



Revised Agenda Colorado State Parks Board

April 14-15, 2005

THURSDAY Board Work Session: 1:30 PM-5:00 PM

FRIDAY Board Meeting: 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM

John Martin Reservoir State Park

30703 Road 24

Hasty, Colorado

Park Manager: Brad Henley

(719) 829-1801

THURSDAY, April 14, 2005

1:30 PM – 5:00 PM

BOARD WORK SESSION

- John Martin Reservoir State Park Update Brad Henley
- Colorado State Parks Leadership Team Update Lyle Laverty
- Colorado State Parks Budget/Legislative Update Larry Kramer
- Water Issues Paul Flack
- St. Vrain State Park David Giger
- Parks' Five-Year Strategic Plan Gary Thorson
- Board Reports Board Members
- Upcoming Board Events Lyle Laverty
- Roundtable Lyle Laverty

FRIDAY, April 15, 2005

PARKS BOARD MEETING

8:30 AM

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

8:45 AM – 9:00 AM

PUBLIC COMMENTS

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

- (A) – 2005 State Trail Grant Awards Larry Kramer
- (A) – Ridgway State Park Marina Sale and Assignment Kurt Mill
- (A) – Bonny Lake Marina Annual Fee Waiver Request Mike French
- (A) – Cherry Creek State Park – Hamilton Family Shooting Range David Giger
- (A) – Golden Gate Canyon State Park Acquisition David Giger
- (A) – Retail Marketing Policy Larry Kramer
- (A) – Five-Year Strategic Plan Gary Thorson

12:00 PM

ADJOURN

(A) = Action Items (I) = Information Items

** APPROVAL OF "ITEMS REFERRED FOR DIRECTOR'S ACTION" BY THE PARKS BOARD IS BASED ON WRITTEN MATERIAL. NO DISCUSSION WILL OCCUR UNLESS THERE ARE QUESTIONS FROM THE PARKS BOARD OR FROM THE PUBLIC.

** PUBLIC COMMENT ON **BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEMS IS WELCOME**. PLEASE SIGN UP ON SPEAKER SIGN-UP SHEET UPON ENTERING THE PARKS BOARD MEETING ROOM.

NOTE: ALL PROGRAMS, SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES OF THE COLORADO BOARD OF PARKS AND OUTDOOR RECREATION ARE OPERATED IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT. IF YOU NEED A SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION AS A RESULT OF A DISABILITY, PLEASE CALL LINDA FOSTER AT (303) 866-2884. TO ASSURE THAT WE CAN MEET YOUR NEEDS, PLEASE NOTIFY US OF YOUR REQUEST AT LEAST SEVEN BUSINESS DAYS PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED EVENT.

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ATTENDANCE

Parks Board Members:

Dr. Tom Ready, Chair
Doug Cole, Secretary
Wade Haerle

Division Staff:

Lyle Laverty, Director
Larry Kramer, Assistant Director
Gary Thorson, Assistant Director
Tim Pollard, Deputy Director, Department of Natural Resources
Kurt Mill, Rocky Mountains Region Manager
Bob Wiig, Rocky Mountains Assistant Region Manager
Dave Giger, High Plains Region Manager
Mike French, SE Region Manager
Paul Flack, Colorado State Parks - Hydrologist
Brad Henley, John Martin Reservoir State Park Manager
Tandy Parrish, John Martin Reservoir State Park
Sandra Bemiss, John Martin Reservoir State Park Manager
Linda Foster, Assistant to the Director's Office

Guest Speakers:

MEETING MINUTES

AGENDA AMENDMENTS - None

ADOPTION OF BOARD MINUTES

Adoption of March, 2005 Parks Board Meeting Minutes.

Moved: Doug Cole
Seconded: Wade Haerle
Vote: Unanimous

PUBLIC COMMENTS – None

ACTION ITEMS

2005 STATE TRAIL GRANT AWARDS

- Larry Kramer

- I) **PURPOSE:** To request approval of the 2005 Recreation State Trail Grants as recommended by the State Trails Committee.
- II) **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** The State Trails Program, a statewide program within Colorado State Parks, awards grants for trail related projects on a yearly basis. Local, county, and state governments, federal agencies, recreation districts, non-profit organizations with management responsibilities over public lands are eligible.

The Trails Grant Selection Process

The State Trails Committee is responsible for the trail grants process and makes recommendations to the Parks Boards concerning grant funding.

Trail grant applications are sent out by e-mail, ground mail and posted on the Internet. The grants program is publicized through newsletters, the state website, and e-mail information networks. Technical assistance for grant preparation is provided to potential applicants. The deadline for Recreational Trails applications is November 1st and Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) applications is December 1st.

