gateway to Glacier trail with .8 mile as they widen the road from Highway 2 to Highway 206. The agreement will not include pothole repair. These trails are considered 'linear parks' and do not meet the same standards as roads. Flathead County Parks & Recreation is currently equipped to deal with only minor repairs like crack sealing. The Road & Bridge Department handles more pothole and paving repair work but they would likely not be responsible for these areas. Ryan Mitchell with RPA will make the assessments and core drilling will be done by one of their interns this summer. The board as a whole felt the price tag is high for this assessment but understands the need and is supportive in

moving forward. There is potential to surplus some park land, specifically in Many Lakes. A few parcels exist that are not suitable for park use. These properties could be sold off to generate some income and eliminate some liability. This process can get relatively expensive because surveys and appraisals are required. Courthouse auction can begin at 90% of appraised value. Discussion was held regarding holding a public hearing on the possibility of selling Flathead County park land in the Many Lakes area.

Jessica Treweek moved to hold a public hearing on the potential of surplus park sale within April's monthly Board Meeting.

Jim Buechle seconded the motion.

There being no discussion and all in favor – the motion was carried.

Safely launching a boat at Leisure Island has been difficult at this site with low water levels. Permits have been acquired to make some improvements and add materials. Walleyes Unlimited is willing to contribute dollars to purchase Flexmats to place atop the launch improvements to help keep all of the material from washing away. The cost to have the Flexmats delivered is approximately \$3,900.

Jessica Treweek moved to approve accepting the donation from Walleyes Unlimited to purchase the Flexmats.

Lori Moran seconded the motion.

There being no discussion and all in favor – the motion was carried.

Church Slough parking improvements are needed but clarification is needed on floodplain areas and necessary permits. Help will come from the Flathead County Road & Bridge Department. Pete Woll will work with Gordie on floodplain boundaries.

Derek Ford of Bigfork recently expressed interest in erecting metal posts at Potoczny ball field for foul lines. He also wants to raise money to put in a batting cage there. Gordie stated that size and logistics need to be determined.

Weed Department Report

Seasonal employees are beginning to return for the year. Calibration and mechanical work is taking place during poor weather days. As soon as weather allows, building and park land work will begin. Gordie is anticipating an early start on spraying this season.

Election of Board Officers

Jim Buechle motioned that Pete Woll retains his current role as Board President.

Clyde Fisher seconded the motion.

There being no discussion and all in favor – the motion was carried.

Clyde Fisher moved to nominate Jim Buechle as Vice President.

There being no discussion and all in favor – the motion was carried.

Other Business

Volunteer Park permitting has been submitted to advance the expansion project. The Flathead County Planning and Zoning Department has more to and some delays have occurred.

Pete Woll and Jessica Treweek attended the last Flathead County Planning Board meeting. The last item on that agenda was adopting the Flathead County Trails Plan. The Planning Board passed the Trails Plan on to the County Commissioners as it was presented to them.

Lori Moran mentioned that awareness is key and the community should know that funding is not coming from taxpayers on projects like the Leisure Island boat launch improvement. It could behoove the department to educate the public on income and expenses and where the funding actually comes from.

Matters of the Board

There were no matters of the Board.

Adjourn

Jim Buechle moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:40AM.

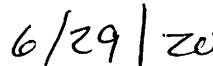
Jessica Treweek seconded the motion.

There being no discussion and all in favor – the motion was carried.

Approved:



Pete Woll, Board President



Date