

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

**May 6, 2010**

**Present:**

Karl Bentley, Chair  
Bill Bleak  
Jaren Davis  
Mary Tullius  
Deena Loyola  
Wendy Griffith

Marty Ott, Vice Chair  
Joe Hull  
Glenn Greenhalgh  
Fred Hayes  
Darin Bird

Lois Bulloch  
Eli Anderson  
Irene Hansen  
Karen Krieger  
Mark Forbes

**Visitors:**

Ellis Ivory  
Steve Alder  
Chris Haramoto  
Bruce Hamilton  
Heather Shilton  
Vaughn Jacobsen  
Dave Hardman  
Dan Weist

Matt Dahl  
Jeremiah Stetler  
Ron Taylor  
Barbara Riddle  
Greg Sheehan  
Laura Melling  
Jim Smith

Robyn Pearson  
George Stapleford  
Steve Bates  
Tom Wharton  
Alan Clark  
Brian Jensen  
Terry Smedley

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Chair Karl Bentley welcomed board members, staff, and Department of Natural Resources Deputy Director Darin Bird. He also welcomed Fred Hayes and Karen Krieger in their new roles.

Chair Bentley reviewed the agenda. He asked board members for approval of the board agenda as presented.

**MR. ELI ANDERSON MADE A MOTION THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE STATE PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD AGENDA. MR. BILL BLEAK SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Approval of Minutes**

Chair Bentley asked board members for review and approval of the February 11, 2010, board meeting minutes.

**MR. ELI ANDERSON MADE A MOTION THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 11, 2010, BOARD MEETING. VICE-CHAIR MARTY OTT SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Director's Report**

Director Mary Tullius mentioned one of our park managers, Bob Hanover, received the Governor's Award for Excellence. This is a very prestigious award. He was nominated by his park staff. Mr. Hanover is the park manager of the Fremont Indian State Park Complex. The nomination was for his leadership and added responsibilities of the two new parks that were moved into this complex (Otter Creek and Piute). Through Mr. Hanover's leadership, this complex made it through a very rough year.

The award was presented at the Governor's Mansion this week in a very nice ceremony. This is the first time we have had an employee win an award at this level. DNR Director Mike Styler presented the award. Mary complimented Bob and his staff for their hard work. Chair Bentley asked Mary to pass on his congratulations to Bob.

The legislative session was a very difficult one this year. One of the first items legislators asked for was to eliminate our region offices. They settled on eliminating one region office. The board members were given a map of the new region boundaries. Fortunately, we didn't lose any staff due to the vacant positions we had. Seasonal wages were reduced to make up for the budget cuts we were mandated to take. Water Rights and Water Resources pitched in to make up the difference. We did have restricted funds taken to replace some general funds that were reduced. All cuts we have taken add up to 36% of our general fund. Our general funds were hit very hard for FY 2011. We did receive \$650,000 for general maintenance from our restricted funds, which we requested. This will help get us through the year. The topic of privatization also came up during the legislative session. There were questions about what we are doing to work with concession services. One committee member proposed intent language that called for a list of privatizing six state parks. There was also a request by the co-chairs to evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of park operations and the potential cost and benefits of privatizing or out-sourcing the operations of state parks. Our employees are nervous about the parks being privatized so we are doing our very best to assure them we are doing everything we can to work it out. There was discussion regarding the money that could be generated from a hunt on Antelope Island. This subject will be discussed later today. We were given the message to reduce our dependency on general funds. State parks all around the nation have been a target of reductions. They have lost all or major parts of their general fund. We have created a self-sufficiency team to address these types of issues. The goal is to figure out what we look like with \$4.5 or 5 million dollars of general fund, rather than \$10 million, and still meet our mission. Another key strategy is business plan development. We have been working on this for a few years and have developed a simplified business plan template. We have also developed a new enterprise/enhancement program. DNR Deputy Director Darin Bird complimented Director Tullius on the way she is handling the budget cuts and how she is handling the "new normal."

Board Member Bill Bleak noted that we should be able to tell legislators that we have looked at all revenue enhancement possibilities. He feels as though legislators are going to hold the hunt at Antelope Island over our heads in regards to making revenue. There will be some discussion later today regarding this issue. Board Member Joe Hull met with Senator Stowell regarding budget cuts. Senator Butters intimidated some legislators when he brought up the issue of privatization. Board Member Lois Bulloch said she also spoke with Representative Mike Noel who is adamant about using funds from a hunt on Antelope Island to assist with the general fund reduction. Vice-Chair Ott mentioned that Friends groups at individual parks are helping to bring in funds to the parks, such as Escalante and Antelope Island state parks. We have seven Friends groups and also a statewide Friends group. We are attempting to set up more groups at more parks.

