

**MINUTES OF THE BOATING ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING**  
Department of Natural Resources

April 20, 2010

**COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Pam Berger	Present
Steve Christensen	Present
Lucy Minahan	Absent
Paulette Welch	Present
Troy Mann	Absent
Guy Taylor	Present

**DIVISION OF UTAH STATE PARKS AND RECREATION PERSONNEL**

Mary Tullius	Director
Dave Harris	Boating Program Manager
Chris Haller	Assistant Boating Program Manager
Stacy Stickler	Boating Executive Secretary

**GUESTS**

Hank Cobb	Utah Water Ski Club
Tim Gaylord	Holiday River Expeditions
Ray Schelble	Rocky Mountain Anglers

**UTAH STATE PARKS UPDATE**

Mary wanted to thank the council for what they do, they are incredibly important to the public and the boaters. She appreciates the hard work and volunteer hours everyone has put in.

We had some boating law clean up in the legislative session and really nothing else in legislation.

This legislative session was interesting session. We were prepared for the 5% budget cut going into the session. We also had to take one furlough day in January. Next fiscal year we are looking at a \$1.4 million budget cut from the general fund. We will be asking for this money back next fiscal year. We would like to see the funds that are collected from registered boaters go back to those facilities.

We are going through an internal process to see how we can become self sufficient and rely less on the general fund.

There was a request for privatizing six parks and also for the State Auditor to conduct an efficiency audit as well. We will know more once they decide what to do.

We will look at positions very carefully and see what we can do to not cut positions.

Mary asked the Council to maybe look at a boat launch fee to help generate funds. This is just an idea since we haven't wanted to hit boaters twice.

### **MINUTE APPROVAL OF JANUARY 2010 MINUTES**

Steve made the motion to accept the minutes as presented, Guy seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### **FLATWATER RIVER DESIGNATION COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Jennifer Jones, BLM, Kyle Hooker, Park City Rafting, Tim Mertins, Dinosaur River Expeditions, Steve Christensen and Chris Haller have been appointed to a committee to review the flatwater river designation in the boating laws and rules.

The committee after reviewing how many different river sections there are in Utah and the differences with water levels, time of year, etc, so the committee decided to just rewrite the life jacket rule for rivers in general.

Guy made the motion to accept the rule R651-215-9 (4) as written below, Paulette seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

On every river section(s), every person on board a vessel must wear a PFD at all times, except PFDs may be loosened or removed by person 13 years of age or older on designated flatwater river section(s) as listed in Section R651-215-10.

Guy made the motion to accept the rule R651-215-10 as written (Designated Flatwater River Section(s)), Paulette seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### **65' VESSEL EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENT EQUIPMENT UPDATE**

Paulette, Pam, Bruce Rowe (Forever Resorts), Steve Luckesen (NPS) and Chris Haller have been appointed to a committee to review vessels that are sixty-five feet and greater. Those vessels currently do not have a safety equipment requirement. They held their first meeting and it was very productive. Their next meeting will be next week. And they would like to have this wrapped up before the July Boating Advisory Council meeting.

### **CARRYING PASSENGERS FOR HIRE UPDATE**

Chris has conducted three Outfitting company trainings throughout the state as of today, the fourth will be held in Blanding this coming Friday. These trainings are for the vessel inspection program for Carrying Passengers for Hire.

The Outfitting Company newsletter should be mailed out the end of next week.

We are online with the Captain/Guide license testing. We are already online with renewals and boat crew permits. We have testing centers in numerous locations in Utah with one location in Colorado and one in Arizona. Information for the testing centers is located on our website. Also in the vessel inspection trainings Chris has made the point to take twenty-five minutes of the training to go over the new guide licenses/boat crew permit process.

### **COUNCIL APPLICANT INTERVIEWS**

Ray Schelble Boating Angler Member Applicant

Tim Gaylord Outfitting Company Member Applicant

Hank Cobb Water Sports Member Applicant

The applicant's each gave their background and credentials. Steve made the motion to go into executive session Guy seconded the motion, all members were in favor. Applicants were dismissed from the meeting for the Council to discuss each applicant.

Guy made the motion to end the executive session, Steve seconded the motion All members were in favor. Applicants were brought back into meeting.

Guy made the motion to accept Tim as the Outfitter member, Hank as the Water Sports member and Ray as the Boating Angler member of the Boating Advisory Council. Paulette seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Dave will take this recommendation from the Council to the State Parks Board to accept these three applicants as members of the Boating Advisory Council. The State Parks Board will meet in May when this recommendation will be presented.