Subcommittee Recommendations

The State Trails Committee uses a subcommittee structure to oversee and organize the grant selection process. Four standing subcommittees are appointed for the purpose of making grant funding recommendations to the Trails Committee: two Recreational Trails Grant Selection Subcommittees, an OHV Grant Selection Subcommittee and a Snowmobile Grant Selection Subcommittee.

The Recreation Trails Grant Selection Subcommittee to review Planning, Special Projects, Non-Profit Small, Non-Profit Large, Federal Small, and Federal Large Grants consists of a majority of the members from the Trails Committee, a representative from GOCO, and four Regional Trail Coordinators. Scoring on the grants is the combination of scores from the Trails Committee, a representative from GOCO, the Regional Trail Coordinators, and the outside reviewers. This subcommittee makes funding recommendations to the Trails Committee on the planning, special projects, non-profit, and federal grants.

The Recreation Trails Grant Selection Subcommittee to review State, County, Local Small, Mid, and Large Grants consists of members from the Trails Committee and Regional Trail Coordinators. Scoring on the grants is the combination of scores from the Trails Committee, the Regional Trail Coordinators, and outside reviewers. This subcommittee makes funding recommendations to the Trails Committee on the State, County, Local small, mid, and large grants.

The OHV Grant Subcommittee is made up of two members from the Trails Committee and eight members from the organized OHV groups. Program and regional staff provide direct input to the committee, but do not score the grants.

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Each subcommittee makes recommendations to the State Trails Committee concerning which grants should be funded based on the ranking process and overall project score. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife coordinated a review of potential resource impacts of the projects submitted. All concerns were passed on to project sponsors and appropriate land managers. A summarized list of concerns was forwarded to staff. All land managers must provide documentation that any required environmental review be completed before funding is authorized.

Outside reviewers were used to assist the grant subcommittees in their selection process. These reviewers represented all aspects of trail recreation including enthusiasts, conservation groups, and parks professionals. Project descriptions were posted on the website and public comment on the projects was solicited widely, but no public comments were received. On February 1st and 2nd, the OHV Subcommittee held public meetings to interview grant applicants and take public input concerning the OHV grant applications. Public input at the OHV subcommittee meeting was evaluated as part of the grant selection process and passed on to the State Trail Committee.

The lists of applications considered by each subcommittee are attached.

Type of Grant	Total Applications	Total \$ Requested
Recreational Trails Grants		
Planning Grants	7	\$134,655.00
Special Projects	6	\$100,200.00
Non-Profit Small	10	\$129,600.00
Non-Profit Large	13	\$1,358,622.00
Federal Small	11	\$142,340.00
Federal Large	8	\$766,873.00
State, County, Local Small	4	\$27,290.00
State, County, Local Mid	12	\$696,290.00
State, County, Local Large	16	\$2,837,701.00
Total Recreational Trails Grants	87	\$6,193,571.00
OHV Grants	46	\$2,439,264.00

Based on the grant scores, the attached funding priority list was developed for each grant category. On March 1, 2005 the State Trails Committee met and took formal action, approving the priority lists submitted by staff and the subcommittees. The Board must approve the grants before funding can be distributed to the grantees. The Great Outdoors Colorado Board approved all GOCO funded trail grants at their March 18th meeting. The GOCO Board approval is necessary for all trail grants which are funded with GOCO dollars.

Once the grant selection process is completed, the State Trails Committee will review applications, policies, and procedures for next year's grants program. Updates and improvements are then submitted for comment by local governments, land management agencies, trail interests, and the public. In this way the grant selection process continually responds to public needs, the changing funding environment, and new opportunities in trail and greenway planning.

Funding

For the 2005 Trails Grant cycle we anticipate \$4,249,238.00 for trails from the following funding sources.

Source of Funding	Dollars Awarded
GOCO: Colorado Front Range Legacy Trail	\$ 400,000.00
GOCO: Local Government Funds	\$ 500,000.00
GOCO: State Parks	\$ 500,000.00
Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF): Colorado Front Range Trail	\$ 400,000.00
Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)	\$ 529,000.00
Federal Recreational Trails Program-Diversified & Non-Motorized	\$ 529,900.00
Federal Recreation Trails Program - Motorized	\$ 153,439.00
Off Highway Vehicle Fund	\$1,236,899.00

III) DISCUSSION AND SUMMARY: For this year, 87 Recreational and 46 Off-Highway Vehicle eligible applications were received for a total grant request of \$8,632,835.00. The projects were scored by the outside reviewers, grant subcommittees, regional staff, and GOCO staff.