Director Tullius said we also need build our advocacy. We are asking the region and park managers attend county and other area meetings and make presentations. We are going to build a tool kit for each park manager that will include statistics for their individual park. Board Member Hull asked that the board member's contact information be included in that so the county commissioners can contact them.

We did not run major legislation this year. We only ran minor OHV and golf rules, and a golf surcharge change to a percentage rather than a dollar amount. That golf surcharge goes back into the golf courses. We added a member from the National Park Service to the Recreational Trails Advisory Council. We also became a member of the Heber Valley Historic Railroad Authority that runs through Wasatch Mountain State Park. Goblin Valley and Green River state parks' highways are now included in the highway legislation.

Statewide Services Deputy Director Karen Krieger addressed the board. She is very excited about her new position. She will stay involved in Heritage Resources, and also be involved with

Communications and Marketing, Volunteers and Friends groups, Reservations, and also work on advocacy. Her main goal is to help staff be successful with their jobs. She is also working very hard with the team to work towards the goals of sustainability. There are many challenges, but she looks forward to the opportunities.

Deputy Director Krieger has been going around to the region meetings to let them know her expectations and goals.

The biggest challenge for her right now is the new reservation system. There are issues with the old reservation system moving into the new system and also with the state agency assisting with the change. This Friday the LDS Church Museum is opening a new exhibition that includes all of our Utah pottery from This is The Place. We hope to also put new exhibits in the state capitol. Our Rockin' Utah programs have started. These programs will help our visitors access recreation resources. The library pass program has been continued this year, with more libraries becoming involved. There were several volunteer events held recently. Photographs were passed around showing some of the events.

Operations Acting Director Fred Hayes addressed the board. He looks forward to working with the board. He is excited to be involved in State Parks right now. He has been attending the region meetings to try to let them know that we can work through the challenges. We are going to re-focus our efforts on customer service. We want the communities in which our parks reside to realize they can't imagine life without state parks.

Chair Bentley thanked both of the new deputy directors.

### **This Is the Place Heritage Park**

Chair Bentley introduced Mr. Ellis Ivory and Matt Dahl from This Is the Place Heritage Park and invited them to make their presentation. Mr. Ivory reviewed what has happened at the park since 1998 when This Is the Place Foundation was established. The reason for its establishment was to meet the unique challenges that came with this particular park. This was following the big expansion in preparation for the 1996 centennial and the 1997 sesquicentennial celebrations. During that period, about \$20 million in private funding was put into the park, in buildings and improvements to host the celebrations. Their concern after the expansion was the cost of maintaining and operating the facility. The answer was to create a foundation in hopes of securing private funding to move forward. The contract with the State was that \$800,000 be provided to the park each year, but it had to be appropriated by the Legislature. This has happened with the exception of two or three years after the 9/11 problems when they were cut back to \$700,000. In 2006, the foundation board appealed to the Legislature for \$2.8 million for the deficits they had run into. They were granted \$2 million.

There is \$900,000 in a fund that was earmarked for development of an event center by Mr. Perkins, a donor. With that in mind, Mr. Ivory was appointed chair at that time to get the park going again and operating efficiently. The annual costs at that time were about \$3 million cash costs and the earned revenue in 2006 was about \$350,000. Four years later, they have steadily increased the earned revenue, but also have aggressively raised private funds. They have raised \$8.3 million from private sources. This is why they have been able to stay in the black without using the endowment funds. The total private giving last year was only \$1.2 million. Mr. Ivory and Mr. Dahl made a trip to Williamsburg and Jamestown to see how they run their operation. In 2006, when they first looked at the situation, they realized they needed to increase their earned revenue. The guideline for this type of heritage park is that they need to get one-third from earned revenue, one-third from private donors, and one-third from public. They are short on public and private, but they have been able to make up the difference with earned revenue. Their earned revenue for last year was about \$1 million, so they are up from the \$350,000 in 2006. Back in 2006, they withdrew the proposal for the ARUP lease, which would have been \$400,000 plus an inflation index for fifty years. They withdrew this due to the public outcry. They were also looking at the idea of an event center. This wasn't pursued at the time because the full focus was put on the ARUP land lease. They have recognized there are two needs—one to go for income and the other to facilitate the programming. Mr. Ivory asked Mr. Dahl to explain the programming side and bring the board up-to-

date on what they have done operationally to meet their challenges. Mr. Ivory also said Mr. Dahl is a great asset to the park.

