



# Colorado State Parks

## Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, September 17, 2009  
Location: Bud Werner Memorial Library  
1289 Lincoln Ave.  
Steamboat Springs, CO 80487

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### Agenda Thursday, September 17, 2009

10:00 a.m.		<b>Call to Order</b>	Lenna Watson, Vice-Chair
	(A)	Agenda Amendments, if necessary	
	(A)	Approval of July 2009 Board Meeting Minutes	
	(I)	Board Member Updates	
10:10 a.m.	(I)	Director's Update	Dean Winstanley
10:40 a.m.	(I)	Financial Update	Steve Cassin
11:00 a.m.	(A)	Capital Construction Projects, Preliminary 5-year Capital Plan	Steve Cassin
11:30 a.m.	(I)	Fee & Regulation Public Outreach Summary	Gary Thorson
11:40 a.m.	(A)	Fee & Regulation Change Proposal	Heather Dugan
12:15 p.m.		<b>Break</b>	
12:30 p.m.	(A)	Staunton Phasing Plan and Open House Approval	Staunton Planning Team
1:15 p.m.	(I)	Market Assessment Study – Corona Research	Kevin Raines
3:15 p.m.		<b>Break</b>	
3:30 p.m.	(I)	Proposed Meeting Calendar for 2010	Mindy Blazer
3:45 p.m.	(A)/(I)	Real Estate Update* *including an executive session pursuant to 24-6-402(3)(a)(I), C.R.S., to discuss the adoption of the Board of Parks and Outdoor Recreation's Property Acquisition Priority Plan, specifically including the review and comment on the Priority Land Acquisition List prepared by the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation.  *including an executive session pursuant to 24-6-402(3)(a)(I), C.R.S., to discuss the purchase of property for public purposes to complete a non-simultaneous exchange involving the Internal Improvements Trust, a trust managed by the State Land Board for the benefit of the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation.	Greg Monroe
4:30 p.m.	(I)	Legal Report* *Discussion of the Parks Board's application to have Barr Lake State Park designated as an 'outside activity area' by the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission.	Tim Monahan
4:45 p.m.		<b>Adjourn</b>	

**In attendance:**

**Board Members:**

Lenna Watson, Secretary/Vice Chair  
Gary Butterworth

Laurie Mathews  
Jim Pribyl

**Division Staff:**

Dean Winstanley, Director	Deb Frazier, Communications Manager
Ken Brink, Assistant Director of Field Ops.	Mindy Blazer, Director's Assistant
Gary Thorson, Assistant Dir., Statewide Prog.	Kurt Mill, Rocky Mountain Region Manager
Steve Cassin, Chief Financial Officer	Heather Dugan, Acting SE Region Manager
Kristi Quintana, High Plains Asst. Manager	John Geerdes, Acting SE Region Asst. Manager
Bob Wiig, Rocky Mtn. Region Asst. Manager	Jason Trujillo, Asst. Chief of Law Enforcement
Scott Babcock, Strategic Planning Manager	Stuart Watada, High Plains Development Office
Rob Billerbeck, Natural Areas Manager	Greg Monroe, Real Estate Program Coordinator
Rob Matt Schulz, Resource Stewardship	Clare Sinacori, Marketing & Public Affairs

**Guests:**

Tim Monahan, Attorney General's Office  
Doug Robotham, EDO Assistant Director  
Adam Orens, Staunton Planning Team

Chad Herd, Staunton Planning Team  
Kevin Raines, Corona Research  
Scott Saunders, Corona Research

## Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 10:18 a.m. by Vice-chair Lenna Watson.

**Agenda Amendments:**

It was discussed that the executive session may be moved up on the agenda as needed so that a quorum is present for the session.

**Approval of the July 2009 Board Meeting Minutes:**

**Motion:** Jim Pribyl  
**Second:** Laurie Mathews  
**Result:** The July 2009 Board meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

**Approval of the August 2009 Work Session Minutes:**

**Motion:** Gary Butterworth  
**Second:** Jim Pribyl  
**Result:** The August 2009 work session minutes were approved unanimously.

