

**Flathead County Weed/Parks/Recreation**  
**MINUTES**  
**Special Meeting of the Board of Directors**  
**Meeting Date: June 9, 2015**

**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; Michele Haarr, Clerk

**Others Present:**

There was no one else present.

**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 July 9, 2015. The meeting convened at 1:06 PM, Chairman Sanders presiding.

**Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**Request for Gated Access to Private Property from County Park – Russ Barnett**

Superintendent Jed Fisher reviewed correspondence from the Barnetts and the Butlers dated June 4, 2015. He addressed the three concerns listed in the letter – 1) Grandfather Clause; 2) Access to the front of his property for utility servicing, septic, etc, and 3) Emergency access.

Fencing at this park has been considered and in the budget for the past 5-6 years. There is no grandfather or transfer of easement policy. It was suggested that Mr. Barnett talk to his neighbor to the north in an attempt reach a workable solution to the access concern. Mr. Fisher cited other circumstances where easements were denied, specifically in Wapati Acres. The concern with emergency services and utility companies can be mitigated by issuing keys to those authorities, i.e., keys will be issued to Marion fire and ambulance, to the Sheriff and to the utility companies. In addition, if there is a need to open the gate for the Barnetts or Butlers, they may call the office and arrange to have staff open the gate on an ‘as needed’ basis with the understanding that fees will be charged.

**Jim Buechle moved to fence the north property line of Blue Grouse Park on Little Bitterroot Lake with a locked gate to be installed toward the east end of the fence near the existing dwelling. It was further moved that gate keys will be provided to the appropriate authorities for fire and medical emergencies, to the Sheriff’s Department, and to the utility companies. It was further moved that request(s) for gate access by landowners will be on an as-needed basis and be billable at the most current rate for labor and mileage, which is presently \$22 per hour for labor and \$.575 per mile.**

**Pete Woll seconded the motion.**

Discussion: Superintendent Jed Fisher recommended that the Parks Department pay for the gate. There was also discussion about gate installation being a precedent for future requests, which should be considered on a case-by-case basis.

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

### **Other Business**

There was discussion for the need to address fencing and a gate at the south property line of Blue Grouse Park on Little Bitterroot Lake at the July Board meeting.

### **Adjourn**

**Jim Buechle moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:33 PM.**

**Elise Robocker 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, July 13, 2015** at 8:30 AM in the conference room at 311 FFA Drive, Kalispell, Montana.

### **Documents Submitted to the Board:**

Correspondence from the Barnett and the Butlers dated June 4, 2015.