

**Flathead County Weed/Parks/Recreation
MINUTES
Meeting of the Board of Directors
Meeting Date: December 6, 2021**

Members of the Board in attendance:

James Buechle, Clyde Fisher, Pete Woll

Members of the Board not in attendance:

Lori Moran, Jessica Treweek

Also in attendance:

Chris Maestas, Director; Gordon Jewett, Assistant Supervisor; Haily Hoff, Clerk

Others Present:

Amanda Davey, Rosemary Fisher, Gabe Dillon

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 December 6, 2021. The meeting convened at 8:30 AM, President Woll presiding.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes for the October 4, 2021, 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 October 4, 2021 Board minutes.

Clyde Fisher seconded the motion.

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

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Parks & Recreation Department Report

Remaining seasonal staff was laid off at the end of November. Windfall tree and leaf clean up was completed and slash piles were burned. Many cottonwood trees aged out and were removed from the Conrad Complex. Fence repairs were made and the new crossing at Herron Park was installed. Stones and plaques were set at Demersville Cemetery in cooperation with the Flathead County Clerk & Recorder and the Flathead County Treasurer. Two out of three grant applications were awarded for trail maintenance, one for school trails and the other for Rails to Trails sections. Preliminary engineering will begin in the spring. The Whitefish Stage switchback project did not receive funding. The contracts have been signed by the Flathead County Commission and future documents will flow through the Flathead County grant writer and the Flathead County Finance Department.

Fall softball, youth flag football and adult flag football seasons concluded in November. Registrations are currently open for Men's Winter Basketball, Women's Winter Basketball and Sykes Lil Hoopsters Basketball for 1-2 grade boys and 1-4 grade girls. Adult basketball will be held on Sundays at Kalispell Middle School and Wednesdays at Stillwater Christian School. Youth basketball will be held on Saturdays at Elrod and Russell gyms.

Weed Department Report

Weather allowed spray operations to continue into early November. Sections of Highway 2 East weren't completed until fall due to staffing shortages. Glacier National Park section was not scheduled. The valley floor was mowed twice this season. Contract work looks to be on pace for spring applications. Inventory of herbicide and fertilizer will be taken this winter and any necessary orders will be placed early to avoid potential supply issues. Substantial increases are expected on some chemical costs as inflation persists. All license holders attended an in-person training in October. Noel Jinings will roll back to 16 hours per week through the winter months and will be working 24 hours per week for the Flathead County Planning & Zoning Department. Insulation upgrades and splash panels are planned for installation in the chemical storage facility.

Other Business

Jim Buechle mentioned a recent helicopter application of Tordon that took place in the Silverbow area. Growth seems to be affected in the treatment area. Mr. Buechle is pleased that this District is not utilizing Tordon on the Valley floor and encouraged continual caution in the event of any future applications.

Matters of the Board

There were no matters of the Board

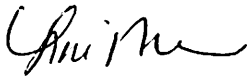
Adjourn

Clyde Fisher moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:03 AM.

Jim Buechle seconded the motion.

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

Approved:



Lori Moran, Board Vice President



Date