# BOARD OF UTAH STATE PARKS AND RECREATION MEETING IRON COUNTY VISITORS CENTER 581 NORTH MAIN STREET CEDAR CITY, UTAH

August 8, 2012

Present:

Irene HansenJaren DavisJoe HullLois BullochEli AndersonMarty OttKimberly SchappertGlenn GreenhalghFred Hayes

Deena Loyola Tammy Wright

Visitors:

Mike Styler Darin Bird Chris Haller Wayne Monroe Susan Zarekarizi Barbara Riddle

Board Chair Irene Hansen welcomed board members and staff to the meeting. Chair Hansen thanked the staff for getting everything set up and also thanked board members for making the trip to Cedar City for the meeting. She thanked Board Member Lois Bulloch for hosting us. Chair Hansen asked board members and guests to introduce themselves. Tammy Wright is filling in for Wendy Wack. Chair Hansen sends their best wishes to Wendy and thanked Tammy for assisting today.

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. MR. ELI ANDERSON SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

### Approval of Minutes

Chair Hansen asked board members for review and approval of the May 10, 2012, board meeting minutes. Ms. Bulloch asked that her name be changed from Lois Bulloch Hull on the first page of the minutes. The change will be made.

MR. ELI ANDERSON MADE A MOTION THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 10, 2012 BOARD MEETING WITH THE NOTED CHANGE. MR. JOE HULL SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### **Board Member Reports**

Chair Hansen mentioned that Board Member Tom Guinney from Salt Lake could not be here today and he sends his regrets.

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

Ms. Kimberly Schappert said they stopped at Willard Bay over July 4 on their way to their family vacation and visited Bear Lake on their way back. They were able to see Bear Lake from both the Idaho and Utah sides, and said the Utah side was much nicer. It was the busiest weekend of the year; it was overwhelming how many people were there. She used the online reservation system,

which she thought worked really well, including when she had to make a cancellation at Dead Horse Point a few weeks later. It is a really great asset and it's wonderful to be able to pick your campsite with a picture. You can scan the map and zoom in to see what you'd like. She said they saw a huge owl at Bear Lake above the restrooms. She was looking at him through the binoculars and he was looking back at her. It was very dramatic to see him. It was a great vacation and it was nice to see both of those places because she hadn't seen either one of them before.

Ms. Lois Bulloch said the Southwest Region is alive and well and she is excited to be involved. We had a good tour at Frontier Homestead yesterday. Every day when she picks up the paper she sees that there is an activity there. She asked Todd if he was going to be able to attend some of the meeting today and he wouldn't be able to because he has a school group coming. As you all know, Frontier Homestead is her pride and joy and you can all see why she likes it so much. She talked to Laura Melling, Park Manager at Sand Hollow and Quail Creek and she indicated they had drained the water in Sand Hollow because of the reported swimmer's itch. It's something that grows in the plants around the edges and they think the plants will die after they drain the water. They think that should take care of it for two or three years. Ms. Bulloch mentioned there has been a lot of controversy regarding Snow Canyon. The division has been involved in the discussions with our legislators. They are working on a Memorandum of Understand letter, so that should be forthcoming. Lois said she was proud to be associated with the parks in her area.

Mr. Marty Ott said he visited several of the parks in his immediate area, including Quail Creek, Sand Hollow and Coral Pink. He visits Coral Pink often because it is only about 15 miles away. He spent some time at the visitor center there and was trying to gauge the interaction between the visitors and the college student that was working there. He was happy to see that he understood what his job was. We have a state park system of which we can be very proud.

Vice-Chair Jaren Davis said they continue to patronize Utah Lake as a family and love the water sports there. They have been through Snow Canyon and also took the hike on the west side of Deer Creek Reservoir which was really enjoyable. It has great views and vistas and a lot of solitude and wildlife.

Mr. Joe Hull said he visited Antelope Island, a lot of times incognito, but he gets to visit with Jeremy out there quite a bit. The last three weeks he has been to Willard. He said he enjoys going to the parks and seeing their good condition. He said he thinks our employees do a good job. He spent an afternoon with East Canyon Park Manager James Lowe and his staff. He stayed in a yurt there and said it was nice. He said he would rather go to the yurts than the wood facilities. He said he appreciates working with those folks; they are always cordial and nice.

Mr. Glenn Greenhalgh has been visiting a few parks. He visited Utah Lake and Deer Creek. He has spent a fair amount of time with Cheston Slater, Park Manager at Yuba Lake State Park, and they continue to work on the ATV trail there. He said they have come across one property owner that is giving them a problem.

Mr. Eli Anderson said the water at Willard Bay was extremely crowded on the Fourth of July. He said he had never seen so many boats on the water. The parking seemed to be a real problem. Maybe we should ask the legislature to put a parking terrace in there.