**Board Updates:**

- Laurie Mathews advised that the State Trails position announcement has been made and it is the division's goal to get a trails visionary into that position.
- Gary Butterworth attended the Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary public session in Manitou Springs. It was well attended by the division's constituents in general and by State Parks representatives as a whole. Trails was a hot topic, including GOCO's funding of building of new trails, and also maintaining trails. Gary also stated that he wants to make sure that division keeps its eye on the audit. He wants to make sure that at each meeting the board be updated on the audit issues that are still in progress. He would also like an opportunity to identify some core objectives in a discussion about strategic planning.

- Jim Pribyl and Director Winstanley met with Senator Rollie Heath who is the chair of the Long Term Fiscal Stability Committee. They had a conversation about the finances of Colorado State Parks, and the overall fiscal instability of Colorado state government. Jim also attended the State Parks sub-committee of the GOCO Board meeting and they reviewed the five-year capital request that Parks submitted.
- Lenna Watson attended the Natural Areas meeting via teleconference and she advised that the board will be presented a Natural Areas designation approval on Sept. 18.

#### **Director's Update (Director Dean Winstanley):**

- Dean advised that in addition to the meetings that Jim Pribyl mentioned, Dean has met with other constituent groups, other legislators and parks employees. He and Ken Brink met with all the park managers in Routt County with the exception of Stagecoach State Park. He advised there are more Colorado State Parks in Routt County than any other county in the state.
- Dean advised that our next audit update with the Audit Committee is in December 2009.
- Ken Brink provided an update on the dog training areas at Cherry Creek and Chatfield State Parks.
  - The open houses were very well attended.
  - In September 2009 the division is creating a database to organize all the comments.
  - The division may appoint a citizen's advisory panel to help evaluate the comments, user conflicts and natural resource concerns.
  - In November 2009 the management plan discussions will begin and further open houses for January will be planned.
  - Staff will formulate different strategies which would be presented to the public in January 2010.
  - In February 2010 the planning team would work towards presenting a preferred option and would once again go back to the public with perhaps another open house spring 2010.
  - Perhaps have a preferred plan by May of 2010.
  - 970 comments have been coded into the data base. Some common comments are:
    1. Excessive dog waste
    2. Quality water play areas
    3. Unavailability for other off leash areas in the metro area
    4. Users don't believe there are any significant impacts to the environment

#### **Suggestions**

1. Keep it open to all users
2. Keep open for equestrians
3. Majority of users purchased annual passes
4. 10% also mentioned they would be willing to pay additional fees
5. Separate advisory committees for both Chatfield and Cherry Creek.

#### **Financial Update (CFO Steve Cassin):**

- Visitation this summer was strong. July was up 10% over the previous July. August is up about 8%.
- FY 09-10 budget status – The State of Colorado's budget is beyond what revenue projections suggest can be supported so there will be a legislative action in January to further reduce the entire state budget. The Department of Natural resources proposal for Colorado State Parks includes taking a \$2.1 million cut in the general fund to be replaced by \$2.1 million in severance tax. It's a certainty that the division will lose the general fund. It is not certain that the division will get the severance tax dollars.

Because of this, the State Parks Leadership staff will hold a conference call in two weeks to further discuss this and to determine our strategy to address the \$2.1 million cut in the event that severance tax does not pan out.

- Steve advised that discussions have been ongoing with GOCO regarding an interest issue. The division does not get grant money from GOCO up front. It is done on a reimbursement basis. The division spends the money for its projects first and submits to GOCO for reimbursement. There are times when the division does not have the cash to cover the expenditure while it is waiting for reimbursement from GOCO, so the State Treasurer makes a loan to the division and charges interest. GOCO earns interest on their cash, which goes into a separate account. That's the account the treasurer charges the interest to (for State Parks and Division of Wildlife loans on GOCO projects). In 1997 the division, along with the Department of Natural Resources and the Division of Wildlife, entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with GOCO and one of the provisions in that MOU was that when the treasurer had to make a loan to a state agency with insufficient cash when spending money on a GOCO program, they would be charged to GOCO's account, not to the account of the state agency. Sometime in early 2009 GOCO determined to discontinue this practice. They initiated discussions with the State Treasurer's office, with their attorneys and with the Department of Natural Resources. Those discussions are ongoing, and the Division hopes to have a resolution soon.

