

**BOARD OF UTAH STATE PARKS AND RECREATION MEETING
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH**

May 10, 2012

Present:

Irene Hansen
Tom Guinney
Kimberly Schappert
Fred Hayes
Wendy Wack

Jaren Davis
Lois Bulloch
Glenn Greenhalgh
Scott Strong

Joe Hull
Eli Anderson
Marty Ott
Deena Loyola

Visitors:

Mike Styler
Ivan Djambov
Steve Bates
Hollie Brown

Darin Bird
Jeff Rasmussen
Sid Groll
Chris Haller

Brett Prettyman
Jeremy Shaw
Barbara Riddle
Dave Harris

Board Chair Irene Hansen welcomed board members and staff to the board meeting.

Chair Hansen asked board members for approval of the board agenda.

MS. LOIS BULLOCH MADE A MOTION THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE STATE PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD AGENDA WITH THE NOTED CHANE OF CHAIR IRENE HANSEN REVIEWING THE AGENDA. MR. JOE HULL SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Bulloch asked board members for review and approval of the February 3, 2011, board meeting minutes.

MR. GLENN GREENHALGH MADE A MOTION THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 28, 2011 BOARD MEETING AS PRESENTED. MR. JOE HULL SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Swearing In of Board Members

Chair Hansen welcomed Department of Natural Resources Director Mike Styler. Director Styler mentioned that Director Mary Tullius retired at the end of last year. A nationwide advertisement was done for the Director of State Parks. There were 96 applicants from all over the country. A committee went through the applications and narrowed it down to 5 or 6. An interviewing group was put together, including Chair Hansen and other governmental members. Director Styler held second interviews and Mr. Fred Hayes was selected as the new State Parks Director. It is a new day for the D epartment of Natural Resources, we only have 17% of our budget, so we have to rely on raising business to become self-sustaining.

Director Styler swore all board members in and presented them with their certificates. He thanked the board members for their service.

Chair Hansen congratulated Director Fred Hayes. Chair Hansen welcomed the new board members to the meeting and looks forward to getting to know them.

Board Member Reports

Chair Hansen asked the board members to give a report if they have been to the parks since the last board meeting.

Mr. Joe Hull did attend the showing of the movie from Antelope Island. He said he hasn't received any negative feedback regarding Antelope Island.

Ms. Kimberly Schappert said they are looking into extending the bicycle trail at Dead Horse Point. She is looking forward to the yurts that will be going in there. She spent New Year's Eve in the yurts at Goblin Valley and had a great time.

Mr. Marty Ott said aside from Kodachrome and Coral Pink, most of his time has been out of his area. He spent some time at Edge of the Cedars and also Dead Horse Point.

Ms. Lois Bulloch plans on contacting Wayne Monroe, the new region manager in the Southwest Region to ask him to take her on quarterly tours. She mentioned that Sand Hollow held the Iron Man competition. Frontier Homestead will be hosting their 55th class reunion. She mentioned an article that was in the Spectrum that was very supportive of State Parks. She feels it had a lot to do with Larry Gray and Todd Prince's efforts to educate the public. There was a plan for the county commissioners to take over Snow Canyon and nothing has been said recently. Director Hayes will be meeting with the county commissioners next week to hold a discussion, so he has no more information at this point.

Chair Hansen mentioned that ground has been broken for the new addition to the Field House for a repository. This is in partnership with Utah State Parks, the National Park Service, Vernal City, and Uintah County. She would like to hold a board meeting during the grand opening

Vice-Chair Jaren Davis visited Sand Hollow and Wasatch, and the heritage. He attended the awards ceremony for State Parks. He enjoys their dedication and support. He feels like this has a lot to do with Director Fred Hayes. H

Mr. Glenn Greenhalgh has been working with Yuba on their ATV trails. This will be a great opportunity for local residents and visitors. He has been getting to know Park Manager Cheston Slater.

Mr. Tom Guinney thanked those that worked so diligently during the legislative session. State Parks are very much appreciated and valued. He looks forward to becoming more familiar with the state parks.