Vice Chair Jaren Davis said he was reminded that he went to the golf tournament at Soldier Hollow on the last day and said he was really impressed with how things were handled. The people visiting the state were very positive. Deena shared with him her experience of driving people around and the positive experience they had. He talked with some people in the Heber Valley that were

staying in some of the hotels and resorts and they were enjoying Utah. The real estate people report their phones were ringing off the hook, because people couldn't believe the beauty of that valley. That was a real positive experience.

Ms. Lois Bulloch said she wanted to mention the ribbon cutting for the Hunter House dedication. She showed everyone the program. She said she couldn't believe how many people showed up; there were around 200 people.

Chair Hansen received a call for a re-grand opening of one of the homes at This Is the Place Heritage Park. They desperately wanted the State Parks board to attend, but unfortunately when someone did a little research they put in Parks and Recreation and they ended up getting names for the addresses for the National Parks Board, so that's where the invitations went. They were surprised that no one was RSVPing and then realized what had happened. She said she heard it was amazing. After she talked with that family member, it really brings back to mind how special these homes are to the families. This was a wonderful event.

#### Director's Report

Chair Hansen turned the time over to Director Fred Hayes to give his report. He said the board members mentioned some of the great things happening in the parks. He encouraged board members to wander over to Frontier Homestead during our break or after the meeting. He said it's interesting to watch school kids interact at the facility.

Director Hayes began with some staff changes that have taken place. The park manager at Deer Creek, Rick Redmon, retired after 31 years. Director Hayes said all of the park managers that were here when he started have all retired, so that makes him one of the old guys. Trampas Williams, Ranger at Starvation, has resigned. That leaves only Alan Spencer and we are committed to not having a one-person operation, so we are in the process of getting some help out there. Steve Garrick is a new ranger at Willard Bay. He is an economist by trade, so we are looking to him for some business development and analysis at Willard Bay to see how we can change the business dynamics there. This is one of the first people we have hired with a business background into a ranger position and with our new paradigm and our new direction, we thought this would be an interesting fit. We have hired Lance Eliason as the new assistant manager at the Fremont/Otter Creek Complex. George Faust, Assistant Manager at Utah Lake, has retired. We have chosen not to replace that position as part of the consolidation and the "right sizing" of our staff. What we have done instead, after we did an analysis of the tasks he was involved in, is hired a part time office manager to take care of all of the paperwork. This will free up time for the park manager and the park rangers so they can do more work in the park without being tied to the office. They are trying this new staffing model and so far things are working fairly well. We have some new people at Antelope Island. One of the maintenance staff went to the region crew. Joe Imes who had been working out at the Island as a seasonal has joined the staff full-time. Ashley, the gift shop manager, is now the accountant and so we hired James Coroles as the new gift shop manager. Earlier in the year we complexed Antelope Island with GSL and so all of the operations on the lake are under one manager and that is Jeremy Shaw. Jeremy found a modular building on 21st South and 7000 West that was an old welcome center. He has talked the owner into donating it to the park. We are in the process of moving it to the GSL Marina so it can be made into a gift shop. We believe with the volume of tour bus traffic that we have through there, it will be very successful. This is part of what the new gift shop manager is doing. We think it will be successful. Kevin Carter, who was our maintenance guy at Deer Creek, transferred to Utah Lake and was replaced by Edwin Gibbs who transferred from the Northeast Region crew. Kevin Lazenby, Assistant Manager at Deer Creek, is also retiring mid-September, so we are losing almost our entire staff at Deer Creek. We are holding on until after Labor Day and then we'll look at the staffing there. This will give us an opportunity to

look at some different managerial options there. Jeff Rasmussen, Region Manager, Eric Stucki and Dawn Larsen have indicated they have some great ideas on the direction they'd like to go next. It's nice to be in a position where we can bring new folks on.

Director Hayes addressed some of the hot issues in State Parks. He said that there was an issue at Snow Canyon during the last legislative session where a bill that was essentially drafted that would have taken Snow Canyon out of the State Park system and turned it over to Washington County for management. Snow Canyon is one of the original parks that serves a specific purpose. As we figured out what the problems were, it was apparent that there was a lack of communication between the division and the county. We had stopped talking years and years ago. This isn't a reflection on current management. It goes way farther back than that. We also realized that not only had we stopped talking, we had stopped listening. We are in the process of working out these issues. The Resource Management Plan completed in 1998-99 called for an interagency Memorandum of Understanding to be established to lay out roles and responsibilities and to provide a framework under which the various agencies would communicate. That plan was never completed. We are now back to the drawing board on an MOU that will lay out how we will work together. We have several drafts completed and are trying to get the right language in there to make sure we are going to solve the problems. Director Hayes said he thinks the issue is essentially solved; we just need to get the right information in the MOU.