Mr. Dahl said they wanted to make their programming more educational, more entertaining, and more accessible. He said they have reached these goals. The biggest change in the park was the train that was added to the park for accessibility. There were 46 buildings at the time, but only about twelve to fourteen of them were open at any given time. They decided to open all buildings. They have also increased the time period they're open, as they were only open from Memorial Day to Labor Day. At this time, there are only two days per year that the park is not open to the general public (Christmas and New Year's). They have increased attendance from 50,000 in 2006; 129,000 in 2007; 197,000 in 2008; and last year attendance was 239,672. In addition to this, they have been listening to everybody and deciding the next steps. They have developed pods in order to accommodate the number of visitors they have at any given time. There was a junk pile at the park for the last 30 or 40 years, which has now been taken care of and there will be five acres of land that will be available for the Mountain Man Rendezvous and other activities. There is also the Brigham Young farmhouse. This building was closed for five years prior to Mr. Ivory and Mr. Dahl becoming involved with the park. They made improvements to this building so they could open it. They anticipate increasing the Brigham Young pod by 2011. They would also like to turn the Brigham Young home into a museum so that visitors are able to get hands-on experiences. There is another junk pile on the property that is being cleaned up through a contract with Reynolds Brothers Construction. They will use this as a staging area and bring in loads of dirt that will remain there to be used for the Mormon Battalion site. Additionally, they will level some of the alfalfa fields so they can be used for events. They are incorporating a trail system in this area to attach to other trails.

Mr. Ivory referred to a map of the area where the proposed building would be placed. The building would be used for corporate meetings, family reunions, receptions, among other events. It will also serve as a facility for programming and a shelter from weather. Mr. Ivory believes the building could generate approximately \$300,000 per year. Over the last nine months, they have held several meetings with the board and executive committee, three different meetings with the Department of Natural Resources leadership, the neighborhood, etc. Mr. Ivory presented a drawing of the building, but it is not the final product. After meeting with the neighborhood, he feels they can do a better job with the building material. This building will be a little bit smaller than the bowery, which can seat about 400 people. The building will need to have temperature control, convenient parking, sound and visual equipment, adequate restrooms and storage. It will also need a serving kitchen for catering. The outside building materials will be very important; they are looking at rock, timber, and siding. They wanted to use metal for roofing, but are looking into a new product that looks like shingles. They plan to buffer the building with a berm, as requested by the neighborhood. They are willing to meet with the neighbors to discuss this over the next month or so to hear their concerns. The entire building would be built with private funds and construction will not begin until the money is in the bank. The construction time would be nine or 10 months. Mr. Ivory said their board has approved the plan. Mr. Ivory said he loves this park and would do nothing, but try to make it better. He said this building is a very important element in making the park work.

Board Member Bill Bleak said one of the concerns in the neighborhood is the traffic flow. Mr. Ivory said they have looked at a couple of different possibilities to alleviate problems. They are improving the road along the parking area.

Chair Bentley invited the visitors to make comments.

Brian Jensen, a trustee from the Sunnyside Association, addressed the board. Mr. Jensen has met with Matt and Ellis individually and worked with them on private donations. He said their association would like to support the park; they just want the park to maintain its integrity. Their concern is the appearance of the building. There are many members of the neighborhood that feel the building should have a pioneer feeling to it. They feel the building needs to serve the purpose, but would also like the outside to reflect pioneer heritage. Mr. Ivory commented that he feels it is important to mention that when they went to Williamsburg and Jamestown, they noticed that large buildings are mixed within the community that are functional and modern, with meeting rooms, hotel rooms, restaurants, etc. The

buildings have some style and/or construction elements of the time period. He would like to go through and look at all of the building elements. He has offered to meet with anybody that would like to discuss possibilities. Mr. Ivory is committed to having a building that everybody agrees to. Mr. Dahl said that their idea at the entry is to have the gardens flow into the experimental farm areas. Board Member Lois Bulloch mentioned the siding used at the Frontier Homestead State Park Museum, which may be a possibility for them to review.

George Stapleford, a part-time employee at the park and who has been associated with the park for the about seven years, addressed the board. He has a lot of admiration for what has happened at the park. His concern is the visual nature of the new building. He urged that the new building needs integrity and that historical reference be used wherever possible. He said there are many materials that can be used to make it look historical. He feels this is a really fine project.

