



Minutes Colorado State Parks Board

Thursday, October 13
Board Work Session: 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM

Friday, October 14
Board Meeting: 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

**Colorado River State Park
Fruita Visitors Center
595 Highway 340
Fruita, CO
Phone: (970) 858-9188**

THURSDAY, October 13th

3:30 PM

BOARD WORK SESSION

- Welcome to Colorado River State Park
 - Colorado State Parks Leadership Team Update
 - Legislative Update
 - Budget Update
 - Personnel Update
 - Employee Development Seminar
 - Public Outreach and Marketing Update
 - Land/Water/Trails Update
 - * Southeast Region Report
 - * High Plains Region Report
 - * Rocky Mountains Region Report
 - 2006 Park Board Meeting Dates
 - Parks GOCO Representative
 - Board Reports
 - Upcoming Events
 - Roundtable
- Brad Taylor
 - Lyle Laverty
 - Lyle Laverty
 - Elling Myklebust
 - Larry Kramer
 - Larry Kramer
 - Gary Thorson
 - Larry Kramer
 - Michael French
 - David Giger
 - Kurt Mill
 - Larry Kramer
 - Lyle Laverty

Friday, October 14th

PARKS BOARD MEETING

9:30 AM

- (A) – Agenda Amendments, if necessary
- (A) – Approval of August, 2005 Parks Board Meeting Minutes

PUBLIC COMMENTS

9:45 AM

- (A) – Colorado River State Park - Renaming
 - (A) – Hahn’s Peak Water Coalition Waterline Easement
 - (A) – Barr Lake State Park Agricultural Lease
 - (A) – Barr Lake State Park Lease Amendment
 - Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory
 - (A) – Jackson Lake State Park – Donation of Mobile Home
 - (A) – Eldorado Canyon State Park - Lease
 - City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks
- Kurt Mill
 - Kurt Mill
 - David Giger
 - David Giger
 - David Giger
 - David Giger

11:30 PM

ADJOURN

ATTENDANCE

Parks Board Members:

Dr. Tom Ready, Chair
Wade Haerle
Tom Glass

Division Staff:

Lyle Laverty, Director
Tim Pollard, Deputy Executive Director - DNR
Larry Kramer, Deputy Director
Gary Thorson, Deputy Director
Richard Storm, Chief of Law Enforcement
Kurt Mill, Rocky Mountain Region Manager
Bob Wiig, Rocky Mountain Region Assistant Manager
Dave Giger, High Plains Region Manager
Mike French, SE Region Manager
Brad Taylor, Park Manager
Linda Foster, Assistant to the Director's Office

Guests:

Mrs. Margaret Robb
Senator Ron Teck
State Representative Josh Penry
Mesa County Commissioner Tilly Bishop
Rebecca Frank, former DOW Commissioner
Joe Skinner, Attorney-at-law
Tom Kenyon
Pat Gormley
Jack & Judy Ronzio
Bill Robinson
Will Hunter
Jim & Kathy Bowers
Bud Guroch
Janice Ward
Frank & Renay Goodman
Wayne Adamo – Hahn's Peak

MEETING MINUTES

AGENDA AMENDMENTS - None

ADOPTION OF BOARD MINUTES

Adoption of August, 2005 Parks Board Meeting Minutes.

Moved: Wade Haerle

Seconded: Tom Glass

Vote: Unanimous

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Overwhelming support of renaming Colorado River State Park in honor of James Robb was evidenced by the number of attendees and comments made by State Legislators, Community Leaders and friends of James Robb.

Wayne Adamo commented on behalf of the Hahn’s Peak Water Coalition in support of the waterline easement.

ACTION ITEMS

COLORADO RIVER STATE PARK - RENAMING

- Kurt Mill

PURPOSE: To seek Board approval in changing the name of the Colorado River State Park to the James M. Robb Colorado River State Park.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: On May 18th, State Parks was asked to meet with a small group of folks calling itself the Robb Memorial Group. This group developed a goal of naming some feature within the Colorado River State Park after Jim Robb. Jim Robb had been a State Parks Board member representing the Western Part of the State from 1986 until 1996. He had also served as Co-Chair of the Grand Junction/Mesa County Riverfront Commission. Jim had a great deal to do with getting a State Park located along the Colorado River in Grand Junction.