Using direction from the Trails Program’s Strategic Plan, the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) and staff, the Trails Committee recommends priority funding of:

Type of Grants	Number of Grants	Proposed Funding
Recreational Trails Grants		
Non-Profit Small	4	\$56,900.00
Non-Profit Large	6	\$572,073.00
Federal Small	4	\$50,272.00
Federal Large	3	\$430,500.00
State, County, Local Small	3	\$20,800.00
State, County, Local Mid	5	\$314,600.00
State, County, Local Large	7	\$1,105,100.00
Planning Grants	4	\$66,655.00
Special Projects	5	\$ 75,000.00
State Park Special Projects	5	\$167,000.00
Total Recreational Trails Grants	41	\$2,858,900.00
OHV Grants	32	\$1,390,338.00
TOTAL		\$4,249,238.00

The priority funding lists contain the recommended awards for each grant category. An estimated total of \$298,000.00 will fund Youth Corps Trail projects that are a component of the grant awards.

IV) DIVISION RECOMMENDATION: Staff and the State Trails Committee recommend approval of the priority funding lists of the Recreational Trails Grants and OHV Grants for 2005. Staff also recommends that minor adjustments of project funding levels be permitted at the discretion of the Director.

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- V) **SUGGESTED MOTION:** “I move that the Board of Parks and Outdoor Recreation approve the 2005 State Trails Grants awards and that minor adjustments of project funding levels be permitted at the discretion of the Director.”

Moved: Doug Cole
Seconded: Wade Haerle
Vote: Unanimous

RIDGWAY STATE PARK MARINA SALE AND ASSIGNMENT

- Kurt Mill

- I) **PURPOSE:** To seek Board approval for the assignment of the Ridgway State Park Marina contract from the current operator to the new operator as a result of the sale of the marina operation.
- II) **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** Skyway Marina, Inc. (Contractor) has operated the Ridgway State Park Marina under a concession contract since April 5th of 1994. The current contract will expire on April 5th, 2008. However, Skyway Marina has decided to no longer operate the marina and instead sell their assets to a new owner and have State Parks transfer the existing marina concession contract to this new owner.
- III) **DISCUSSION AND SUMMARY:** Region and park staff have met with the current owner and discussed his plans. Essentially, his desire is to get out of the contract altogether, even if he can't find a buyer. We are working with him to find a buyer so that marina services will still be available this summer. If the current owner should fail to sell his marina operation to anyone, our recourse is to go back out to bid after he has removed all of his docks, etc. This would probably not happen until fall and we would not have marina services available to the public this season.
- IV) **DIVISION RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends that the Board provide the Director with the authority to negotiate and consummate the assignment of the existing lease to a new owner should one be found. If not, we will proceed to go back out to bid to find a new owner.
- V) **SUGGESTED MOTION:** “I move that the Board of Parks and Outdoor Recreation authorize the Director to negotiate and consummate the assignment of the Ridgway Marina contract to a new owner should one be found before the contract becomes null and void.”

Moved: Doug Cole
Seconded: Wade Haerle
Vote: Unanimous

BONNY LAKE MARINA ANNUAL FEE WAIVER REQUEST

- Mike French

- I) **PURPOSE:** To seek Board action on the Bonny Lake Marina request to waive the marina concession annual fee for 2005 at Bonny Lake State Park (BLSP).
- II) **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** Bonny Lake Marina (contractor) has operated under a concession contract at BLSP since April 1998. Contract term ends on December 31, 2008 with a 5-year renewable option at the sole discretion of the state. Gross revenue percentage agreed to in the contract is 5%. In addition, a \$2,400.00 annual fee is paid while a \$500.00 administrative fee

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is paid only in the event the percentage of gross fee does not cover an amount equal to the administrative fee.

In 2000, 2003 and 2004 the Contractor was granted a waiver of the \$2,400 annual fee due to low water level and disruption of marina business during boat ramp & jetty construction. A key outcome of the construction was that it allowed the Contractor to stay open the entire 2001 and 2002 contract years in spite of the ongoing decline of water levels (~ 2.5 feet per year). Bonny Lake is currently at a record low level approximately 17 feet below normal pool. Only 1 of 3 boat ramps at BLSP are usable at this time due to low water levels. In February 2005 another waiver request has been made from the Contractor.

