

**Flathead County Weed/Parks/Recreation**

**MINUTES**

**Board of Directors**

**Meeting Date: March 3, 2014**

**Members of the Board in attendance:**

Jim Buechle, Clyde Fisher, Pete Woll

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

Ray Sanders, Elise Robocker

**Also in attendance:**

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

**Others Present:**

Edd Blackler – Bigfork Advisory Committee

Gary Krueger – Flathead County Commissioner

Liz Seabaugh- Foy's to Blacktail Trails

**Call to Order**

A regular 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 3, 2014. The meeting convened at 8:34AM, Vice Chairman Clyde Fisher presiding.

**Approval of Minutes**

Minutes of the February 13, 2014 meetings of the Flathead County Weed, Parks & Recreation Board of Directors were distributed to the members of the Board.

**Pete Woll made a motion to approve the February 13, 2014 Board minutes.**

**Jim Buechle seconded the motion.**

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

**Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**Sliter Park Discussion – Update**

Superintendent Jed Fisher reported the County Commission did not approve the request from the Community Foundation for a Better Bigfork (CFBB) to repeal resolution 513A, which prohibits the consumption of alcohol at Sliter Park and the surrounding area. In addition, the Department received an email from PacifiCorp that they will not grant permission to anyone to serve or sell alcohol on its property at Sliter Park. PacifiCorp further stated that if the County does not renew the lease, PacifiCorp will extend the option to renew to CFBB. If CFBB were to respond that they didn't want to or could not take over the lease, PacifiCorp would review the next highest and best use of the property and then make a final determination on what to do with the property in consideration of what makes the most business-sense for PacifiCorp.

Superintendent Fisher reminded the Board that a Memorandum of Understanding with CFBB regarding Sliter Park must be in place by June 30<sup>th</sup>.

### **Weed Enforcement – Criteria for Court Orders to Mitigate Weeds**

Assistant Superintendent Gordon Jewett requested a motion be placed on record to proceed with court orders for those landowners who fail to comply with weed enforcement codes.

**Jim Buechle made a motion to proceed with court orders for all landowners who have not complied with notices as required by MCA Title 7, Chapter 22, County Weed Control.**

**Pete Woll seconded the motion.**

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

### **CIL Requests**

Superintendent Jed Fisher reported that there is \$270,240.88 balance in the cash-in-lieu fund. He reviewed cash-in-lieu requests that were presented at the February 13<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. In addition, there are several unfinished projects that

Foys to Blacktail Trails

- \$50,000 – To help with the final phase of Herron Park land acquisition which would add 60 acres to the park. Letters of support were reviewed.

Kila Park/Smith Lade Advisory Committee

- \$6,135 – To purchase a Double SM-1000 all-weather spotting scope.

Lakeside Advisory Committee

- No stated cost – Upgrade and restoration of water well in Ben Williams Park and electrical services.
- \$2,250 – Little Kompan Blazer playground piece.
- No stated cost – Trees that need special care or replacement; new pea gravel or bark, other maintenance such as paint or cleaning.

Discussion ensued regarding the upcoming demands on the cash-in-lieu funds, in particular ADA upgrades that will be a significant but as yet unknown amount. Superintendent Fisher stressed the importance of pursuing the effort to build a gymnasium, which would allow for sustainability of the parks and recreation programs. Fisher relayed absent member Elise Robocker's full support of Foys to Blacktail Trails request.

**Jim Buechle made a motion to provide \$20,000 of cash-in-lieu funds for Foy to Blacktail Trails to be used for the final phase of land acquisition for Herron Park.**

**Pete Woll seconded the motion.**

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

**Pete Woll made a motion not to fund any other cash-in-lieu requests.**

**Jim Buechle seconded the motion.**

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

### **Bigfork Advisory Report**

Edd Blackler reported that Mike Keeler of Bigfork Bandits soccer plans to submit a Permit Application and a Facility Rental Agreement for use of the sports fields. Permit requests will be considered on a first-come, first-served basis with at least 30 minutes between users in order to mitigate traffic concerns on Shawnee Drive.

Mr. Blackler reported a few maintenance concerns and recommended moving material from a knoll into the northeast corner of Carlyle Johnson in order to expand available parking. Superintendent Jed Fisher stated that he had discussed the project with the Road Department and the estimated cost would be 450K – 480K. Blackler also suggested that the less frequently used ball fields at Carlyle Johnson be used as soccer fields. Blackler suggested that PacifiCorp may be able to assist with water at Sliter Park.

Commissioner Gary Krueger stated that the County Commission respects the opinion of Sliter Park lessor PacifiCorp to prohibit the serving or sale of alcohol at Sliter Park. A letter was sent from a 3<sup>rd</sup> party indicating endorsement of repeal of 513A, and it was in fact *not* an endorsement of the Commission. Mr. Krueger stated that when unincorporated areas of the County wish to have bigger services, he as a County Commissioner would look for more buy-in from the community making any request(s). Krueger thanked the Board for their diligent management of Sliter Park.

**Foys/Herron Advisory Report**

There was no one present from the Foys/Herron Advisory Committee. Liz Seabaugh reported that the skiing was great.

**Foys to Blacktail Trails**

Liz Seabaugh stated that she was disappointed the Board did not award the full cash-in-lieu amount requested but was appreciative of the money that was donated. .

**Kila Advisory Report**

There was no report from the Kila Advisory Committee.

**Lakeside Advisory Report**

There was no one present from the Lakeside Advisory Committee.

**Middle Forks Advisory Committee**

There was no one present from the Middle Forks Advisory Committee.

**Other Business**

It was reported that Chairman Ray Sanders condition is improving.

**Adjourn**

**Jim Buechle made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:48AM.**

**Pete Woll 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, April 7, 2014 at 8:30 AM in the conference room at 311 FFA Drive, Kalispell, Montana.

**Documents Submitted to the Board:**

Letters of support for Foys To Blacktail Trails cash-in-lieu request.