Mr. Eli Anderson said the water at Willard Bay was very smooth. He has been on some back roads in Utah in the last couple of months and has learned there are a lot of areas that are the responsibility of State Parks that he wasn't aware of. He doesn't think the legislature realizes this either. We have a lot bigger story to tell than we're telling.

Director's Report

Chair Hansen asked Director Fred Hayes to give his report. He told the story of being asked to fill in as the interim director when Mary Tullius retired. He is very excited about the future. Before the meeting, he asked Deena to email the staff and ask them to stop in today so he can introduce them. He mentioned the board members have been given an annual pass and encouraged them to visit all the parks. He also encouraged them to visit with the staff when they do visit the parks. He is trying to meet with every staff member over the next little while. He gave the board members his cell phone number (435.671.0396) and told them if they would like to call him, they can.

Director Hayes said there has been a lot of staff movement within State Parks. Director Mary Tullius retired; Southwest Region Manager Larry Gray retired and Willard Bay Park Manager Wayne Monroe was hired to fill that position; James Morgan was hired as the new manager at Willard Bay; Deputy Director Karen Krieger went to work for the Salt Lake Arts Council and Director Hayes thanked Scott

Strong for stepping up to help with some of those duties. They will not be filling the deputy director position. They will fill the Operations Deputy Director position that is now vacant due to Mr. Haye's promotion. Planner Derek O'Donnelle left to go work with lions in Africa. They chose to tweak that position and combine it with a financial analyst position and Mike Long was hired to fill that position. George Faust, Assistant Manager at Utah Lake retired. They have looked at that position and have opted to not fill that position at this time; they will hire seasonals to pick up some of those responsibilities. East Canyon Park Manager John Sullivan moved to the Assistant Manager position at Antelope Island, James Lowe was promoted to the park manager at East Canyon. We have had a lot of movement and we have a phenomenal group of people working for us. They are being told to earn their budget. They are being very creative and are working hard to come up with ideas to increase revenue. For example, Park Manager Laurie Backus has solicited new business for Jordanelle. The repository being constructed at the Utah Field House is a \$1.5 million building being funded with no money from State Parks, but partnerships. Ms. Lois Bulloch asked about Ms. Krieger leaving and nobody filling her position. Director Hayes reminded the board that Justina Parsons-Bernstein was hired as the Heritage Coordinator when Ms. Krieger was promoted to the Deputy Director. We are committed to protecting and preserving the heritage sites. We are asking them to generate a little more of their operating revenue. The Yuba ATV trail was mentioned earlier—we set a goal to connect as many state parks as possible with ATV trails. There was a bill in the legislature this year that would have transferred Snow Canyon to the county. We have been working with the local community on this issue. We will look at some inter-local agreements. Mr. Marty Ott asked when the last RMP was completed at Snow Canyon. He's not sure of the date right off, but will check and get back with Marty Ott.

Director Hayes showed the PowerPoint presentation that was made to the legislators this year. We're going to make it. We're doing well. Chair Hansen asked why the changes he's suggested do give us a light at the end of the tunnel. He said he had a great conversation with Senator Hinkins during the session. We were told there just isn't the amount of general funds that we need. We are doing some fun and creative events that will increase our revenue and we will not be dependent on general funds. We may never be completely free of the general fund, nor should we be, but we can do more to ride our own destiny. Ms. Bulloch said we get disturbed with the legislature at times, but we all need to be proud of Utah that we are one of the best managed state park systems. Director Hayes agreed that the legislators have a really hard job and they do it well.

Mr. Marty Ott asked how the board can help Director Hayes do his business. We need the guidance and direction from the board. We need to meet face-to-face more and constant interaction, our board meetings have been too infrequent. He will call them from time to time to get their ideas and have discussions.

Vice-Chair Davis asked if the state pays relocation expenses when staff are moved and was told we do. He also asked for more information regarding Snow Canyon. Director Hayes explained the situation.