Brian Jensen suggested there is real community interest in the park, as shown by the donations that have been made, but they do want to maintain the integrity. He feels it would encourage more participation from the neighborhood. He thanked Mr. Ivory and Mr. Dahl for recognizing that. Board Member Jaren Davis asked Mr. Jensen if the materials they are talking about using are acceptable. There was discussion regarding what types of buildings would be acceptable to the community.

Board Member Irene Hansen thanked Mr. Ivory for what he has done at the park over the last few years. She feels without his efforts, we may be looking at a shattered park. She feels the park is now a treasure and a timepiece to the people of Utah. She feels Mr. Ivory is one of Utah's "true treasures."

**MR. JAREN DAVIS MADE A MOTION THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE THIS IS THE PLACE HERITAGE PARK BUILDING ADDITION AND AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO WORK WITH THE COMMUNITY IN MAKING THE BUILDING'S LOOK MEET THE NEEDS OF BOTH THE PARK AND THE RESIDENTS. MR. BILL BLEAK SECONDED THE MOTION. MR. ELI ANDERSON ASKED IF THERE COULD BE A BASEMENT PUT IN THE BUILDING FOR A FUTURE MUSEUM AREA OR BANQUET HALL FOR BIG CROWDS. MR. IVORY SAID THIS REQUEST IS NOT FEASIBLE OR COST-EFFECTIVE. MR. BILL BLEAK WANTED TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT THE NEIGHBORHOOD HAS INPUT ON THE DESIGN OF THE BUILDING AND THEY ARE CONTENT WITH THE DESIGN OF THE BUILDING. MR. IVORY SAID THEY WOULD SUBMIT THE FINAL BID AND DFCM WILL BE OVERSEEING THE PROJECT. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WILL HAVE THE FINAL APPROVAL. MR. JAREN DAVIS COMMENTED THAT THERE IS A SENSE OF REAL LOVE FROM THE COMMUNITY AND ALSO FROM MR. IVORY AND THE PARK. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **Marketing Update**

Chair Bentley asked Ms. Deena Loyola to give her update on communications and marketing. Deena pointed out some of the work that her team has done. She listed the staff members who work in her group and noted their responsibilities. One of the biggest changes in marketing is our new website. We now have access to make changes and/or update information immediately. There is also online OHV/PWC education now. They are working on online event registration for events held at the parks. We now have a presence on Facebook and Twitter. We are the only state park system in the nation with an iPhone application, which has been widely used (downloaded 1700 times). The application includes our Field Guide. They are working on an iPhone update that link to the current events website. We are also moving toward more videos on the website. We have purchased five video cameras, one is kept at each region office. The parks are able to use those to make videos to be loaded onto You Tube. We have several publications that are designed in our office and they are all available on the website. They are including links to concessions, park opportunities, tourism entities, and also campground maps. All of the campground maps have been updated. They work very closely with the parks to get their input for the brochures. Deena showed the board members some of the new brochures and other publications they

have designed. They also handle all of the media relations. There is an emergency notification process in place that works very well. We have good relationships with the local media. They are very limited on the funding for advertising and promotion. A few years ago the State Office of Tourism received a legislative appropriation for advertising out of state. We weren't eligible for the funding, but the counties are. Therefore, we partner with the counties for several projects. There is a small amount of money available for golf marketing, which Jim Harland leads. Deputy Director Krieger mentioned that Deena and her staff do a great job with public relations. Deena asked the board members to let her know if they see opportunities in their area to partner or if a park needs more attention.

### **Recreational Trails Advisory Council Member Approval**

Deputy Director Hayes reviewed the composition of the Recreational Trails Advisory Council. Ms. Helene Leibman's three-year term has expired. We have the option of extending a second and final three-year term to her. Ms. Leibman is interested in serving another three-year term, so we would like to ask the board for their approval to do this.

**MS. LOIS BULLOCH MADE A MOTION THAT THE BOARD APPROVE HELENE LEIBMAN TO A SECOND AND FINAL THREE-YEAR TERM ON THE UTAH RECREATIONAL TRAILS ADVISORY COUNCIL AS THE HIKING REPRESENTATIVE. MR. GLENN GREENHALGH SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **Boating Advisory Council Member Approval**

Deputy Director Hayes expressed to the board how important the advisory councils are to our organization. They provide input that is vital to us. There are three vacant positions on the Boating Advisory Council. The first vacancy is the Outfitting Company representative and we ask that Tim Gaylord be approved to fill this position. The second vacancy is the Watersports position and we ask that Hank Cobb be approved to fill this position. The third vacancy is the Anglers position and we ask that Raymond Schelbie be approved to fill this position. There is background information on each person included in the board packet.