DISCUSSION AND SUMMARY: During the past three months, the Robb Memorial group had several meetings regarding what feature within the Colorado River State Park would be appropriate to name after Jim Robb. The unanimous consensus among the group and confirmed by Jim’s family is to name the entire park after Jim Robb. The group has been given letters of support for the name change from the various Cities and the County, as well as the three State Legislators representing Mesa County.

DIVISION RECOMMENDATION: Staff recognizes the great amount of time and effort that Jim Robb put into his affiliation with Colorado State Parks in general and more specifically the Colorado River State Park. We feel that re-naming the Colorado River State Park to the James M. Robb – Colorado River State Park is very appropriate.

MOTION: “I move that in light of the support that Jim Robb provided for Colorado State Parks and more specifically for the Colorado River State Park, the Board of Parks and Outdoor Recreation does hereby rename the Colorado River State Park to the James M. Robb – Colorado River State Park.”

Moved: Wade Haerle

Seconded: Tom Glass

Vote: Unanimous

October 10, 2005

Dr. Thomas Ready
Colorado State Parks Board
1313 Sherman Street, Suite 618
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Dr. Ready,

Jim Robb was my friend and mentor. So I was delighted to hear that there was interest in honoring Jim in some way at Colorado River State Park, a park he played a role in creating. In fact, I was an early supporter of pursuing ideas on how we might honor and remember Jim.

Then, however, I attended the Parks Board meeting in Pueblo in August, and discovered that a small group of community leaders in Mesa County had decided to rename the entire park – without any dialogue with the Parks Board.

I am dismayed to see how this effort unfolded. While I miss my friend, Jim Robb, this is a State Park, not a Mesa County park. It is not appropriate for a small group – even a group that includes community leaders – to make decisions about state assets, or to develop guidelines around the renaming of parks, without the engagement of the state agency.

Further, this action sets an unacceptable precedence for the Division of Parks that could lead to tremendous conflicts in the years so come.

For this reason, I cannot support this action, and I therefore, respectfully vote “no” on the Action Item to rename Colorado River State Park.

Respectfully,

Antonette DeLauro

Colorado State Parks Board member

HAHN’S PEAK WATER COALITION WATERLINE EASEMENT

- Kurt Mill

PURPOSE: To seek Board approval authorizing the Director of Colorado State Parks to negotiate a waterline easement with the Hahn’s Peak Water Coalition in order to transport water from a spring on the Routt National Forest to homes in the Hahn’s Peak Village.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The Hahn’s Peak Water Coalition approached Park Manager Ken Brink in the summer of 2004 about the possibility of obtaining an easement to install a waterline along a portion of the park’s new Poverty Bar Trail. Several homeowners in the area were working together to provide fresh drinking water to their homes and had obtained a water right to a spring on the National Forest. They also were working with USFS personnel to obtain a Special Use Permit to install a waterline from the springs to the eastern edge of the State Park’s trail corridor. They were meeting with a local landowner and Routt County to obtain legal permission to cross other parcels of land needed to reach their homes. Park Manager Brink responded with a list of necessary requirements. As of August, 2004 State Parks had received all of the requested items listed in the letter. During the Board meeting of September 2004, some additional requirements were requested of the applicant from the Board. Those requested items have been submitted to the Park staff.

DISCUSSION AND SUMMARY: The options available to the Hahn’s Peak Water Coalition to reach their homes with this water are limited. The Poverty Bar Trail corridor will allow the group to supply water to the back of the Hahn’s Peak Village without further disturbance or mitigation costs.

DIVISION RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends that the Board authorize the Director to negotiate and consummate a 30-year easement to cross the Poverty Bar Trail corridor from USFS Road 410 to the gate along 8th Street near the Wayne Adamo residence. The value of the easement along with any conditions the Board feels appropriate regarding the easement will be determined during the negotiations.

MOTION: “I move the Board of Parks and Outdoor Recreation grant the Director the authority to negotiate and consummate a 30-year easement with the Hahn’s Peak Water Coalition for the purposes of a domestic waterline.”