We also have an issue being worked on at Pineview Reservoir. Pineview is a Forest Service Reservoir located in Huntsville. Years ago we had a full-time ranger there and during the budget cuts in 2001-2002, we eliminated that position. At that point, the sheriff's office took over routine boating patrols with some funding offered through a cooperative agreement from the Division. The sheriff at the time, decided they didn't need our money and they went about doing the patrols at Pineview without any state money except for a few boats and some equipment we provided. Now they are in need of the money and assistance from the Division. We are trying to work out an agreement with the Weber County Sheriff's Office so that Pineview gets the right amount of coverage for boating patrols and boating education. Pineview is a very busy and intense body of water and this is a place we feel that we need a presence. We are trying to work out an agreement. We will offer to rotate existing staff on a SEOP, which is a supplemental enforcement opportunity plan which would get folks in there on a rotating basis. Director Hull said Board members Joe Hull and Eli Anderson may hear about this from constituents. Director Hayes said he will keep the board members up to date on the progress.

Director Hayes said we also have an issue in Box Elder County and it ties to some information Susan will be addressing later today. Box Elder County received a Land and Water Conservation Fund grant 40 years ago. Back then the property they purchased was worth about \$30-40,000 and today it is worth about \$1 million. They would like to sell that property. Under the LWCF rules they have to replace that property with equal value of today. There is a truck stop that would like to purchase the property and it's a great economic development opportunity, but there is an encumbrance on the property, which means they have to replace it or leave it as public recreation. We are working through this issue. Executive Director Mike Styler has been involved and is trying to help us resolve the issue. He could write a letter and absolve them of their debt, but then we would incur their debt and we don't have the money to do that.

One other issue brewing is the Coral Pink Tiger Beetle. We received notice that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will probably issue a proposed rule to list the Coral Pink Sand Dunes Tiger Beetle as an endangered species by the end of the month. This has huge implications for us. If this becomes listed as an endangered species – OHV activity may come to a stop in the area of Coral Pink. We will be meeting with the agencies involved on August 21. Director Hayes explained to the board members where the area is and where it would affect us; most of the beetles were in that

area. Mr. Marty Ott asked if the area north would be affected. Director Hayes replied that it isn't affected, but we would run into WSA issues north of there. We are hoping to reach an agreement that will offer protection to the beetle and the folks that recreate there. Some of the folks in DNR think we can do both.

The good news today is our budget. Director Hayes said we started talking about changes in our appropriation/budget about a year ago. For years, we had some restricted funds that we would draw from for some projects. We stopped being able to get to this money and this fund grew to about \$11 million. Because we were unable to get to that money it drew some attention. After looking at what was happening, we realized that if we continued to draw from this money we would be out of money in about five years. That's when he told everyone we needed to find a way to get about another \$0.27 per visitor to help solve this problem. During our Employee Development School earlier this year, Director Hayes issued a \$1000 challenge each of the parks. He asked them to come up with some creative ideas to use \$1000 to invest in business ideas. Some of the ideas the parks came up with include selling water, buying and renting out canoes and kayaks, holding summer camps for kids, etc. These have been very successful so far. Our people are starting to think about growing their business on very minor investments. Director Hayes said after all was said and done, we turned our restricted fund into an additional \$2.9 million this year, which means we are whole as of today. We also asked everyone to be conservative in their spending, we consolidated some operations and we eliminated some positions and we asked them to focus on their spending. They collected about \$1.4 to \$1.5 million more than last year. We haven't had a fee increase. This is new business and they saved out of their business an additional \$1.4 million in money that they voluntarily didn't spend because of their efficiencies, after taking an enforced \$3 million cut division wide. When that goes back in, this makes us whole at that level, which means that this trend of becoming broke in five years is no more. If we keep that up, we have potential to earn some additional capital. Our folks need a huge pat on the back for what they have done.

