



Montana State Parks and Recreation Board

THE **OUTSIDE** IS IN US ALL.

Parks and Recreation Board Meeting Minutes Directory

Date: May 27, 2021

Time: 9:00 A.M.

Location: Zoom Virtual Attendance-This meeting was broadcasted on the FWP website at: <http://fwp.mt.gov/>

Time stamps are based on the following YouTube video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kqO7FTRx81w>

Parks and Recreation Board Members in Attendance:

Russ Kipp, Chair
Mary Moe, Vice-Chair
Scott Brown
Jody Loomis
Kathy McLane
Hank Worsech, Secretary/Director

Agenda Items:

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes
3. Board Member Reports
4. Director Report
5. 2021-2022 Planning Program Update - Informational
6. Classification and Investment Strategy Policy - Extension – Final
7. Chief Plenty Coups State Park Agricultural Lease – Final
8. Parks Capital Program - Final
9. Lone Pine State Park Acquisition – Endorsement
10. Hell Creek State Park Concession Agreement Extension – Final
11. Public Comment ~ For Issues Not On This Agenda
12. Adjournment

1. **15:53** Call to Order
Chair Kipp called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.
2. **16:22** Approval of Minutes
19:09 *Motion: Vice-Chair Moe moved, and Member Brown seconded that the Parks and Recreation Board approve the minutes of the October 29, 2020, December 16, 2020 and the April 27, 2021 Board meetings.*

25:14 *Action on Motion: Motion passed. 5-0*
3. Board Member Reports
25:42 Member Brown



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27:42 Chair Kipp
30:08 Member McLane
30:37 Member Loomis

4. **Director Report**

31:57 Director Worsech
33:53 Beth Shumate, Parks Administrator: division update.

5. **2021-2022 Planning Program Update – Informational**

Kyan Bishop, Parks Planner: update on the Parks Division planning program.

6. **1:32:32 Classification and Investment Strategy Policy - Extension – Final**

Beth Shumate, Parks Administrator

There are no proposed changes to this policy. Upon approval by the Board, the policy will remain in effect for the next two-years, until June 2023, unless a revision needs to be made prior to this time and will brought back to the Board.

1:48:23 ***Motion: Member Brown moved, and Member McLane seconded that the Parks and Recreation Board approve the two-year extension of the Classification and Investment Strategy Policy.***

1:48:49 Public Comment

1:50:20 ***Action on Motion: Motion Passed. 5-0***

7. **1:51:29 Chief Plenty Coups State Park Agricultural Lease – Final**

Ken Soderberg, Parks Chief of Operations

The proposed ten-year lease would continue a farm and hay lease and would authorize the lessee to plant and farm crops on approximately 60-acres, to cut hay on approximately 40 acres, and authorize a grazing of the farmland, typically to remove stubble after harvesting crops. Fifty percent of the proceeds would be dedicated to weed control on the park. The proposed lease would commence spring/summer 2021 and would expire December 31, 2031 with the option to renew for another 10 years. Agricultural activities would take place between April 1 and September 30 of each subsequent year depending on the onset of spring.

1:54:18 ***Motion: Vice-Chair Moe moved, and Member McLane seconded that the Parks and Recreation Board approve the above proposal allowing Fish, Wildlife and Parks to enter into 10-year lease, to plant and farm crops on approximately 60-acres, to cut hay on approximately 40 acres, and authorize a grazing of the farmland.***

1:55:02 Public Comment

1:55:49 ***Action on Motion: Motion Passed. 5-0***



8. **1:56:55** **Parks Capital Program – Final**
Tom Reilly, Parks Assistant Administrator

• Parks Major Maintenance – numerous projects statewide.	\$2,500,000
• Yellow Bay SP – site upgrades.	\$1,200,000
• L&C Caverns SP – septic system upgrade (comfort station in campground).	\$ 600,000
• Smith River SP – Eden site improvement.	\$ 600,000
• Parks Diversified Lodging – several parks statewide.	\$ 500,000
• Parks Interpretive and Exhibit Upgrades – statewide.	\$ 500,000
• Fort Owen SP – park improvements; parking site/interpretation.	\$ 390,000
• Milltown SP - safety Improvements – access upgrades.	\$ 250,000
• Smith River SP – site enhancements; recreation improvements.	\$ 200,000
• Flathead Lake Islands – three islands; site infrastructure upgrades.	\$ 200,000
• Flathead Lake Recreational Access/Somers site – initial development.	<u>\$ 100,000</u>
	\$7,040,000

2:27:00 *Motion: Vice-Chair Moe moved, and Member Brown seconded that the Parks and Recreation Board approve the 11 proposed Parks Capital projects outlined above, totaling \$7,040,000, for implementation statewide in the Montana State Parks system.*

2:27:26 Public Comment

2:28:03 *Action on Motion: Motion Passed. 5-0*

9. **2:28:58** **Lone Pine State Park Acquisition – Endorsement**
Beth Shumate, Parks Administrator

A nine-acre undeveloped property that adjoins Lone Pine State Park has become available for purchase. The property is ideally located and topographically suited to provide for expansion of the park's archery range, trail network, and to extend the park's grassland habitat.

2:37:37 *Motion: Member Loomis moved, and Vice-Chair Moe seconded that the Parks and Recreation Board endorse the proposal to negotiate acquisition of the 9-acre adjoining property as a possible addition to Lone Pine State Park and complete associated analysis.*

2:38:55 Public Comment

2:39:23 *Action on Motion: Motion Passed. 5-0*

10. **2:39:49** **Hell Creek State Park Concession Agreement Extension – Final**
Zach Zipfel, FWP Legal Counsel



The state's lease agreement with the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) for management of the 337-acre site expires April 30, 2023 and it is not possible to enter into another concession agreement beyond that date. By extending the existing concession agreement term to match the term of the ACOE lease, the ability will exist to have both processes proceed on the same timeline from April 2021 forward. No other conditions in the current concession agreement are proposed to be changed.

2:46:48 *Motion: Member Brown moved, and Member Loomis seconded that the Parks and Recreation Board approve the Parks Division's proposal to offer the private concessionaire at Hell Creek State Park an extension to the existing lease agreement through April 30, 2023.*

2:47:28 Public Comment

2:55:05 Board Discussion

2:59:31 *Action on Motion: Motion Passed. 5-0*

11. **3:00:28** Public Comment ~ For Issues Not On This Agenda

12. **3:12:09** Adjournment

3:12:11 *Motion: Vice-Chair Moe moved, and Member McLane seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. 5-0*

3:12:34 Meeting adjourned at 12:03 p.m.


Russ Kipp, Chair


Hank Worsch, Director