Moved: Tom Glass
Seconded: Wade Haerle
Vote: Unanimous

BARR LAKE STATE PARK AGRICULTURAL LEASE

- David Giger

PURPOSE: To seek Board approval authorizing the Director of Colorado State Parks (CSP) to negotiate and consummate a change in the lease agreement between CSP and Don Hirsch and Joshua Hirsch for the agricultural use of the Bergman property at Barr Lake State Park.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Colorado State Parks purchased the 130-acre Bergman property in November 2000. The property has been leased Don and Joshua Hirsch for raising alfalfa and grazing cattle since January 2001. Four center pivot irrigation sprinklers (included in the sale to CSP) irrigated approximately 85 acres of alfalfa, with another 35 acres grazed as dryland and 10 acres of unusable ground (canals, roads, oil & gas leaseholds). The Central Colorado Water Conservation District required a 50% reduction in amount of water pumped from the well on the property beginning in 2005. This reduction results in 50 acres of irrigated acreage, 40 acres of non-irrigated acreage, and 30 acres of for grazing. It is the desire of Don and Joshua Hirsch and Colorado State Parks to continue leasing the property for this purpose.

DISCUSSION AND SUMMARY: Statue has no current plans to develop or allow public access to the property. Keeping it in agricultural production provides income to CSP, supports the agricultural nature of the area surrounding the park, and promotes proper land management.

Key elements of the lease include:

- Annual rent (based on comparable rates charged by the Land Board) shall be reduced to \$4032 from \$5893, with the lessee entitled to a credit against the rent for expenses paid by lessee which are typically a landlord expense (e.g. capital improvements or repairs).
- Lease term of one year, automatically renewing for up to five additional years, unless terminated by either party.
- The new provision allows the park manager to negotiate with lessee for materials, labor, and equipment to perform needed park maintenance projects on any property of Barr Lake State Park in exchange for cash payments of lease agreement.

DIVISION RECOMMENDATION: The Director has found leasing of this property to be necessary, suitable and proper for parks and outdoor recreation purposes, at Barr Lake State Park. Staff recommends the Board give authorization for the Director to negotiate and consummate the changes to the existing agricultural lease with Don Hirsch and Joshua Hirsch.

MOTION: “I move that the Board of Parks and Outdoor Recreation authorize the Director to negotiate and consummate the changes to the agricultural lease with Don Hirsch and Joshua Hirsch.”

Moved: Wade Haerle
Seconded: Tom Glass
Vote: Unanimous

BARR LAKE STATE PARK LEASE AMENDMENT

- David Giger

PURPOSE: To seek Board approval authorizing a lease amendment to allow the Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory (RMBO) to install and maintain a pre-fabricated storage shed adjacent to the Bruderlin stone house at Barr Lake State Park.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: RMBO entered into a lease agreement with Colorado State Parks in 1998. This lease allows RMBO to use the Bruderlin Stone House as their primary office space and headquarters. RMBO is seeking to improve storage facilities at this building and would like to purchase, install, and maintain a pre-fabricated storage shed near the building. RMBO plans to use the storage shed to store potentially flammable materials (ie: paint, cleaning solvents, chemicals, etc.) away from the building as requested by the local fire department.

DISCUSSION AND SUMMARY: RMBO will pay 100% of the cost of purchasing, installing, and maintaining the storage shed. Barr Lake State Park’s manager will approve final design, color, and placement of the storage shed.

DIVISION RECOMMENDATION: The Barr Lake State Park manager recommends approval of this request based upon the recommendation from the local fire department and provided that RMBO seeks approval from the park manager prior to project completion.

MOTION: “I move that the Board of Parks and Outdoor Recreation authorize a lease amendment to allow the Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory (RMBO) to install and maintain a pre-fabricated storage shed adjacent to the Bruderlin stone house at Barr Lake State Park, based upon park manager’s approval of all details listed above.”

Moved: Tom Glass
Seconded: Wade Haerle
Vote: Unanimous

JACKSON LAKE STATE PARK – DONATION OF MOBILE HOME - David Giger

PURPOSE: To approve the donation of a 1972 mobile home to Jackson Lake State by Andrew Ohri of Broomfield. This home will be used for seasonal ranger housing at the park and will replace an older mobile home in bad condition.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Andrew Ohri is a property owner at the Jackson Lake Property Owners Association, which borders the park on the South. He contacted Park Manager Brad Jackson in July about donating a mobile home to the park. He had been unable to sell it and wanted to build a garage on that site. He had heard that we were looking for a home to replace one currently in use at the park. The mobile home is in good shape and had been well taken care of so it was agreed upon. The home was moved from the lot and brought to the park on September 10, 2005. This will replace a mobile home that is older and would require thousands of dollars to properly repair to make habitable. This older home will be dismantled on site with most of the material being recycled or used by the park. The frame will be left in tact and retro fitted to use as a stage for special events at the park.

Housing for the seasonal rangers is critical at Jackson Lake since most are from out of state. This is also a way to attract quality staff by having quality housing at a reasonable price.