Director Hayes introduced the staff in attendance: Jeremy Shaw, Antelope Island Park Manager; Jeff Rasmussen, Northern Region Manager; Hank Cobb, Boating Advisory Council; Dave Harris, Boating Program; Chris Haller, OHV Program; Hollie Brown, ; Brett Prettyman, Salt Lake Tribune; Scott Strong, ; Ivan Djambov, Legislative Fiscal Analyst; Leon Tate, Planning Coordinator; Wendy Wack; Deena Loyola, Public Affairs Coordinator. Chair Hansen thanked Ms. Loyola for everything she does and asked her to report on some of the events that have happened over the winter. She said it was a pretty quiet summer. We have had a lot of discussions with Christopher Quick and the regions and we're trying to do more with the county law enforcement so we can get credit where credit is due. A big part of Hollie's job is sending out weekly information. She has a great relationship with the media. It is ongoing and is happy to celebrate what State Parks has. We are trying to focus our efforts on our website. They are also working on a statewide mobile application.

Chair Hansen mentioned we are ahead of schedule and asked if we could move the Boating Rule Amendments and Advisory Council Appointments up on the agenda.

Boating Rule Amendment

Mr. Dave Harris presented the

Vice-Chair Davis made a motion; Mr. Eli Anderson seconded.

Vice Chair Davis asked if we should charge \$10 rather than \$5. Glenn made a motion. Lois seconded. Mike Styler thinks this fee needs to go through the legislature. We will check into it. Motion carries unanimously.

Jaren Davis made a motion; Eli seconded. Motion carries unanimously.

Lois Bulloch made a motion, Marty seconded. Carries unanimously.

Jaren Davis made a motion on both—Eli seconded.

Jaren Davis made a motion—Glenn seconded.

Advisory council changes—Glenn Greenhalgh made a motion, Eli seconded.

Antelope Island Hunting Rule Proposal

Director Hayes presented the proposal to the modification of the Antelope Island Hunting Rule. He reviewed the background of the hunting on Antelope Island. On a personal note, Director Hayes said we have one of the best wildlife biologists on Antelope Island and is confident that he could make the decision rather or not hunting should be allowed at any given time. Chair Hansen asked the staff at Antelope Island to speak to this. Mr. Steve Bates addressed the board and sees this rule as a great opportunity for Parks to make recommendations on what is going on with the wildlife. This hasn't happened in the past. At least to advise the board and make them aware in order to make sound decisions. From his perspective, the hunt went extremely well last year. Lois asked if they are approving this for 5 years, but be revisited each year? Director Hayes said yes, make an initial authorization for 5 years, but this is pending the dates from the board on an ongoing basis. That is the intent of the rule change. The hunt has been held for 2011, the hunt is set for 2012, intent language is in place for 2013. The rule would add 14, 15, 16, and 17. This is based on annual review of the herd. During a board meeting, but prior to Oct of previous year, staff would give update on status of animals and make recommendations for the hunt or if a hunt is not recommended. The board would then make the decision. Jeremy Shaw said this does give us a say, where they haven't had any input at all. Steve is a great wildlife biologist and the health and conditions of the herd there is testament of that. Staff doesn't make the rules or create the policies, so where this herd goes is up to the board and how Steve manages that is up to Steve. Asked the board to meet with them regularly, the staff are available at any time to talk with the board. Invited the board to talk with the staff on tough decisions they need to be made. Fred said they would look to the board for policies on how to manage them. Marty asked if the wildlife management plan is considered policy. It was adopted by the board as a guiding tool. It was approved by the board. Would it be reasonable that we consider that policy and go back to the table and either reaffirm it as board policy or revise it to change in circumstances. He doesn't think this is a hunting issue, it's a policy. If it needs to be changed, let the board change it. Fred agreed that document needs to be revisited. Marty suggested the board look at the policy before we vote on the issue today. Kim asked if they needed to act today, not necessarily. Joe said the intent language is for another year. We need to vote on this before October. Joe likes the idea of approving this because it gives us leeway, but if this isn't approved, it will be up to the legislature. Tom said let's get it fixed and put some structure in place and then fix it if we need to. Kim suggested we wait until the next meeting. Fred said it's the board's call. Jeremy said the deadline is October for DWR because that's when they start lining up for the next year begins in October. It takes a while to get it