### **BOATING STRATEGIC PLAN**

The Boating Strategic Plan has been sent out to public comment; the Council members have had a chance to look at the Plan as well. The Plan will be submitted to the State Parks Board in May unless the Council has any major changes or recommendations.

Guy made the motion to make the recommendation to the State Parks Board for approval of the Boating Strategic Plan, Paulette seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Dave will take the recommendation from the Council to the State Parks Board to accept the Boating Strategic Plan as is.

## **WATERFOWL PRODUCTION AREA EXEMPTIONS FOR CARRYING PASSENGERS FOR HIRE**

This would make a law that would supersede our rule about carrying passengers for hire. Our carrying passengers for hire program include everyone taking people for consideration, including duck hunters. There is one maybe more companies that operate on private property. One company went to a legislature to see about getting them exempt from the carrying passengers for hire program since they are operating on private property.

Steve made the motion to accept the rule recommendations as stated below, Guy seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

R651-206-2(b) Owners and employees of a migratory bird production area created under Title 23, Chapter 28, Migratory Bird Production Area and operating within that Migratory Bird Production Area shall not be considered an outfitting company.

R651-206-3(d) A boat operator, carrying passengers within a migratory bird production area created under Title 23, Chapter 28, Migratory Bird Production Area shall comply with guidelines for safe boat operation adopted by the management of the Migratory Bird Production Area.

## **BOATING PROGRAM UPDATE**

State Safe Boating week will be held at Utah Lake State Park in conjunction with the National Safe Boating week that will be May 22 through May 28, 2010. If anyone is interested in participating or just attending, please let Chris know.

Ann Evans, Utah State Parks Boating Education Program Manager, is participating in a National event with the National Safe Boating Council on May 20. This event will be an inflatable pfd deflate at Cabelas to create a world record for the most inflatable life jackets being inflated at once. For more information contact Ann at 801-538-7429 or [annevans@utah.gov](mailto:annevans@utah.gov).

Dave gave a boating program update with a Powerpoint presentation for 2009:

- Good boater use
- Good safety presence
- 15% budget cuts
- 5 less LE staff
- No quagga mussels
- Boat accidents
  - 100 total up from 84 in 2008
  - 12 fatalities up from 5 in 2008
  - All fatalities were drownings, 7 without life jackets, 5 with life jackets
- Carrying Passengers for hire
  - Registered 79 outfitters

- 538 licenses/permits issued
- Registered 39 liveries
- Registered 7 new boat dealers
- Inspections
  - Rangers received training from USCG
  - Outfitting companies received training this spring
  - Annual self-inspection
  - 5 year dry-dock inspection
- Outfitters
  - Register annually
  - Verify applicant info
  - Annual self inspections
  - Training logs
- Boating advisory council website now online
- Ordered new patrol boats

RBS Data:

- Citations issued
  - 79 wearable life jackets
  - 95 type vi life jackets
  - 75 fire extinguishers
  - 20 bui
  - 31 nav rules
  - 54 pfd wear
  - 280 num/reg
  - 1056 total citations
- Vessel compliance/incompliant
  - 2300 inspections
  - 98% had pfds onboard
  - 98% had bailing device
  - 93% had sound producing device
  - 18% type iv pfd violations
  - 20% no registration card
  - 20% fire extinguisher violations
  - 24% incorrect numbering
  - 31% no proof on insurance
  - 36% no equipment violations
  - 32% of people were wearing pfd
- Publications
  - Livery newsletter
  - Outfitter newsletter
  - Dealer newsletter
- Boating Education
  - 564 students took mandatory PWC Education
  - 55 people took the voluntary home study course
  - 134 people took the voluntary Internet course
  - Program changes
    - Mandatory PWC Education is online

- New emphasis on adult education
- WSBA
  - Park City in June 2010

In the boating highlights we have added a checklist of required safety equipment.

Dave has ordered some pouches with the WEAR IT Utah logo for required documents on a vessel. These will be handed out with each boat inspection.

#### AIS Update-DWR

- Revamped the Zap the Zebra brochure
- Optional online education for an annual decontamination certificate
- ½ sheet self decontamination certification form revamped
- Decontaminated boats leaving infested waters a cable will be put on the trailer eyebolt attached to boat to let people know that boat has been decontaminated.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Reminder of the next meetings: July 7, 2010, October 6, 2010 and then January 5, 2011.

USCG has made up paddle craft identification stickers that if the vessel is found whether it is lost, stolen, in an accident, someone missing, etc. that has contact information so if it is found LE will know who to contact and if there is a incident it will be easier for SAR.

Meeting adjourned 6:33 p.m.