Mr. Marty Ott said everyone deserves all the credit, because it's great stuff. He asked how the legislature will view this - as enhancement funds or funds that will supplant. Fred said it really is neither. We were asked several years ago, to be in a position where we didn't need more than \$4 million in General Funds to operate by 2015. Sitting here today our budget contains \$4 million in General Fund. Everything else comes from restricted funds. The fear was that we wouldn't be able to fund the rest of the operation above that \$4 million. This is doing what the legislature asked us to do when they asked us to be more self-reliant. Chair Hansen asked Director Hayes to explain "restricted funds." He and OHV Coordinator Chris Haller explained that there are three sources of restricted funds. First is from the boating program. This is money from boat registrations and Coast Guard money that is provided as a match for money that we already have based on our boating program. Mr. Haller further explained that it is based on our education numbers as far as the number of youth and adults we educate, registration dollars and the Coast Guard looks at the number of boats that are registered along with the amount of enforcement hours that are conducted on the water. This makes up the three components that make up the funding from the Coast Guard. The other component is the OHV fund, which includes registrations, a portion of the motor fuel tax consumed by OHV riders who ride off of the highway and the third one is collections we receive at the park through gate receipts, special use permits and other things we do at the park. These combined are the primary sources of funding with both the OHV and boating contributing \$4-5 million each year with the remainder coming from gate collections. Mr. Marty Ott asked what the restriction is. Director Hayes said that OHV restricted funds have to be used to fund OHV-related activities and boating restricted funds have to be used to fund boating activities and state park fees restricted have to be used to fund state park activities. This is how we fund about everything we do.

The \$2.8 million in restricted money was only appropriated as one-time money. So our challenge this year is to get that money appropriated as ongoing. Director Hayes said he didn't want to give the impression that our money woes are over, but he said he thinks we have turned the corner. Our folks are starting to think differently about what they do. We can do some long-range planning if we can get this appropriated as ongoing money. We need to get to the point where we can establish some capital. We are going to ask the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget to incorporate into the Governor's budget a portion of General Fund for capital maintenance. He said we believe that the facilities and the grounds of the state parks are assets of the people of the state that are held in trust for them and we believe it is appropriate to utilize General Funds to preserve those assets, so we are going to ask for that. We thought we had three years to save the restricted funds and our folks did it in a year and for that they need a huge pat on the back. Chair Hansen said that Ivan made the point in his presentation to the appropriations committee that the one-time appropriation was a 'going out of business' scenario and would take the restricted funds down to zero. Chair Hansen expressed her thanks and appreciation to the staff for what they have done. Director Hayes said this didn't come without a lot of pain. Our folks have stepped up and have been doing two or three people's jobs and they are happy doing it. That says something about their character and they have done it a little at a time. It is amazing to be to this point in a year. Director Hayes said this year we are going to ask them to make back their budget in collections for the first time; some of them are already there.

Director Hayes said he was talking to a friend that was at the golf tournament at Soldier Hollow and gave a couple of people a ride back to the hotel. It happened to be the winner of the tournament. He said all the kid could talk about was what a phenomenal place it was. Director Hayes said in the past week he has also had three people tell him they are moving their company golf to Soldier Hollow. People have started to realize what an asset this is.

Chair Hansen asked if there was anything else before we move onto the rules. Ms. Lois Bulloch asked the board to give all of the State Park employees a round of applause. Director Hayes said it's fun to have them come in with new ideas. He said we are going to add a new award – an entrepreneurial award for someone who is brave enough to step out and take some risks. Chair Hansen said the real winners are the general public who will be able to enjoy all of these things.

#### **OHV Rule Changes**

OHV Coordinator Chris Haller reviewed the OHV rule changes included in the board packet provided. We are asking the State Parks Board to eliminate R 651-408-1-4, as it no longer applies to the State Parks OHV Education Program. Ms. Kimberly Schappert asked how the curriculums compare with outside vendors. Mr. Haller said there are rules that stipulate certain criteria that must be met when teaching these classes. Director Hayes explained that the learning outcomes are the same. He explained that parents had requested certain things be taught such as ethics and safety and asked that we leave the skills portion up to the parents. He said they introduce the skills and then let the parents develop the skills over the years. She asked if a test was taken online. Mr. Haller explained that it is a timed test and there are chapter tests at the end of each chapter. If they don't pass, they have to wait and retake it later. She mentioned that she would like to take it. Mr. Haller said if the board members would like to take the test to let him know so they could experience that for themselves. He explained that we are coming into our fourth year and Utah is number one in both course providers in leading education use certificates and the average score is about 92% in both course providers. He said we have an increase of 400 students and the total number of students is a little more than 3100. He said he believes our numbers will continue to increase. He credited our Public Affairs section for their part in this process. Ms. Schappert asked what minimum age was and was told it is eight years old to operate on public lands. Chair Hansen said she gives a

lot of credit to our State Park staff who are out on the trails. When our rangers stop and talk with families riding on the trails, it has a big impact on the children.

VICE-CHAIR JAREN DAVIS MADE A MOTION THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE REMOVAL OF RULE 651-408 1-4 AS THESE RULES NO LONGER MEET THE REQUIREMENT OF LAW. MR JOE HULL SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE PROGRAM GRANT REQUEST

Mr. Chris Haller reviewed the Off-Highway Vehicle Program Grant Request that was included in the board packet. He explained the process we have to follow. He said there were five proposed recommendations presented to the OHV Advisory Council and they made a recommendation that we fund those listed in the board packet. Vice-Chair Davis asked what happens to the \$9,900 that is still in the fund. Mr. Haller explained it is held over for next year.