through administrative rules. Mike styler has been looking at the language and it doesn't give the division staff enough recommendations. He feels there should be other things taken into consideration besides the dates. Incorporate language from him and Barbara riddle and have a polished rule everybody can agree with. Barbara Riddle, Davis County area, said her position of the organizations she represents do not support hunting on Antelope Island. She supports hunting as a whole, but not on Antelope Island. She doesn't think they'll be replaced as quickly as some may think. If it is the will of the board, she has some suggestions. A meeting was held yesterday with county commissioners, state senator, and fred. She passed out a recommendation. She would hope that the legislators are not the ones to make all of the decisions with the hunt on Antelope Island.

Jaren approve the rule motion—eli seconded. Jaren commented he appreciates the friendly amendment that was suggested. The state biologist is where he places most of the weight for his vote. With valued input but allows them to make the decision without the suggested pressure from the legislature, but he never felt pressure. Marty ott it's not about a hunt, it's about the policy. Make the policy first and if the board decides the policy should be changed to allow for a hunt, then they will deal with that. Kim was hoping to make the motion that we follow director styler's

Substitute motion to table it and make a final decision at the next meeting. Marty ott seconded.

Joe asked when the next meeting would be and how much lead time do we need. It wouldn't be prudent to wait until October. Could address the policy and redraft the rule change and address by the next meeting in the next 3 months. Steve said the wildlife management plan does allow for hunting. Lois said if we do this too much, is it going to change the way the legislature looks at it. Mike styler said if we adopt this rule or something close to it, we probably won't have problems. The feeling fred got from the legislators is that they wanted the board to set the parameters and utilize it as a management tool and a recreation activity which is appropriate in state parks. Lois said if we have the time, we should have the policy in place. Chair Hansen suggested the board vote on the substitute motion. Jaren accepts it as a second

Chair Hansen pursuant to upcoming strategy and meetings. Joe suggested we don't table it. Jaren removed his motion.

Marty seconded Kim's motion. Eli opposed. The motion carried. This will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

Disabled Vet Passes

Chair Hansen welcomed the representatives. We were contacted by these folks sometime ago to talk to the walter moore and kent taylor. The division has an annual pass for \$75, a disabled vet with a ??? disability to buy one for \$35. kent taylor is on the advisory council for the vets and also the board. He wasn't aware of the reduction in the pass. One of the problems with the government in the state that they don't recognize mental illness as a disability. He went over many problems. He would like a pass issued to the VA for them in order to take veterans into the parks. Walt moore is 100% disabled physically and mentally and as far as the pass being cut in half, but he cannot afford the \$35 pass. The pass they would need for the VA would need to be for a class action pass issued to the recreation therapist. Chair Hansen thanked them for coming. Kim schappert asked if it was just a Salt Lake issue or statewide. Mr. Moore said it is statewide. Ms. Bulloch asked Fred about the pass—it is for a single vehicle with up to 8 occupants. Tom guinney asked about the concept of giving disabled veterans a free pass, but what about those that are not without means. The vets have a means test that is done yearly on their income. Depending on what their income is is what they pay for services. Ms. Hansen said we are not in a position to take any action today, but they will look into this issue at upcoming meetings. Director Hayes said as they look at fee scheduled, staff will provide some options for the board to consider. Lois said if we look at one group, we will need to look at other groups also.

Firearms Rule Proposal

Director Hayes reviewed the background for this rule proposal.