**Capital Construction Projects, Preliminary 5-year Capital Plan (CFO Steve Cassin):**

- Steve presented the preliminary 5-year capital plan to the board for approval, which included the funding sources for each project.

**Motion:** Gary Butterworth moved that the State Parks Board approve the staff recommendation for FY 10-11 capital projects.

**Second:** Jim Pribyl.

**Result:** The motion passed unanimously.

Due to a timing issue, the Fee and Regulation agenda items were moved to later in the day.

**Staunton Phasing Plan and Open House Approval (Staunton Planning Team):**

- The Staunton State Park Planning Team presented the Alternative and Phasing Plan for Staunton State Park to the board and asked for approval to present the Preferred Alternative to the public.

**Motion:** Laurie Mathews moved that the Colorado State Parks Board authorize the Division and the Staunton Planning Team to present the Preferred Alternative to the public for additional review and comment.

**Second:** Gary Butterworth

**Result:** The motion passed unanimously.

**Market Assessment Study (Staunton Kevin Raines, Corona Research):**

- Kevin Raines and Scott Saunders of Corona Research presented the results of the recent Marketing Assessment Study Corona conducted for Colorado State Parks.

**Real Estate Update (Greg Monroe):**

Tim Monahan from the Attorney General's office asked that, pursuant to 24-6-402(3)(a)(I), C.R.S., the Board go into executive session to discuss the adoption of the Board of Parks and Outdoor Recreation's Property Acquisition Priority Plan, specifically including the review and comment on the Priority Land Acquisition List prepared by the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation. Pursuant to 24-6-402(3)(a)(I), C.R.S., Greg Monroe also asked that the Board go into executive session to discuss the purchase of property for public purposes to complete a non-simultaneous exchange involving the Internal Improvements Trust, a trust managed by the State Land Board for the benefit of the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation.

**Motion:** Jim Pribyl moved that the board go into executive session.

**Second:** Gary Butterworth

**Result:** The motion passed unanimously

The board approved going into executive session and the session commenced at 2:49 p.m.

The board came out of the executive session at 3:40 p.m.

**Motion:** Laure Mathews

**Second:** Jim Pribyl

**Result:** The motion passed unanimously

**Motion:** Jim Pribyl Moved that the Colorado State Parks Board adopt and approve the Property Acquisition Priority Plan, including the Buffer/Inholding Property Acquisition Priority Criteria and the Priority Land Acquisition List, as otherwise reviewed and discussed in executive session; and that the Division Director incorporate comments and input provided by the Executive Director of DNR into the Plan as appropriate; and that the Property Acquisition Priority Criteria be made available for public review, but that the Priority Land Acquisition List be maintained by the Director in a secure file (not otherwise available for public review and disclosure) to protect the public interest in the possible acquisition of these properties. Jim Pribyl also requested that the Division Director periodically report to the Board with regard to implementation of the Plan and update the Board with regard to necessary modifications of the plan.

**Second:** Gary Butterworth

**Result:** The motion passed unanimously.

**Motion:** Laurie Mathews moved that the board approve the list of property acquisition items provided by the State Land Board (SLB) and approve that a letter be drafted to the SLB with the Park's Board decision and asking that some priority be given to the purchase of buffer properties whenever possible and when that is not possible, to give priority to the purchase of commercial properties.

**Second:** Gary Butterworth

**Result:** The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Fee and Regulation Public Outreach Summary (Gary Thorson):**

- Gary presented a brief summary of the 106 comments received regarding the fee and regulation proposed changes. 84 of those were negative. 22 were positive. Some of the common issues were that people felt we should be consistent in charging fees. Walkers and bikers were mentioned several times and it was thought they should be charged an entrance fee. Others made comments that user fees are just like taxes. Many of the comments were related to the boating fees which were increased more significantly.