MS. LOIS BULLOCH MADE A MOTION THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE FY 13 OHV FISCAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS OUTLINED IN THE PRESENTATION. MS. KIMBERLY SCHAPPERT SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### RECREATIONAL TRAIL PROGRAM (RTP) GRANT REQUEST

Mr. Chris Haller explained the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) Grant Awardees Information as shown in the board packet. He explained that we bring the Utah Off-Highway Vehicle and the Utah Recreational Trails Advisory Councils together for a combined meeting to determine the awardees for the grant. Mr. Chris Haller explained the unique thing is the Nephi Pasture Trailhead. It was submitted as a motorized trailhead and after reviewing that with both councils, it was determined that it is a multiple use trail and should be funded out of both motorized and non-motorized monies. Vice-Chair Davis asked why a non-motorized would have a gas tax. Mr. Chris Haller explained that this is determined through the Federal Highway Administration, US Department of Transportation. They take the amount of fuel that is used throughout the nation and then look at how much is received from an individual state and then turn those fuel taxes that are collected into grants. These are identified under US Code. Title 23. They know that those non-motorized users will probably drive a vehicle to trailheads and will participate in motorized activity and they turn those into nonmotorized grants to benefit healthy lifestyles. Director Hayes said this is the only money that we have for non-motorized trails now. Mr. Marty Ott said this particular trail, the Nephi Pasture Trail, is 90% ATV and 10% equestrian. He said he uses it all of the time. Ms. Schappert said she thought it was a fair use of the money, because many benefit from these trails. People are multiple users these days. The board briefly discussed those groups that pay taxes and those that benefit from them.

Chair Hansen thanked Mr. Haller for his excellent presentation today. She said Ms. Schappert suggested the board meet in Moab to visit some of the trails there. Moab has it all. Mr. Haller said we have two different council members that are from the southern part of the state and have done an excellent job. Mr. Haller said they will be losing three council members and have all done an excellent job and have 25 years of experience. They will be hard to replace.

# **MISCELLANEOUS ISSUES**

Chair Hansen said that Director Hayes has asked for some time to address some items he did not report earlier. Director Hayes said there were 96 applicants for the position of the deputy

director. They have narrowed it down to seven, and five of the seven are internal. He said we should have a deputy director in place by September.

Director Hayes also explained that the National Golf Foundation has completed our study. There were some factual errors, so we sent it back to them for changes. We expect the final version of that report sometime in September. After we receive it, we will put a meeting together with staff, board members, as well as the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget and the Legislative Fiscal Analyst. He said the golf issue is the last thing Representative Mathis asked us to address. Vice-Chair Davis asked Director Hayes to remind them of the request from Representative Mathis. He explained that three of the four golf courses are losing money and during the audit, we were asked to address this and come up with some ideas to fix it. Chair Hansen asked if they would receive a copy of the report. Director Hayes said those in attendance would receive a copy at the meeting and the others would have them mailed. Ms. Bulloch asked how much it cost us to have them conduct the study. Director Hayes said it was \$40,000 and was well worth the money. There is good management information in the report. Vice-Chair Davis asked if the fee will be addressed and Director Hayes said it was in the previous draft so it should be. We will let everybody know when the meeting is scheduled.

# LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND (LWCF) GRANT REQUEST

Land and Environmental Coordinator Susan Zarekarizi presented the LWCF FY 2012 Grant approval to the board. She explained the Land and Water Conservation Fund process. Ms. Bulloch asked Ms. Zarekarizi to address the Box Elder County issue. Ms. Zarekarizi explained in the 1970s, horse racing and chariot racing was big and people in Utah were trying to get the gambling initiative in Utah. When this failed, a lot of the little racetracks dried up. Weber County has one that is rarely used and Box Elder County also has one of those. Their racetrack has sat empty for maybe 20 years and they now have the opportunity to develop this into a truck stop. It means a lot of money and 60 jobs to the city and county. They remembered this was encumbered property, but they didn't remember all of the restrictions. They are now working with us to find some way to move forward to develop that land with this truck stop and replace the property. Now, they aren't so sure they want to encumber anything else with the Land and Water restrictions. Director Hayes said that is understandable. We have chosen not to encumber any more state parks with Land and Water money; we have a lot that are encumbered. Mr. Hull voiced his concerns about the land when that happens and said he was going to suggest we decline all of these. Director Hayes said we have discussed this because every time we do this it adds to the state's debt. We hold the master contract. The federal government may make this decision for us, because it is not funded for FY 14. Susan said it is an unfunded mandate. We are required to continue to fulfill the grant obligations without any money. Ms. Schappert said she can think of a lot of good things that were done with these funds. She asked if there was any type of buyout for these people. She was told they won't let them do that. It must be land for land and value for value because it is an encumbrance on the land. Ms. Schappert said she would hate to lose any funding source. Chair Hansen said there are a lot of people that benefit from these funds. Ms. Zarekarizi is working with our attorney general representative, to change the contract a little bit, so that the language is clearer and explains the obligation for those that receive the grant. She will also remind anyone who applies that this is 'in perpetuity' and if they have an area inside the park where they might want to develop, to hold that part out so it is not encumbered. Chair Hansen said probably 90% of the communities are thrilled and actively using these. Vice-Chair Davis asked what the state park allocation is. Susan said we are not sure at this point. She said it may go for water and sewer lines. It depends on where we get the money for the match. Director Hayes said it doesn't make sense not to accept the money for those parks that are already encumbered. Chair Hansen said communities go through a lot to make these requests. Ms. Zarekarizi reviewed the list of requests. Chair Hansen thanked Susan her for her great presentation. Ms. Schappert asked what happens if someone can't come up with the remainder of