- III) **DISCUSSION AND SUMMARY:** Water levels on bonny lake have dropped for the last 5 years. The marina bay where the contractor's boat rentals, wet slips and gas docks are located are unusable at this time. construction of extending, widening and dredging of the northern boat ramp (shortest distance to deep water) will be completed in April 2005 and will allow boating access while the marina bay ramp is closed. Given the water situation contractor is willing to open the marina store and sell gas at the store. Contractor gross sales revenue has dropped every year for the last five years. Gross sales revenue from the Bonny Lake Marina were \$28,156 in 2004 and \$ 50,147 in 2003.
- IV) **DIVISION RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends that the Board approve the request to waive the 2005 annual fee and go to a straight 5% of gross fee for 2005.
- V) **SUGGESTED MOTION:** "I move that the Board of Parks and Outdoor Recreation the request to waive the 2005 annual fee and collect 5% gross fee for 2005 from the Bonny Lake Marina."

Moved: Doug Cole
Seconded: Wade Haerle
Vote: Unanimous

CHERRY CREEK SP – HAMILTON FAMILY SHOOTING RANGE - David Giger

- I) **PURPOSE:** To receive Parks Board permission to waive concession fees for Hamilton Family Shooting Center at Cherry Creek State Park in the amount of \$19,686.24.
- II) **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** The Cherry Creek Shooting Center contract for range concession services for Cherry Creek State Park expired April 30, 2004. The Request For Proposal (October, 2003) for shooting center services for Cherry Creek State Park listed several items that the State owned and would provide for the concession operation. A baffling system for the rifle and pistol range was one of those items. During the concession show with prospective bidders, this baffling system was discussed. It was the State's understanding and intent, that with minor repair, any concessionaire would be able to begin operation using the baffling system. Upon the release of the site by the Cherry Creek Shooting Center in June 2004, it was determined that the baffling system needed repairs to ensure visitor safety. Hamilton Family Shooting Center, by contract, was required to begin operation as soon as possible to provide uninterrupted service to the public. Because of the need for immediate repair to provide uninterrupted service, the State requested that Hamilton Family Shooting Center complete repairs to the baffling system. Hamilton Family Shooting Center completed repairs to the State-owned baffling system, at their own expense, within their first 2 months of operation.

- III) **DISCUSSION AND SUMMARY:** These repairs caused Hamilton Family Shooting Center costs not proposed in their bid and impacted their cash flow. The State has reviewed the costs and determined that \$19,686.24 was spent on rifle range and pistol range baffle repair labor. The monies used were originally allocated to a building for the complex that would house merchandise and shooting supplies for public sale.

The projected amount of concession fees due to the State from Hamilton Family Shooting Center is approximately \$25,000/year.

- IV) **DIVISION RECOMMENDATION:** To waive concession fees for Hamilton Family Shooting Center at Cherry Creek State Park in the amount of \$19,686.24.

- V) **SUGGESTED MOTION:** "I move that the Board of Parks and Outdoor Recreation waive concession fees for Hamilton Family Shooting Center at Cherry Creek State Park, in the amount of \$19,686.24. The intent of this motion is to repay Hamilton Family Shooting Center for expenses incurred by them on behalf of the State."

Moved: Doug Cole
Seconded: Wade Haerle
Vote: Unanimous

GOLDEN GATE CANYON STATE PARK ACQUISITION

- David Giger

- I) **PURPOSE:** To request Board approval for purchasing the Strojny property at Golden Gate Canyon State Park.

- II) **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** The Strojny property consists of 35 acres of land together with a 3400 sq. ft. house, 1300 sq. ft. detached garage/workshop, a 3-stall barn and other outbuildings. It offers spectacular views of the Mount Evans area. The property is an in-holding within the 4000 acre Green Ranch portion of Golden Gate Canyon State Park located southwest of the main body of the park.

The owner of the property, Mr. Rick Strojny, acting through a broker, has listed the property for sale off and on since the summer of 2004. After evaluating potential use of the property by us, we ordered an appraisal. The appraisal established a market value of \$1,000,000. Our preliminary discussions with the broker indicate a willingness of the property owner to sell to State Parks.

- III) **DISCUSSION AND SUMMARY:** The Strojny property has value because its purchase would eliminate one of three in-holdings on the Green Ranch property. Furthermore, with the associated buildings described above, staff feels there is strong potential for a revenue generating house/facility rental program. Potential users include hunting groups, horseback riding groups or families looking for a perfect mountain get-a-way. This facility would be added the existing cabin/yurt rental program at the park. We will also be able to gate and close off an access road to this property. Acquiring the Strojny property makes good sense and will be a positive addition to the park.