**MR. GLENN GREENHALGH MADE A MOTION THAT THE BOARD APPROVE TIM GAYLORD AS THE OUTFITTING REPRESENTATIVE, HANK COBB AS THE WATERSPORTS REPRESENTATIVE, AND RAYMOND SCHELBIE AS THE ANGLERS REPRESENTATIVE ON THE BOATING ADVISORY COUNCIL. MR. ELI ANDERSON SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **Boating Rule Changes**

Deputy Director Hayes reviewed the proposed boating rule changes and the reason for the requested changes. There was discussion regarding what the changes cover.

**MR. JOE HULL MADE A MOTION THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE CHANGES TO BOATING RULES 651-206 AND 651-215-9 AND 10 AS PRESENTED. MR. BILL BLEAK SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **Board Member Updates**

Chair Bentley asked board members to review what they have been doing with regards to the parks in their areas.

Board Member Irene Hansen mentioned that she met with Tim Smith, who is the new region manager for some of the parks in her area. She is excited about the plans for these parks. She has met

Park Manager Mike Nealley at Starvation. She discussed the community event that is held at Starvation each year. She said they will be doing some fundraising events for Starvation. She has also been to the Field House and is excited about the events that are happening there. She said they are talking about bringing private businesses in to meet with the parks in the community to work on some events and activities that would increase revenue to their area.

Mr. Glenn Greenhalgh has attended the RMP meetings at Territorial. He mentioned the county commission, the new mayor, and other local officials are very impressed with what has been happening at Territorial. Everybody has commended Carl Camp for the work that he has done to keep that park going and how positive it is.

### **Antelope Island State Park Hunting**

Chair Bentley welcomed Department of Natural Resources Director Mike Styler. Director Styler thanked board members for their friendship. He also mentioned that Carl Camp from Territorial led a community effort to help restore an old adobe fort near Fort Deseret last weekend. Director Styler said Mr. Camp did a great job with that event.

Director Styler talked about the budget cuts that were mandated during the legislative session this year. He said we have had about a 40% cut over the last few years. He reviewed the history of hunting on Antelope Island and how the intent language was presented and passed during the legislative session this year. The intent language was passed by the committee; however, it wasn't unanimous. It was then taken to the Executive Appropriations Committee. He said the intent language has been discussed among the entire legislature. The Wildlife Board has to make a rule change and a copy of the proposed rule change was given to the board members. The purpose of their proposed rule is to provide the standards and procedures for issuing special Antelope Island State Park conservation permits for big horn sheep and mule deer. They felt the vehicle that would work best to fulfill the legislative intent language would be making this a conservation rule. That means we would be able to keep the money from any proceeds of the sales. It defines procedures for how revenue derived from conservation permits would be distributed and it complies with the intent language contained in House Bill 3 as it was debated. Director Styler read the intent language. When Parks and Wildlife saw this passed the final night and the Governor signed the bill, in Director Styler's mind, that ended the debate. Intent language is not statute, but Director feels that is a direct request from the Legislature. Wildlife and Parks have been discussing a rule that would satisfy this. The benefits of the rule change include: 1) It should raise at least \$200,000 or more to benefit wildlife management and habitat on Antelope Island; 2) It does provide hunting opportunities for wildlife species at the park as expressed by the Legislature. The provisions include: 1) One special conservation permit for mule deer and one permit for big horn sheep would be designated for marketing; 2) The board must authorize the hunt for species on Antelope Island; 3) The State Parks Board would have to authorize a hunt on a state park before this rule would function. That is why this rule will go through the Wildlife Regional Advisory Councils over the next month; 4) These permits would be issued for just one year because intent language is only good for one year; 5) The special Antelope Island State Park conservation permits are outside of normal conservation permit programs so that is why it needs to be discussed with the public. What Director Styler envisions at this time is that the permits would be marketed at the February Wildlife convention by the conservation group selected by the Wildlife Board. This is probably the wisest way to do it because they bring in the big money and they do a lot of behind the scenes marketing. Because they do a lot of the work, the conservation groups normally keep 10% of the funds raised from marketing the permits, so that is part of the proposal. The Division of Wildlife Resources and the Division of State Parks would enter into a cooperative agreement to coordinate the details of the hunt on Antelope Island, just as they do with the bison hunt. DWR will forward all funds received from the marketing permits to the Division of State Parks according to the cooperative agreement between the agencies. He sees this as an opportunity to renew the resource for wildlife at Antelope Island. Any public hunting permits would be provided to hunters through the Division's big game drawing. Provided the agreements are finalized between State Parks and Recreation and the Division of Wildlife Resources, these permits could be approved by the Wildlife Board in December 2010. The public draw permits would be issued through the 2011 big game draw and the

conservation permits would be marketed at the February 2011 wildlife convention. What has been discussed is one conservation permit for deer and one public tag for deer, and the same for the sheep.