the match. They have to report in their request that they have the match. Chair Hansen said they may have other things put together such as in-kind donations, but they must report the match.

MR. GLENN GREENHALGH MADE A MOTION THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND GRANT REQUESTS AS PRESENTED. MR. ELI ANDERSON SECONDED THE MOTION. VICE-CHAIR JAREN DAVIS OPPOSED. THE MOTION CARRIED.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS ISSUE**

Director Hayes asked if Ms. Deena Loyola could talk first about the Utah Outdoor Recreation Opportunities map that she brought prior to the discussion on the Antelope Island Rule proposal. Ms. Loyola explained that State Parks participates with the US Forest Service, BLM, the National Park Service and USU Extension with the Utah Coalition for Outdoor Recreation. Dr. Steven Burr is the chairman of the group. This map was a project that we first did for the 2002 Winter Olympics. It let the visitors coming into the state know about the public lands in Utah. It was a hit and we were out of those maps very quickly. We have gotten the group together and put some money together so we could update and reprint them. It is a huge map and includes nearly every federal and state campground on it, as well as other recreation opportunities. This has been a reprint in the making since 2002. Chair Hansen asked how many were printed and if it was available online. She replied that we reprinted 75,000 and said unfortunately it is not available online because we didn't have the funds to digitize it. Ms. Schappert asked how they were distributed. Each agency was given an allotment depending on how much money they donated. Director Hayes explained that the Forest Service has taken their travel map and created a download on their website, so it can be downloaded to a GPS unit. They are working now on a download for a phone that will tell you what trails are open for what use. We have the maps available for visitor centers, as well as in some of our parks.

# **Antelope Island Hunting Rule Proposal**

Director Hayes explained when we left the discussion on Antelope Island at the last meeting, there were several lingering questions. The first was the latitude the board had under the previous draft to set hunt numbers and dates. We redrafted the rule to include a provision that would require the board to hold an annual meeting where they would approve hunt numbers and hunt dates pursuant to that recommendation. The second question was a policy question regarding hunting on the Island. After the last board meeting, Director Hayes asked Park Manager Jeremy Shaw and Wildlife Biologist Steve Bates to review the current wildlife management plan, which is dated November of 2001, as it refers to hunting. The plan refers to hunting bison and deer only. Director Hayes read the portion of the plan that refers to hunting. Bighorn sheep had recently been introduced at that time so that is probably why they were not addressed in the plan. Essentially, the plan says hunting is a management tool that should be employed as a management tool of last resort. Director Hayes read a letter from Park Manager Shaw and Biologist Bates. A copy of that letter will be attached to these minutes. Director Hayes said the suggested rule change reflects these recommendations. Director Hayes said he thinks it is important to remember that when the wildlife plan was adopted, it was simply adopted by the board as a management guideline and things have changed since then. Director Hayes said policy is set by Administrative Rule; this is the boards' policy making process. The Antelope Island Wildlife Management Plan was not adopted by rule, but was simply accepted by the board. He said he doesn't believe there is a policy issue with the board authorizing the change in the hunt rule and authorizing the hunt, because that policy will supersede anything that was done before. Director Hayes recommends the board adopt the hunt rule as it has been presented, which would allow the board to consider an annual hunt based on biologist recommendations and public opinion. Mr. Marty Ott said that the wildlife management plan could be considered a sub-plan for the resource management plan. Director Hayes explained that all of the plans work together. Mr. Ott said what he viewed as the current policy was agreed upon in mid