DISCUSSION AND SUMMARY: Mr. Ohri generously donated a mobile home to Jackson Lake and has asked for a receipt for tax purposes. The home is in good shape and is much better than the current housing used by seasonal rangers during the summer.

DIVISION RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends that the Board approve the donation of a mobile home to Jackson Lake State Park by Andrew Ohri.

MOTION: “I move that the Board of Parks and Outdoor Recreation accept the donation of a mobile home from Mr. Andrew Ohri for use at Jackson Lake State Park.”

Moved: Wade Haerle
Seconded: Tom Glass
Vote: Unanimous

ELDORADO CAYON STATE PARK – LEASE - David Giger

PURPOSE: To inform the board of negotiations for a lease from the City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks for the use of two proposed climber access trail corridors adjacent to Eldorado Canyon State Park.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks has developed a new Visitor Master Plan, which will reduce off trail use on some of their properties. Climbing areas adjacent to Eldorado Canyon State Park to the South and North of State Park boundaries are potentially impacted by this decision to limit access on Open Space lands.

Park Management at Eldorado Canyon is currently talking with the City of Boulder about the possibility of securing a lease for trail corridors to three popular climbing areas that are accessed through Eldorado Canyon State Park by park visitors. This lease would be similar to the Rattlesnake Gulch Easement that is already in place with the City.

DISCUSSION AND SUMMARY: Staff feels this is an excellent opportunity to ensure future access for visitors of Eldorado Canyon to the three climbing areas known as Upper Peanuts and Continental Crag, just South of the Park boundary, and Cadillac Crag, just North of the Park Boundary. Social trails from the Inner Canyon of Eldorado Canyon already exist and permanent closure of these areas could confuse and frustrate State Park visitors. It is the goal of Park Management to include these areas in future climbing and trail management plans.

DIVISION RECOMMENDATION: The Director has found the negotiation of a lease with the City of Boulder to be necessary, suitable or proper for parks and outdoor recreation purposes at ECSP. Staff recommends the Board authorize the Director to negotiate said lease agreement.

MOTION: “I move the Board of Parks and Outdoor Recreation authorize the Director to negotiate a multiple year lease on City of Boulder property adjacent to Eldorado Canyon State Park.”

Moved: Wade Haerle
Seconded: Tom Glass
Vote: Unanimous

Additional Board Business:

The Board of Parks and Outdoor Recreation discussed Referendum C and possible impacts this legislative could have on Colorado State Parks.

MOTION: “I move the Board of Parks and Outdoor Recreation pass a Resolution in support of the passage of Referendum C.”

The Colorado State Parks Board

October 14, 2005

A Resolution Supporting the Passage of Referendum C on November 1, 2005

Whereas... The recent recession caused our state revenues to drop 16 percent, forcing Colorado to cut \$1 billion in spending the past three years, and;

Whereas ... General Fund support for Colorado State Parks has been reduced by 30 percent over the past four years, and;

Whereas... The state parks of Colorado enable everyone regardless of age, background, economic or social circumstance to enjoy the state's internationally famous beauty and experience a wide range of activities, and;

Whereas... Colorado state parks serve more than 11 million visitors annually, including residents and non-residents at our 43 state park locations, and:

Whereas... Colorado's parks are a priceless, irreplaceable legacy for future generations, and;

Whereas.... Colorado's state parks contribute in excess of \$210 Million annually to Colorado's local economies throughout the state, and;

Whereas... Without immediate relief, state officials would have to start making substantive cuts next year in funding for parks, schools, roads and healthcare, and;

Whereas ... Cuts made in Colorado State Parks funding would result in the total and/or seasonal closure of numerous State Parks and drastic service reductions in other programs such as trails and natural areas, thereby adversely affecting the outdoor resources that contribute to Coloradan's physical and economic health, and;

Whereas... Together, we must help Colorado recover from our ongoing budget challenges,

Now, therefore the Colorado State Parks Board does hereby declare their full support of, and urge a YES vote for The Colorado Economic Recovery Act appearing as Referendum C on the November 1, 2005 statewide ballot and strongly recommends no further reductions in General Fund Support for Colorado State Parks.


Dr. Tom Ready

Chairman

October 14, 2005

Moved: Wade Haerle
Seconded: Tom Glass
Vote: Unanimous

MEETING ADJOURNED

Dr. Ready, Chair

Wade Haerle, Acting Secretary