- IV) **DIVISION RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends the Board authorize the Director to negotiate and consummate the purchase of the Strojny property at Golden Gate Canyon SP, for a

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purchase price not to exceed \$1,000,000. The Director has found this acquisition of land to be necessary, suitable or proper for parks and outdoor recreation purposes.

- V) **SUGGESTED MOTION:** “I move that the Board of Parks and Outdoor Recreation authorize the State Parks Director to negotiate and consummate the purchase of the Strojny property at Golden Gate Canyon SP, as described in this Action Item.”

Moved: Doug Cole
Seconded: Wade Haerle
Vote: Unanimous

RETAIL MARKETING POLICY

- Larry Kramer

- I) **PURPOSE:** To request Board approval for establishing a policy for the reasonable pricing of Retail Products and Services offered to the public in consideration of a monetary payment.

- II) **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** 33-10-107 CRS, entitled Powers of the Board states “ The board has power to: (1)(c) ...establish conveniences at any site or on any land controlled by the board or in which it holds an interest, ...operate and maintain any such...conveniences, and, when appropriate make reasonable charges for their use. Further, 33-10-111.5 (4) CRS, creates a stores revolving fund to acquire stock for warehousing and distributing supplies for retail sales to visitors.

- III) **DISCUSSION AND SUMMARY:** Pricing will be set based on the following criteria.

A. Services

1. Pricing for services will be based on an analysis of comparable services provided by other government entities and/or the private sector. If comparable services are offered by the private sector in Colorado, prices will be set so as to not create an unfair competitive advantage to the State.

B. Retail Sales

1. Pricing for retail products will be based on Manufacture Suggest Retail Price (MSRP). Retail products will not be priced to exceed MSRP without conducting a comparative market analysis.
2. Pricing shall be publicly posted (price tags, signs, webpages, etc.).

- IV) **DIVISION RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends the Board approve the Retail Products and Service Pricing policy as per the attached document.

- V) **SUGGESTED MOTION:** “I move that the Board of Parks and Outdoor Recreation approve the Retail Products and Service Pricing policy as described in this Action Item.”

Moved: Doug Cole
Seconded: Wade Haerle
Vote: Unanimous

FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

- Gary Thorson

- I) **PURPOSE:** The purpose of this action item is to update the Parks Board on the recent changes to the agency's draft five-year strategic plan and to gain final approval from the Board to distribute and implement the strategic plan over the next five years.
- II) **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** The agency undertook a new strategic planning process in January of 2004 to develop a five-year plan for Colorado State Parks. This process was designed to include a much more comprehensive and inclusive approach to identifying the priorities that will direct the agency's efforts and investments over the next five years.

State Parks staff throughout the agency has been involved in developing this plan in the following ways:

- All-Managers meeting on March 1-2, 2004 to help identify the agency strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats;
- 15-person Strategic Planning Team – met throughout the process to develop drafts for Leadership Team review and approval;
- Subcommittees—seven assembled, each with 5-6 Parks staff, to develop objectives and action strategies for each of the strategic plan goals;
- Opportunity to review and comments on the draft during a one-month period in early 2005.

Over the past two years, State Parks' personnel have listened to park visitors and others about Colorado's parks and statewide recreation programs. The external input from constituents and the general public, including suggestions for improvements and new experiences, have been incorporated into this plan. Coloradans have been involved in the following ways:

- Participation in the 2002 State Parks Market Assessment Study surveys;
- Series of 18 town meetings throughout Colorado in spring 2004;
- Review of the plan during the one-month public comment period from December 22, 2004 through January 21 of this year.
- Review and comment by 15 key constituents through three meetings of the Strategic Plan Advisory Committee at critical points during the planning process.

On March 11th, staff presented the draft plan to the Parks Board and the Strategic Plan Advisory Committee for comment and review. Board and Advisory Committee comments have been incorporated into this final draft plan.

- III) **DISCUSSION AND SUMMARY:** The Director and staff will be available to cover changes to the plan and to answer questions at the Board meeting.
- IV) **DIVISION RECOMMENDATION:** Colorado State Parks recommends that the Board approve the current draft plan for production, distribution and implementation.

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- V) **SUGGESTED MOTION:** “I move that the Board of Parks and Outdoor Recreation approve the Colorado State Parks Five-Year Strategic Plan 2005-2009 and that the Director immediately move to distribute and implement the plan.”

Moved: Doug Cole
Seconded: Wade Haerle
Vote: Unanimous

MEETING ADJOURNED

Dr. Ready, Chair

Doug Cole, Secretary