MR. GLENN GREENHALGH, LOIS SECONDED JOE HULL MADE A MOTION THAT THE NOMINATIONS FOR THE CHAIR OF THE STATE PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD CEASE. MS. IRENE HANSEN SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Federal Surplus Property Allowance

Fred introduced the assistant region managers, Tony White, Eric Stucki, and Lawrence Twitchell. Christopher quickly thanked the board for allowing him on the agenda. He explained the situation with federal surplus property. Lois asked if it was a bidding process—it is not. The items appear on a website and we would buy it through state surplus. They are at an extremely reduced cost. Fred said we were looking for a front-end loader to clear parking lot. We found a loader in Florida that we could have had for shipping costs.

MS. LOIS BULLOCH MADE A MOTION THAT THE NOMINATIONS FOR THE CHAIR OF THE STATE PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD CEASE. MS. KIMBERLY SCHAPPERT SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Fee Schedule Discussion

Scott Strong said in the last meeting, we updated the board on the updates on golf. It was approved in the legislative session and will go into effect July 1, 2012. The legislature approved the recommendations on the fee changes presented to them. We appreciate the legislature's help with that. We currently have 463 fees that we charge and there are 60 specific fees at every park that deal with walk-ins and bicycles. We want to simplify it, giving the park manager to operate their park as they see fit. We will talk with all the managers to make sure the board sees and approves all of the fees before it goes to the legislature. Mr. Davis said he believes in affordability, but as a board member, it is intuitive to think it's reasonable to have an increase in the fees due to the recent budget cuts. He would support reasonable fee increases in the staff recommendation. Tom Guinney said you can successfully raise fees that don't affect users????????? Lois asked when they are working with the golf study group, if they are going to look at fees. They are looking at them. Mr. Eli Anderson said we should have people paying more when there are less people because we still have the same overhead. Tom Guinney said there needs to be informed people on the fee schedule discussion team.

Hank Cobb, Boating Advisory Council, addressed the board. One of his concerns in Utah is that there is a very set registration fee on boats regardless of what type of boat. The Boating Advisory Council is exploring the option of variable fees for boats. There are a number of watercraft that operate on the waters that don't pay anything. He suggested looking at charging a reasonable permit fee for these types. There are a number of wakeless lakes in Utah and he appreciates that.

OHV Rule Amendments

OHV Program Coordinator Chris Haller said the OHV Advisory Council met and reviewed several rules and recommended the following changes. The cost of the stickers will also reduce the cost of printing, which will show a savings to us. This would go into effect January 1, 2013.

MR. GLENN GREENHALGH MADE A MOTION THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE AMENDMENT TO RULE 651-637 AS PRESENTED. VICE-CHAIR JAREN DAVIS SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Haller reviewed the rule to move to 2 at-large members.

Lois made a motion and Jaren seconded.

OHV registration fees—we were successful in getting permission from the legislature to allow the board members to increase the registration fee for snowmobiles and OHVs. Snowmobiles are \$17.50 and asking the board to go up to \$

Eli asked if the board could increase by \$8 without . fred said we will have better information from the cost accounting system ask for ½ the money now and then see where we are at the end of the winter.

Glenn made a motion approve proposed changes. Joe hull seconded. Carried unanimously.

OHV Advisory Council Appointments

OHV Coordinator Haller reviewed the vacancies on the OHV Advisory Council. He presented the

MS. KIMBERLY SCHAPPERT MADE A MOTION THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE AMENDMENT OF R651-611-4 AS PRESENTED. MR. MARTY OTT SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Other Business and Next Meeting

Director Hayes mentioned that Bill Thompson passed away after he retired.

Chair Hansen wants to make sure the board knows what is going on in State Parks. She feels like maybe July and September. Fred suggested July or August. Tom Guinney suggested the first 2 weeks of August. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 7, 2012.

MS. KIMBERLY SCHAPPERT MADE A MOTION THAT THE STATE PARKS BOARD CONVENE INTO A CLOSED SESSION TO START THE NEXT BOARD MEETING FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING REAL ESTATE AND CONTRACT STRATEGY AND LITIGATION ISSUES, PURSUANT TO THE CONTRACT EXEMPTION AT UTAH CODE ANNOTATED 52-4-5 (1A). MR. MARTY OTT SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Eli Anderson made a motion to adjourn the meeting.