**Fee and Regulation Proposal (Heather Dugan):**

- Heather Dugan presented all the proposed fee and regulation changes to the board. It was asked that Heather look at the towed vehicle regulation again and re-present it on the September 18 agenda. It was also decided that the final decision on all regulation items would be made at the beginning of the September 18 agenda.

**Proposed Meeting Calendar (Mindy Blazer):**

- The board discussed the proposed 2010 meeting calendar dates and locations. Board members were asked to provide the dates that they are unavailable in 2010 to Mindy Blazer by the end of September 2009.

**Motion:** Jim Pribyl made a motion to recess.

**Second:** Gary Butterworth

**Result:** The motion passed unanimously. The meeting recessed at 4:45 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Bill Kane, Board Chair

11/20/09  
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Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lenna Watson, Board Vice-Chair/Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



**Colorado State Parks**

## **Board Meeting Minutes**

Date: Friday, September 18, 2009  
Location: Bud Werner Memorial Library  
1289 Lincoln Ave.  
Steamboat Springs, CO 80487

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### **Agenda** **Friday, September 18, 2009**

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|-------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| <b>8:30 a.m.</b>  | <b>Call to Order</b>   | Lenna Watson,<br>Vice-Chair |
|                   | (A) Agenda Amendments, if necessary  |                             |
|                   | (A) Consent Agenda   |                             |
|                   | • Barr Lake – Hirsch Agricultural Lease  |                             |
| <b>8:40 a.m.</b>  | (I) Introduction of the Routt County Park Managers and Staff/ Employee Service Award |                             |
| <b>8:50 a.m.</b>  | (I) <b>Public Comment Period</b>   |                             |
| <b>9:05 a.m.</b>  | (I) Colorado Youth Corps Presentation  | Jennifer Freeman            |
| <b>9:20 a.m.</b>  | (A) Policy A-102, Park Management Plan Process, Approval and Review                  | Gary Thorson                |
| <b>9:30 a.m.</b>  | (A) North Sterling Management Plan Approval  | Scott Babcock               |
| <b>9:45 a.m.</b>  | (A) Natural Areas Designation – Shell-Duck Creek                                     | Brian Kurzel                |
| <b>9:55 a.m.</b>  | (I) Aquatic Nuisance Species Update  | Rob Billerbeck              |
| <b>10:05 A.M.</b> | <b>Recess</b>  |                             |
| <b>10:15 a.m.</b> | (I) Tour of Pearl Lake and Steamboat Lake State Parks                                |                             |

#### **In attendance:**

##### **Board Members:**

Lenna Watson, Secretary/Vice Chair  
Gary Butterworth

Jim Pribyl

##### **Division Staff:**

Dean Winstanley, Director  
Ken Brink, Assistant Director of Field Ops.  
Gary Thorson, Assistant Dir., Statewide Prog.  
Steve Cassin, Chief Financial Officer  
Kristi Quintana, High Plains Asst. Manager  
Bob Wiig, Rocky Mtn. Region Asst. Manager  
Scott Babcock, Strategic Planning Manager  
Rob Billerbeck, Natural Areas Manager  
Julie Arington, Steamboat Lake Park Manager

Mindy Blazer, Director's Assistant  
Kurt Mill, Rocky Mountain Region Manager  
Heather Dugan, Acting SE Region Manager  
John Geerdes, Acting SE Region Asst. Manager  
Jason Trujillo, Asst. Chief of Law Enforcement  
Brian Kurzel, Natural Areas Coordinator  
Rob Matt Schulz, Resource Stewardship  
Craig Preston, Stagecoach State Park Manager  
Ron DellaCroce, Yampa State Park Manager

Staff of Steamboat Lake and  
Pearl Lake State Parks

Staff of Stagecoach State Park  
Staff of Yampa State Park

**Guests:**

Tim Monahan, Attorney General's Office  
Carl Bunker, Steamboat Lake Marina

Jennifer Freeman, Colorado Youth Corps  
Rachel Lardy, Colorado Youth Corps

## Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Vice-chair Lenna Watson.

### **Agenda Amendments:**

The Fee and Regulation Proposal decision was added to this day's agenda.