Director Styler is not asking for a decision today, but he would like the board members to think about what is being proposed. He feels this is a one-year experience and we can make it successful.

Chair Bentley mentioned that the intent language noted a \$200,000 max, yet in the proposal Director Styler is talking about "all monies." Director Styler said if more than \$200,000 is raised, he would go to the Legislature with a supplemental request to spend the additional money raised. Director Styler agrees with this. Chair Bentley noted that all of the work, effort, and planning that has gone into the wildlife management plan by the experts doesn't seem to matter due to the economic factors. He's nervous that it is now about money because of the budget cuts.

Vice-Chair Marty Ott thanked Director Styler for not expecting a decision to be made today. He would like to get the board members together to discuss this amongst themselves.

Board Member Joe Hull voiced his support for what Director Styler mentioned about the legislature and how the legislators operate. Ms. Lois Bulloch mentioned that she was in a coordinating council meeting yesterday. She said Representative Noel reported on the legislative session and he didn't mention anything about Antelope Island so she asked him what his feelings were after the meeting. He told her that Parks needed to be willing to make some concessions to make some income through state parks through that method, or they could take care of it in another way. She felt that comment was a threat. She also said this board was concerned about hunting on the island, so they asked that a biologic study be conducted, which was done. The committee came back and said hunting was a viable option for managing the herd.

Vice-Chair Ott said he feels this has something to do with the authority and autonomy of a policy making board. As he sees it, one of the reasons for a board is to minimize meddling of the legislature. It provides some level of stability over time. He feels that is one of the concerns of this board now. We know there are risks in saying this is the board's decision. He feels there is a possibility of some vindictiveness. We have done a lot to get where we're at with the policies that we have. Director Styler said the ultimate policy making board is the legislature. Mr. Joe Hull's concern is that you get vindictive legislators that don't like the attitude of a policy board and change this to an advisory board. Mr. Bill Bleak feels the legislators are representatives of the citizens of the state of Utah. He said many studies have been completed and those studies show that the citizens are opposed to the hunt on Antelope Island. Intent language is in place and the proposed rule is what needs to be agreed upon. Our board would be allowing hunters on the island and the Wildlife Board would approve the actual hunt.

Mr. Jaren Davis suggested we look at alternatives to hunting to raise money if the Legislature's intent is for us to generate more income. He suggested one we look at is the vortex opportunity and bring more tourism to Antelope Island. Chair Bentley feels the opportunities at Antelope Island are amazing. He feels the money is just the way to talk the Parks board into approving the hunt and satisfies the greater desire of hunting. Vice-Chair Ott suggested we listen to the Davis County members before a decision is made. Chair Bentley asked Director Styler about the RAC meetings that are being held. Director Styler said there are RAC meetings scheduled through May. Ms. Irene Hansen asked to be notified when these meetings are. Wendy will send the board members a schedule of the meetings. Chair Bentley thanked Director Styler for his presentation.

Chair Bentley introduced Barbara Riddle from the Friends of Antelope Island. Ms. Riddle thanked the board members for including her on the board agenda. She is here to discuss Antelope Island issues. She has colleagues with her today and they are all very passionate about Antelope Island. She mentioned there are many different activities on Antelope Island, but feels the biggest thing is the wildlife viewing. She talked about the legislative session and how the intent language came to be. She said the Davis County commissioners and the legislators from that area are totally opposed to hunting on Antelope Island. She doesn't feel like the public process happened like it has in the past. The public has always stepped out front and said they don't support hunting on Antelope Island. The Davis Area



Convention and Visitors Bureau markets their county and the biggest gem they have is Antelope Island. Ms. Riddle passed around some brochures that Davis County had printed that include Antelope Island. She discussed the many benefits of Antelope Island and the different audiences they reach through advertising. Ms. Riddle was asked by Ms. Lois Bulloch on how it would affect Antelope Island if one deer and one sheep were hunted. Ms. Riddle said there are trophy-sized animals on the island and those are the animals that will be hunted, the biggest, the best and the most showy.

