**BOARD OF UTAH STATE PARKS AND RECREATION MEETING**

**TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL**

**August 5, 2015**

**Present:**

Irene Hansen Jaren Davis Bob Murri

 Doug Thompson Cory Cram Kimberly Schappert

 Ryan Starks Kevin Christensen Fred Hayes

 Susan Zarekarizi Chris Haller Wendy Wack

**Excused:**

Tom Guinney Jeff Rasmussen

 Board Chair Irene Hansen welcomed everybody and thanked everybody for taking the time to participate in this telephone call. She asked for everybody to give their names as participating in the telephone call.

**Approval of Agenda**

Chair Hansen asked board members for approval of the board agenda

**MR. BOB MURRI MADE A MOTION THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE STATE PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD AGENDA AS PRESENTED. MR. CORY CRAM SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant Approval**

Chair Hansen asked Lands and Water Conservation Coordinator Susan Zarekarizi to present the grant approvals. Ms. Zarekarizi reviewed the proposed grants that she is asking the Board to approve. The first grant request is from Holladay City. The second grant request is from Logan City. Ms. Zarekarizi mentioned that we have not yet received the letter from the National Park Service, but said it will be sent soon.

**MS. KIMBERLY SCHAPPERT MADE A MOTION THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND GRANTS AS PRESENTED. MR. BOB MURRI SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**FY-16 OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE (OHV) FISCAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM APPROVAL**

Chair Hansen asked OHV Program Coordinator Chris Haller to present the grant applications that he is asking for approval. Mr. Haller reviewed the two state OHV grants; the first being from Millard County for trails and the second being from Iron County for kiosks at trailheads. Ms. Schappert asked about sign vandalism on the trails. Mr. Haller said they have been working with other agencies to try to reduce the vandalism. Ms. Schappert recommended placing American flag stickers on signs to reduce vandalism. Mr. Cory Cram asked about the trends with OHV trends with the recession over the last couple of years. Mr. Haller said we did have a slight dip in registration during the recession, but not anything that we’re concerned about. He said there has been an increase in side-by-side vehicles and feels we will continue to see an increase. In addition, we have seen a slight increase in non-resident permits, which indicates a lot of out-of-state visitors coming to the state. Director Hayes mentioned as he has been riding, he has noticed more motorcycles on the trails. Ms. Schappert asked if anybody that lives in a rural area has noticed an increase in the noise level . Director Hayes said this is the first he has heard of this complaint. No other board members have noticed this. She said there have been some issues in Moab.

**MR. RYAN STARKS MADE A MOTION THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE FY-16 OHV FISCAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM GRANTS AS PRESENTED. MR. BOB MURRI SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Chair Hansen said the next board meeting is scheduled for November 3 and 4, 2015.

Director Fred Hayes reminded everybody of our social gathering next week, August 13, 2015, at the Starvation group site. Spouses and families are invited.

Director Hayes said our Veteran’s Appreciation Day (August 15, 2015) activities are set; the list is on our website. There are some great activities planned. He said is has been generally well received. Mr. Bob Murri thanked all those that have worked on these events and said it looks like there are some really good activities planned. He asked about measuring the success of these events to determine if it should be continued. Director Hayes said the park managers are all looking at the evaluation criteria and we will hear from them how well the events went. Director Hayes said there are still some veterans that feel they are still entitled to the free annual pass.

Director Hayes mentioned that Deputy Director Jeff Rasmussen is at Antelope Island for the launch of the Tour of Utah bicycle race. Two of the five days of the race launch at state parks—Antelope Island and Soldier Hollow. We are in the final selection for a world championship level triathlon that could possibly be held at Sand Hollow. This is great publicity.

Scott Strong, Financial Manager, has wrapped up the reports for the last fiscal year. He sent an e-mail out to all the region and program managers. The message read:

Good Morning All,

Attached is the three year profit and loss summary.  We had another outstanding year - it's amazing to see the continuous increase and improvement.  Overall we were up $906,000 division wide (which is incredible) and 30 parks had a better bottom line this year over last year.

 Director Hayes said we have put together a budget request for nearly $4 million this year for capital improvement to upgrade facilities. He said it is very nice to have that money in the bank. Mr. Ryan Starks said most of the counties are up in their tourism dollars. Mr. Cory Cram said he is proud of what has happened at the Sand Hollow State Park Complex. He also asked for a breakdown of which parks have made a shift from the red to the black. He will generate that information and get it out to the board members. Mr. Cram said he appreciates Director Hayes’ leadership.

 The next meeting is scheduled for November 4and 5, 2015.

 Ms. Schappert asked if the dredging has been completed yet. It has not. DFCM is working on the bid process for this project. It will probably happen in the Fall. Utah Lake and Great Salt Lake Marina will be dredged this year.

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

**MR. BOB MURRI MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.**