

## SUMMARY MINUTES

### BENTON COUNTY PARK BOARD

December 9, 2008, 6:30 p.m.  
Benton County Justice Center  
Kennewick, WA

#### Board Members Present

Bert Lake, Chair  
Skip Gest, Vice Chair  
Hank Sauer, Secretary/Treasurer  
Donna Raines, Member  
Marilyn Hyde, Member  
Rick Kilgore, Member  
Kathye Kilgore, Member

#### Benton County Employees

Adam Fyall  
Cami McKenzie  
Commissioner Claude Oliver

#### Call to Order/Roll Call

Chair Bert Lake called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 p.m. and roll call was taken.

#### Approval of Minutes

The November 2008 Minutes were approved.

#### Review Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

#### Reports

##### Staff Report

Adam Fyall reviewed his written monthly staff report for December 2008. Additionally, he commented on the "truck situation" at Badger Mountain and said they had been waiting for hard ground and were now targeting the next couple of weekends. Also, Mr. Fyall discussed the land transfer idea for the shooting

facility and two options for purchase. The first option (FLPMA), the County would get full title and ownership of the property, at full cost and be subject to all BLM deed restrictions placed on the property. The second option (RMPP) is a "light version" where the County would still get ownership at a reduced cost ( $\frac{1}{2}$  or  $\frac{1}{4}$ ) with more onerous deed restrictions. He said that BLM indicated this might be a better option with timing and jumping through fewer hoops and there might be resistance with the first option. Mr. Fyall said he hoped to have more information to present next month.

Bert Lake said if it were appropriate for us to make a decision next month on which option to pursue, we would make it a priority. Additionally, he indicated he wanted to see each and every deed restriction and consult with the lessee before proceeding so the Board knew exactly what it was getting into it.

Rick Kilgore asked about the State land portion. Mr. Fyall said it appeared that part of their deed restriction was they could not sell the property and would have to sell it back to BLM if they had to divest it for some reason, so they wouldn't be allowed to sell their portion.

### Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Oliver said the Park Board had been his favorite commissioner assignment and that he would miss everyone. He said it had been a pleasure to see the parks grow and thanked the Board members for their participation. He also discussed a project that was originated in 1999 (the "Tahoe Plan"), an intergovernmental agency plan for managing multi-jurisdictional lands. He gave a copy to the Chairman and said that maybe one day there would be a reason for Benton County to visit their plan.

The Board presented a "Certificate of Appreciation" to Commissioner Oliver from the Park Board and thanked him for his hours of time and service.

### Hover Park Interim Master Plan - Continued Discussion

Mr. Lake said the Hover Subcommittee's purpose was to gather information so the Park Board could make a decision regarding the short and long range plans for Hover Park. Additionally, the subcommittee voted unanimously to approve the plan

as presented at the November Park Board meeting, including the statement to "revisit the plan when need arises".

Marilyn Hyde discussed a concern she had about the park being used by off-road vehicles and wanted to know if it was possible to restrict use to the east side of the railroad tracks and add signage on the west side of the tracks. Mr. Fyall said that was part of the plan.

Hank Sauer said the Board should approve the plan as presented and if issues came up, the Board could choose to look at it later.

**MOTION:** It was moved and seconded to approve the Hover Park Interim Master Plan as presented, including the statement to revisit the plan only when conditions change and emphasis on signage restricting ORV use. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously.

### **Badger Mountain Fire Response Discussion**

Adam Fyall said that Fire District 4 requested a plan from the County for Badger Mountain fire response. Specifically, they wanted to know if they should go full force, light on the land, or let it burn and worry only about safety of people and infrastructure. He discussed the three "C's" of fire suppression:

1. Confine (minimal resources)
2. Contain (slightly more); and
3. Control (put it down).

Mr. Fyall said he tended to favor "confine" and concentrate on safety and confine the fire from adjoining property, but take no extraordinary efforts and allow the fire to burn. He said he did not think bulldozers were the way to go.

Mr. Sauer said he agreed with what Adam presented. Ms. Hyde said that fire was a very natural process and did not think anybody's life should be put on the line when the natural vegetation would grow back.

There was a discussion about an evacuation process and liability to adjoining property.

### **All Aboard the Polar Express**

Hank Sauer gave his annual reading of the "Polar Express".

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:30 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held in January 2009 at the Benton County Justice Center.