2010. At that time the board agreed that hunting could be allowed as a last resort and based on biological considerations. He said we are where we are because of political direction and intent language. If that hadn't come forth, we wouldn't be talking about this today. He said this is in response to the 2001 document, which in this case is not valid at all. He said he thinks the 2010 action would be valid. He feels the current policy is absolutely appropriate for the time and place and should be ratified by the board. Mr. Joe Hull said he was on the team that created the new management plan. Mr. Hull said hunting and four wheeling were two issues raised during this time and the group was told they were not to be discussed. Director Hayes said our standard planning process at that time was identified as what our planner called sideboards in which the discussion would be framed. This was done by staff without any public guidance. It was a streamlining measure and a standard practice years ago. Mr. Ott asked if this could have been because of previous board action. Director Hayes said it is possible, but he couldn't answer that for sure. Mr. Ott asked if his suggestion from the last meeting to come up with a polished rule that incorporated both suggestions from Barbara Riddle and Director Styler were included in the rule change. Director Hayes said it's not a mirror image of either one, but his best attempt to include both suggestions. Mr. Ott asked if the board ever envisions a circumstance that would ever result in them challenging the legislature and the intent language. He said if the answer to that is yes, then what would it be and if the answer is no, then this is not a policy board, it's an advisory board. Vice Chair Davis said he is not afraid to challenge this. He said he has never felt any political pressure when we talk about issues. He said he would stand strong if everything aligns towards a hunt not being good for the Island. Ms. Schappert asked if the original management plan involved public process. Director Hayes said he is sure there was, but doesn't know exactly where those comments are. She said it seems we have negated the public process here for what she perceives as an important policy and she would like to hear from the public. We were directed to do this hunt one year. She appreciates the changes in the rule and thinks it sounds fair and gives the board a chance to make decisions, but it doesn't go back to the initial question of what was the original policy was that was arrived at through a lot of public process and input from a lot of people. She doesn't feel we should make such a rule change or accept the first rule without a public process. That is a cumbersome thing to do, but that's the way our government works. It is a big deal to the community. It is hard for her to support the rule without that process. She said she appreciates the language and the changes, but doesn't think it addresses the full issue. Mr. Joe Hull said he doesn't understand what she means by the public process. He said we have dealt with this several times and they've been invited and have given us input. Several board members replied that the public has been invited to every board meeting to voice their opinion and raise any issues regarding the hunt on Antelope Island. Director Hayes reviewed the timeline for the hunt on Antelope Island and what is before the Board for action today. If the rule is adopted by the board today, it would take care of the dates for the 2013 hunt and if it is not adopted, we would still need to address it prior to October of this year or we come into opposition with the intent language. He recommended that the board not oppose the legislative intent language. Mr. Marty Ott asked him to elaborate on that. Director Haves responded that he believes this is an issue specifically where the legislature could dismantle this board if they oppose the legislative intent language. He said we need the board. There was much discussion regarding this issue.

Chair Hansen opened the floor to public comment.

Barbara Riddle, President and CEO of the Davis Area Convention and Visitors Bureau, addressed the board. She also serves as a board member of the Friends of Antelope Island State Park. She will comment today on the issue that has been discussed regarding hunting on Antelope Island. She said in the beginning there was a real affinity for the folks that live in the Davis County and Weber area and the ability to enjoy the wildlife and recreational opportunities at Antelope Island. She said the depth of her commitment to Antelope Island is much deeper than hunting on Antelope

Island. They help with marketing and promotion as well. She served with Mr. Joe Hull on the committee that developed the Resource Management Plan. She said they asked the public to address things that were important to them regarding the RMP. She said there was a hearty discussion during the RMP that went on for many months and hunting was addressed. At least one of those meetings was entirely dedicated to the hunting issue. That body as a whole came to the conclusion that they did not support hunting on the Island. They also discussed the bison program and hunting of them and how the program could be sustainable. They talked about the revenue from the bison hunt. She said it was a shock to all of them when the legislature first passed the intent language for hunting back in 2010. It was presented to this board and was the intent of this body to do what had been asked. Overwhelmingly, those that were closely associated with Antelope Island at that time did not view this as a strong use of the resources there. She said they have been represented at these meetings. She said in the last meeting her comments were that if it is the intent of the legislature that this hunt continue, they would hope there could be some friendly amendment. She offered that again today. The way the rule is worded now makes it sound like a hunt must take place. She said they appreciate the work of the board and stated that their position hadn't changed. She handed out another copy of the friendly amendment drafted by some of their county commissioners and others. She said they are very attached to Antelope Island and they feel like their voice should be heard regarding this issue. She was a little surprised to see today that the wording 'five years' was stricken and that it would be forever more. She thanked the board for their time.