Mr. Dave Hardman, Ogden Weber Chamber of Commerce President/CEO, addressed board members. He said their chamber has now been branded as the outdoor recreation mecca of the western United States, as well as being recognized for creating an incredible atmosphere in place to live, work, and play. They are the second most livable community in the United States. They are receiving a lot of notoriety about a lot of things. Their legislative committee meets every Tuesday during the legislative session to discuss bills and other issues. They attend the legislative session every Friday to lobby their bills. They do not support additional hunting on Antelope Island because they don't feel it's necessary. Antelope Island is a very important place to invite the world to see.

Mr. Jim Smith, Davis Chamber of Commerce President/CEO, addressed the board members. He said in Davis County, tourism is critical. They have taken a fairly strong position against hunting on Antelope Island. He said wildlife is a big part of Utah tourism. The business community and citizens in Davis County are strongly opposed to hunting on Antelope Island.

Ms. Irene Hansen said she appreciates the business community voicing their opinion in Davis County. Ms. Riddle mentioned that the revenue for Davis County has increased due to the events that are being held on Antelope Island. She was asked by Ms. Hansen what her concerns are with hunting. Ms. Riddle said she sees it as a slap in the face to the local community that has expressed interest in the wildlife on Antelope Island. Mr. Smith was commended for his passion about Antelope Island. Mr. Bill Bleak mentioned that big horn sheep hunting is allowed around the state of Utah. It's not that we're opposed to hunting, just big horn sheep on Antelope Island. Ms. Riddle said the education and understanding of Antelope Island is growing.

Terry Smedley is a board member of the Friends of Antelope Island. He passed out a copy of a letter from Rick Mayfield to Chair Bentley. Mr. Mayfield was part of the group that saved Hill Air Force Base. He would like to save Antelope Island as an animal preserve. He asked the board to say no to this idea of gaining income. He says they will find other ways of raising money. He feels that hunting will impact how the animals interact with the public and it will also change the way the animals get along with one another. Ms. Bulloch asked about the comment made in the letter, ". . . I find it very frustrating that he [Mr. Styler] can compel state parks staff to refrain from speaking on this issue unless they agree with him." Director Styler said he finds this very serious.

Mr. Vaughn Jacobsen, representative of Friends of Antelope Island, addressed the board members, as a board member of the Friends of Antelope Island, as a past chair of the Davis County Chamber, and the current chairman of the Antelope Island Stampede. He said they have held the stampede as an alternative source of revenue for Antelope Island. He feels it is held to promote the island responsibly. He said the Friends of Antelope Island is not a political group, they are community minded. They want to promote the best use of Antelope Island. They feel like Antelope Island is one-of-a-kind and the management of the park is working well. They feel the well thought-out, professional plan as assigned by the state management plan of the island should go forward. That well thought-out study should be allowed to work. There are some that have labeled the hunting on the island as a one-year experiment and they disagree with that whole heartedly and don't feel like it's in the best interest of the citizens of Utah. They ask the board to postpone the expansion of hunting on the island. They don't want money to rule the state and to accept what the citizens of Utah say. They would like to be able to promote Antelope Island responsibly.

Ms. Barbara Riddle thanked the State Parks Board for allowing their group to make a presentation today. She reiterated the great working relationship they have with State Parks.

Mr. Eli Anderson asked about the causeway fee and was told it is a \$2.00 fee. The park collects that and returns it to the county for maintenance. He asked if the money from the causeway fee could be used to purchase the permits to stop hunting on Antelope Island. This money has been used to maintain that road and also to fund a person to staff the entrance station. Ms. Riddle said she will ask that question. He is asking for other options to raise the \$200,000 included in the intent language. Chair Bentley feels they are talking principle rather than a dollar amount.

Director Styler noted that biology and science tells us that hunting is a very healthy management tool that should be used. He said the biologists have told this board that hunting is needed on Antelope Island. Ms. Riddle said she feels it is not being used as a last resort, but more about the money it would raise.