### **Consent Agenda**

**Motion:** Jim Pribyl moved that all items on the consent agenda be approved.

**Second:** Gary Butterworth

**Result:** The motion passed unanimously.

### **Introduction of the Routt County Park Managers and Staff**

Ken, Dean and the park managers introduces the staffs of Routt County Parks.

### **Employee Service Award**

Mark Bourbeau of Steamboat Lake/Pearl Lake State Parks, was presented an employee service award by the Rocky Mountain Region and Staff of Steamboat Lake/Pearl Lake State Parks.

### **Public Comment Period**

- Karl Bunker, Steamboat Lake Marina addressed the board, requesting a concessionaire fee reduction due to revenue loss because of the mountain pine beetle tree removal in the park. Kurt Mill recommended that the board hold off on their decision until the November 2009 Parks Board meeting, which would make Mr. Bunker's payment due January 1, 2009 and that would give time for a fair comparison to be given to show his revenue loss.

### **Fee and Regulation Proposal (Heather Dugan):**

- Heather Dugan presented the final fee and regulation change proposals.

**Motion:** Jim Moved that the State Parks Board approve the adoption of the regulation changes to 100, 101, 700, 701, 704, 705, 708 and 709 as proposed by the Division, along with the associated Basis and Purposes Statements.

**Second:** Gary Butterworth

**Result:** The motion passed unanimously.

### **Colorado Youth Corps Presentation (Jennifer Freeman)**

- Jennifer Freeman of the Colorado Youth Corp gave a brief PowerPoint presentation.
  - Colorado Youth Corps employs and trains youth and young adults on land, water and energy conservation projects.
  - 10 accredited youth corps that will serve 1800 young people in 2009.
  - 53 weeks of work at 25 Colorado State Parks annually – more than 17,000 hours of labor and 1,700 hours of environmental education. State Parks supports

Youth Corps with approximately \$350,000 a year (GOCO base funding, Federal Recreation Trails Project Funding and lottery funding).

- Rachel Lardy, a former Colorado Youth Corps participant spoke briefly about the Youth Corps experience.

#### **Policy A-102, Park Management Plan Process, Approval and Review (Gary Thorson)**

- Gary gave an over view of the policy and the changes. Tim Monahan suggested a change to the “authority” and provided recommended language. The Board submitted that change.
- Revised authority statement “The Parks Board is not specifically required by statute to develop and adopt individual park management plans. However, the Parks Board believes that strong park management plans serve as important planning and budgeting tools for park managers and for use in agency-wide decisions, and that the development and adoption of such plans is consistent with the general duties and powers of the Parks Board as expressed in sections 33-10-106 and 107, C.R.S.

**Motion:** Gary Butterworth moved that the State Parks Board approve the Parks Board Policy A-102 Subject: Park Management Planning, and recommended that the Division Director fully implement the policy within the Division.

**Second:** Jim Pribyl

**Result:** The motion passed unanimously.

#### **North Sterling Park Management Plan**

- Scott Babcock presented the final North Sterling Management Plan for board approval followed by a brief discussion.

**Motion:** Gary Butterworth moved that the Colorado State Parks Board approve the 2009 North Sterling State Park Management Plan.

**Second:** Jim Pribyl

**Result:** The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Natural Areas Designation – Shell-Duck Creek**

- Brian Kurzel presented a Natural Areas designation at Shell-Duck Creek followed by a brief discussion.

**Motion:** Jim Pribyl moved that the Colorado State Parks Board approve the designation of Shell-Duck Creek as a Colorado Natural Area that will be included within the Colorado Natural Areas System.

**Second:** Gary Butterworth

**Result:** The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) update (Rob Billerbeck)**

- Rob Billerbeck gave a brief ANS update followed by a short discussion.

#### **Calendar Change**

- The board discussed changing the November board meeting to a one-day meeting on November 20 somewhere in Summit County.

**Recess and Steamboat and Pearl Lakes Tour**

- Lenna Watson declared the meeting recessed at 10:20 a.m. after which the board members and Division staff toured Steamboat Lake and Pearl Lake State Parks.



Bill Kane, Board Chair



Date

Lenna Watson, Board Vice-Chair/Secretary

Date