Chair Hansen asked Director Hayes if hunting is allowed in other state parks. Director Hayes said at least half of the parks have some type of hunting allowed. Chair Hansen asked if anyone else had questions or would like to address this issue. DNR Executive Director Mike Styler said he tried to talk the legislature into not passing the intent language this past year, but it happened anyway. He believes the proposed rule puts the control back into the hands of the board. He feels the rule presented today reflects the suggestions from the last meeting. Director Styler talked with the Division of Wildlife Resources Director Jim Karpowitz and reviewed the proposed rule with him. Director Karpowitz felt the rule circumvents the need for intent language. He likes the idea that the board relies on the biologist and public input each year. There was discussion regarding where it says the board has to review this on an annual basis. It was suggested that the proposed rule be amended to include annual.

Mr. Marty Ott asked what would keep the legislature from telling the board they would hold a hunt if they chose not to allow hunting in a particular year. Mr. Eli Anderson said when the legislature is in session they can do anything they want and speculating on this has no basis here. Mr. Joe Hull said legislators can't bind the next legislative session to something they did. Director Hayes said he has spent a lot of time talking with those legislators who were adamant that we host a hunt on Antelope Island and running this language past them. The overwhelming issue they brought forth was that they wanted the board to take charge of the hunting issue. They want to hunt, but they want it done within the parameters the Island can host. He doesn't anticipate them making changes after hunts take place from year to year. Ms. Barbara Riddle asked about the access the hunters are given on the Island. Director Hayes said we are working on an Island access plan so it would be expanded. We are working to open the Island so people can enjoy it.

Chair Hansen called for a motion.

VICE-CHAIR JAREN DAVIS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE RULE CHANGE IN R 651-657. THERE WERE SEVERAL SUGGESTIONS MADE FOR WORDING CHANGES IN THE RULE. MR. ELI ANDERSON SECONDED THE MOTION.

Ms. Kim Schappert suggested the year' 2012' be removed, so it would apply to subsequent years since they were trying to make this a rule for all time. The board discussed this and determined the date needed to stay as it is. Several members said the date needed to stay for this year's hunt. Director Hayes said in the future the board would not amend this rule. They would simply pass a motion to establish the dates of the hunt. Directors Hayes said we wouldn't have time to make a change prior to the 2012 hunt and it makes it cleaner for this year. Mr. Joe Hull said it gives clarification for the hunt this year and would be meaningless after this year. It will stay in here, but you can't react to it until it is cleaned up at a later date. Chair Hansen asked if Ms. Kim Schappert wanted two separate actions. She said that was what she was getting at. Mr. Glen Greenhalgh said you can't take an action that is not on the agenda. You can't adopt this without 2012 included, because you haven't adopted a 2012 hunt. You would have to do it in another meeting. Chair Hansen asked for a vote on the motion to pass the rule as amended.

VICE-CHAIR JAREN DAVIS MADE A MOTION THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE ANTELOPE ISLAND HUNTING RULE AS AMENDED TO SHOW DATES AND HARVEST OBJECTIVES BE MOVED FROM R651-637-2 AND R651-637-3 TO R651-637-1 (3) AND SHALL BE MADE TO READ AS FOLLOWS 'DATES, HARVEST OBJECTIVES AND OTHER PARAMETERS FOR HUNTS SHALL BE SET ANNUALLY BY THE BOARD UNTILIZING RECOMMENDATIONS OF DIVISION STAFF AND INTERESTED PARTIES'. MR. ELI ANDERSON SECONDED THE MOTION. MR. MARTY OTT AND MS. KIMBERLY SCHAPPERT OPPOSED. THE MOTION CARRIED.

Chair Hansen thanked all of those in attendance at the meeting. She appreciates all of the hard work that has gone into this issue.

# Other Business and Next Meeting

Chair Hansen asked if there was any other business that needed discussion. Ms. Barbara Riddle invited the board to attend the Antelope Island Balloon Festival that will be held over Labor Day weekend.

Chair Hansen reminded everyone that the Governor's Rural Board Meeting is this afternoon. They will discuss state parks and the one-time funding and the good work they have done. The Lt. Governor has been very dedicated to State Parks and feels they are very important. Chair Hansen will be making the report under other business and is very excited to do so.

Chair Hansen moved to set a date for the next board meeting. Director Hayes would encourage them to hold this in late October or early November in Vernal, because the repository may be done and the board meeting could be held in conjunction with the dedication. Chair Hansen said she would work with Director Hayes to be able to get rooms for the meeting. The board discussed this and set a tentative date of November 13, 2012, for the next board meeting that will be held in Vernal.

MR. GLENN GREENHALGH 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). VICE-CHAIR JAREN DAVIS SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MR. ELI ANDERSON MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.