

**Flathead County Weed/Parks/Recreation**  
**MINUTES**  
**Board of Directors**  
**Meeting Date: August 6, 2012**

**Members of the Board in attendance:**

Jim Buechle, Clyde Fisher, Elise Robocker, Ray Sanders, Pete Woll

**Members of the Board not in attendance:**

All board members were present.

**Also in attendance:**

Jed Fisher, Superintendent; Gordon Jewett, Assistant Superintendent; and Michele Haarr, Clerk

**Others Present:**

Camillia Lanham – Bigfork Eagle

Tamara Tanberg – Lakeside Advisory Committee

Linda Tutvedt – Foys/Herron Advisory Committee

**Call to Order**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors, Flathead County Weed, Parks & Recreation, was held in the conference room at 311 FFA Drive, Kalispell, Montana, on August 6, 2012. The meeting convened at 8:32AM, Chairman Sanders presiding.

**Approval of Minutes**

Minutes of the July 2, 2012 meeting of the Flathead County Weed, Parks & Recreation Board of Directors were distributed to the members of the Board.

**Jim Buechle made a motion to approve the July 2, 2012 minutes.**

**Pete Woll seconded the motion.**

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

**Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**Caldbeck Major Lakeshore Variance Application Decision**

Superintendent Jed Fisher stated that Ron Caldbeck is applying for a Conditional Use Permit to establish a Commercial Recreation Area on property located at 7070 and 7074 US Hwy 93, Lakeside. Mr. Caldbeck has 40 boats, 20 of which will be launched using the existing County boat ramp just south of the subject property.

Tamara Tanberg attended a recent City Council meeting where public comment took place and Superintendent Fisher reviewed a DVD of the meeting. The room was filled with people who were strongly opposed to the variance. Location was the key issue because the proposed development is next to a public swimming area. In addition customers would need to cross at a heavily trafficked area.

After discussion it was determined that there is significant concern regarding public safety at the proposed site, and public comment at a recent meeting of the Lakeside City Council reflected these concerns. The Board supports private enterprise but does not endorse the requested variance at the proposed location, and recommends that Mr. Caldbeck pursue options for a more suitable location.

**Elise Robocker made a motion for the Board to write a letter to Flathead County Planning & Zoning stating concerns regarding approval of Mr. Caldbeck’s requested Conditional Use Permit to establish a Commercial Recreation Area and recommending a more suitable location.**

**Pete Woll seconded the motion.**

**There being no further discussion and all in favor ~ the motion was carried.**

### **Video Surveillance in County Parks – Discussion & Action**

Superintendent Jed Fisher stated that 25K was spent on improvements to the bathrooms at Sliter Park, and a request was received from Citizens for a Better Bigfork for approval to install a video surveillance camera there. This would encourage good behavior and catch vandalism and drug deals on film. This request was reviewed by County Attorney Tara Fugina, who stated that this is really a police matter. She questioned who would review the film, who will receive calls, and who would be the backup? The County Commissioners have the authority to decide after going through the public process. The matter will be submitted to the Commissioners.

### **Bigfork Advisory Report**

There was no one present from the Bigfork Advisory Committee.

### **Foys/Herron Advisory Report**

Linda Tutvedt reported that County maintenance has done a beautiful job at Herron – it looks great. The “I Love Herron Park” stickers are not selling well and Flathead Combined Training Association will abandon the effort after this year.

Superintendent Jed Fisher reported that the Spartan Race group will rent private property. The County lost potentially 10 – 15K, there were too many chiefs, and the Chamber was getting mixed messages regarding the use of Herron Park. In the future this type of request would be better handled by a smaller group of people for better direction. Questions such as how to charge, what are the rules and how will things flow need to be addressed. The Department staff needs to work on a fee schedule and vetting committee.

### **Foys to Blacktail Trails**

There was no one present from Foys to Blacktail Trails.

### **Lakeside Advisory Report**

Volunteer Park – Tamara Tanberg reported that she has been trying to get in touch with DOT regarding installation of the flashing beacon at Adams Street, which was scheduled to occur in late spring. Maggie Davis asked for attention to weeds coming up in various beds. The Parks Superintendent spoke to the employee managing the park and asked him to be more diligent. The garbage is being managed well. The park is checked every Monday morning.

Ben Williams Park – The warranty on the playground equipment is needed. Superintendent Jed Fisher will follow up on it and would like to have photos.

## **Middle Forks Advisory Committee**

There was no one present.

## **Other Business**

Beaver Lake Hybrid Water Lily – Elise Robocker questioned the status of the hybrid water lily that was discovered while surveying for Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM) at Beaver Lake. The owner of the property who placed it in the water has offered to remove it. Superintendent Jed Fisher reported that the majority of EWM has been removed from Beaver Lake.

Weed Plan – Superintendent Jed Fisher reported that the Weed Plan is being reviewed by the County Attorneys.

## **Adjourn**

**Jim Buechle made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:12AM.**

**Clyde Fisher seconded the motion.**

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

The time and place of the next regular meeting is Monday, September 10, 2012 at 8:30 AM in the conference room at 311 FFA Drive, Kalispell, Montana.