

**Flathead County Weed/Parks/Recreation
MINUTES
Meeting of the Board of Directors
Meeting Date: June 6, 2022**

Members of the Board in attendance:

Pete Woll, Lori Moran, James Buechle, Bonnie Streeter

Members of the Board not in attendance:

Clyde Fischer, Commissioner Brad Abell

Also in attendance:

Chris Maestas, Director; Amanda Davey, Recreation Program Coordinator; Gordon Jewett, Assistant Supervisor; Haily Hoff, Clerk

Others Present:

Gabe Dillon, 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 June 6, 2022. The meeting convened at 8:31 AM, President Woll presiding.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes for the May 2, 2022, 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 May 2, 2022 Board minutes.

Bonnie Streeter seconded the motion.

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

Public Comment

Gabe Dillon reported on National Trails Day. The weather was rainy but forty people showed up. All drainages were worked on and they stained five of the seven tables in the pavilion. Thirty houndstongue plants were removed along the length of Birch Creek. Forty-five hours of volunteer labor was completed at a value of \$25/per hour, in kind. Storage shed is deteriorating and has been ordered. Delivery will take place in a couple of weeks. Foy's to Blacktail Trails may work with Linda to beautify all of the storage sheds. Weed removal target dates for FTBT and Chase trail are set for June 28th through July 1st. Chris Maestas stated email correspondence for this type of work is sufficient. Spotted Knapweed has been identified in the meadow. Gordie has it scheduled to be sprayed. Gabe offered help with signage.

Parks & Recreation Department Report

Irrigation line blew at the Conrad Complex. Three phase line needs located in order to perform the repair work. Pump at Volunteer Park needs more work, docks are in, buoys and swim area line are set to go in next. All lips have been removed from the edge of the infields at the Conrad complex improving safety and drainage. A non-profit group in Kila donated money for pavilion installation. A temporary employee is doing the bathroom and garbage detail in the Somers and Lakeside area parks Friday through Monday. French drains have been completed at Volunteer Park and the sod has been replaced. Irrigation pump issues at Volunteer Park persist. All swim docks have been installed for the

season. Whitewater Festival took place at Sliter Park over Memorial Day weekend. Demersville Cemetery has been mowed and trimmed. The majority of mowing at Herron Park will be done by Linda Tutvedt as a contractor for Flathead County Parks Department. Commissioner Brodehl connected Chris Maestas with a project manager from the Trust for Public Lands, Northern Rockies Office. Preliminary conversations are beginning regarding the potential to facilitate a land transfer into a community forest expansion project near Herron Park. Gabe Dillon added that he will be bringing the same preliminary information to his Board next week.

Adult league softball is underway and the number of teams is increasing from prior years. Co-Rec beach volleyball and summer league youth t-ball will begin soon and are also on pace to surpass the number of teams from last season. The Conrad Complex will be rented out for a softball tournament later this month. An employment offer was extended to an applicant for a vacant General Parks & Recreation Worker. If all goes as expected it will be the first time in five years that the Recreation Department will be fully staffed. Three seasonal positions remain vacant between both departments.

Weed Department Report

Sprayers are still rolling in weather breaks between rainy days and mowing operations began this morning. Contract work for the Montana Department of Transportation is nearly complete and they are through about thirty percent of the contract work for the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation. Federal Fish & Wildlife work is limited this season and Gordie has been in contact with Glacier National Park on highway sections. Roadside revegetation work has gone really well this season. Seeding and mulch that was placed for the Road & Bridge Department has taken well and coming up very nicely.

Other Business

Bonnie Streeter was asked by a concerned person at Herron Park if there is a policy on e-bikes. No formal policy exists on e-bikes within the Flathead County Parks & Recreation Department. Restricting that kind of use can become an accessibility issue. Bonnie Streeter also asked about the enforcement of the leash law at Herron Park. Gordon Jewett continues to make rounds when he is in the area. Bonnie suggested a potential sponsorship from Tailwaggers or Murdoch's for reward incentives. Gordie stated that thanking people for obeying the law seems to be an effective method of positive reinforcement.

Matters of the Board

There were no matters of the Board.

Adjourn

Jim Buechle moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:19 AM.

Bonnie Streeter seconded the motion.

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

Approved:



Pete Woll, Board President

8/1/22

Date