### **Sand Hollow State Park RMP Approval**

Planning Coordinator Jamie Dalton reviewed the process that they went through for the Sand Hollow State Park Resource Management Plan. A PDF file was emailed to the board members last month for their review. There were some public comments received and they were addressed and reviewed. Mr. Dalton complimented his predecessor Rock Smith and Edie Trimmer for their work on the plan. He also thanked Board Member Lois Bulloch for her involvement in the process. Ms. Bulloch said she appreciated being on the team and said the process went very well. Mr. Dalton introduced Ms. Laura Melling, Sand Hollow State Park Manager. Ms. Melling reviewed the history and the highlights of Sand Hollow State Park. She mentioned the Ironman Triathlon was held at Sand Hollow State Park last weekend. It was a very successful event and went very well. Chair Bentley commended Ms. Melling for the great job she did with this event. She said they are looking into holding a Sand Hollow marathon. Mr. Dalton mentioned that a business plan is being completed for Sand Hollow State Park also.

**MS. LOIS BULLOCH MADE A MOTION THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE SAND HOLLOW STATE PARK RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN AS PRESENTED. MR. BILL BLEAK SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **Utah Boating Program Strategic Plan Approval**

Planning Coordinator Jamie Dalton reviewed the process they went through for the Utah Boating Program Strategic Plan. A PDF file was emailed to the board members last month. Mr. Dalton asked if the board members had any questions on the plan presented. He noted that the Boating Advisory Council has reviewed and approved this plan.

**MR. ELI ANDERSON MADE A MOTION THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE UTAH BOATING PROGRAM STRATEGIC PLAN AS PRESENTED. MR. JOE HULL SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **Board Member Updates, Continued**

Board Member Eli Anderson said the water level at Willard Bay looked good this morning. He also mentioned that he saw the billboards for Territorial and thought it was a really good idea.

Vice-Chair Marty Ott has visited Kodachrome and Coral Pink a few times. He said visitation is picking up. He said everything is going very well in his area.

Lois Bulloch said she has been visiting the parks in her area. She has been taking a regular tour with the region manager. She attended the Southwest Region meeting and she is amazed at the commitment from the park employees, they are trying to make the best out of a bad situation. She has been involved with the Sand Hollow RMP and is impressed with the process. She attended the Frontier Homestead dedication of the sawmill. She said it was a wonderful activity, even though the sawmill wouldn't work. The community is helping to provide funds for state parks, as evidenced by SUU being involved with the event at Frontier Homestead.

Chair Bentley said he agrees with Ms. Bulloch about the RMP process. Employees do a great job with them.

Mr. Joe Hull said he hasn't visited East Canyon yet this year. He said he goes to Antelope Island regularly, but hasn't seen a bighorn sheep there yet. He asked a name has been chosen for Anasazi yet. Ms. Krieger said there have been some issues with the tribes. Mr. Hull talked about his visit with Region Manager Tim Smith and the Hopi tribe.

Mr. Jaren Davis said he hasn't been able to visit the parks, but he will improve.

### **Other Business**

Director Tullius thanked board members for their service. The discussion regarding hunting on Antelope Island was very difficult today. She had a conversation with Steve Bates earlier today and he is struggling with this. He says the completed study showed they need a mule deer hunt, but not for bighorn sheep. Vice-Chair Ott feels it is important to remind ourselves that we have a wildlife hunting policy that has to do only with bighorn. The board's direction to staff was to come back with a plan for the deer later this year. We all heard Wildlife say that we are not there with the numbers for bighorn sheep yet, but we could be in a couple of years. The unfortunate thing is that money is tight right now. Vice-Chair Marty Ott doesn't feel like that is the case. He feels like a small group is taking advantage of it. He suggested that we have an agenda item for the next meeting for each individual board member to share their view of what it is we're talking about and why, and what the resolution could be. He would appreciate knowing what his fellow board members think about this issue. Mr. Jaren Davis said it would be helpful to know what the biologists feel the solution is. It was mentioned that they have done this in previous meetings. Vice-Chair Ott said something that hasn't been considered by the wildlife managers is introducing, in a very controlled way, large predators such as cougars on Antelope Island. It would change the dynamic entirely of the wildlife population there. That is a component of the wildlife mix that is absent right now. If just two collared cougars were released, and their whereabouts known at any given time, it would change the wildlife ratio. Mr. Eli Anderson said this would be absolutely dangerous to the public. Vice-Chair Ott said he realizes this, but just mentioned it because it hasn't been considered. Ms. Bulloch feels like that would be disastrous to any type of herd. Vice-Chair Ott said if they were collared, you could take them out anytime you wanted.

### **Upcoming Board Meeting**

The next scheduled meeting will be held on August 5, 2010, at the DNR building. There may be a special meeting held sometime in June.

**MS. IRENE HANSEN 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 MARTY OTT SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**MR. JOE HULL MADE A MOTION THAT THE STATE PARKS BOARD MEETING BE ADJOURNED.**