



Agenda Colorado State Parks Board

Thursday, June 9th
Board Work Session: 2:30 PM – 5:00 PM

Friday, June 10th
Board Work Session: 8:30 AM – 9:00 AM
Board Meeting: 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM

Meeting Location:

**Holiday Inn – Rocky Mountain Park
Salon F
101 S. St. Vrain
Estes Park, CO 80517
Phone: (970) 586-2332**

Thursday, June 9th
2:30 PM – 4:00 PM

PARKS BOARD WORK SESSION

- Water Issues

Paul Flack

4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

- Meet with Colorado Division of Wildlife Commission

Friday, June 10th
8:30 AM

PARKS BOARD WORK SESSION

- Colorado State Parks Leadership Team Update
- Personnel Update
- Colorado State Parks Budget/Legislative Update
- Board Reports
- Upcoming Events
- Roundtable

Lyle Laverty
Larry Kramer
Lyle Laverty

9:00 AM

PARKS BOARD MEETING

- **PUBLIC COMMENT**

9:10 AM

- (A) – Agenda Amendments, if necessary
- (A) – Approval of April 2005 Parks Board Meeting Minutes
- (A) – State Trails Committee Selection
- (I) – Archery Range in Cheyenne Mountain State Park
- (I) – Utility Easement Request – Cheyenne Mountain State Park

Larry Kramer
Mike French
Mike French

10:30 AM

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.

ATTENDANCE

Friday, June 10, 2005

Parks Board Members:

Dr. Tom Ready, Chair
Doug Cole, Secretary
Antonette DeLauro
Wade Haerle
Tom Glass

Division Staff:

Lyle Laverty, Director
Larry Kramer, Assistant Director
Gary Thorson, Assistant Director
Kurt Mill, Rocky Mountains Region Manager
Dave Giger, High Plains Region Manager
Mike French, SE Region Manager
Paul Flack, Colorado State Parks - Hydrologist
Linda Foster, Assistant to the Director's Office

Guest Speakers:

None

MEETING MINUTES

AGENDA AMENDMENTS - None

ADOPTION OF BOARD MINUTES

Adoption of June, 2005 Parks Board Meeting Minutes.

Moved: Doug Cole
Seconded: Wade Haerle
Vote: Unanimous

PUBLIC COMMENTS – None

ACTION ITEMS

STATE TRAILS COMMITTEE SELECTION

- Larry Kramer

I PURPOSE

- Select State Trails Committee Members to represent Off Highway Vehicles and Snowmobile interests.
- Fill the vacated District 5 position.
- Reinstate two current State Trails Committee members for a 2nd term.

II BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- Due to the Committee Member Representation, two of the eight members will be chosen to represent Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) and snowmobile interests due to the dedicated funding source related to these activities. Colorado Off Highway Vehicle Coalition (COHVCO) has reviewed and is recommending applicant, Debra Thorson for District 1. Colorado Snowmobile Association has reviewed and is recommending applicant, Charlie Cox to hold an At-Large position.
- Appoint Dick Bratton to fill District 5 to complete this vacated term until 06/30/2007.
- Reinstate Britt Weygandt to District 2 and Brooke Fox to District 4 (currently At Large) to serve a 2nd Term.

III DISCUSSION AND SUMMARY

Statute 33-11-105 (1) CRS addresses the tenure of State Trails Committee Members.

- Debra Thorson completed the vacant term of the OHV Committee Member who resigned due to a change in his District location. Debra Thorson is being recommended to represent District 1 to fill her own term.
- The Snowmobile Representative, Mel Wolfe has provided eight years of service to the State Trails Committee and has met his term limit.
- Jim Bensberg has requested to serve on the OHV State Trails Subcommittee vacating District 5 on the State Trails Committee due to commitments.
- Britt Weygandt and Brooke Fox have fulfilled their first term limit.

The Department of Natural Resources and State Parks Staff posted the vacancies on the State Parks website on May 10th, 2005 and also solicited applicants through the State Trails Regional Trail Coordinators. State Parks Staff has reviewed the applications.

IV DIVISION RECOMMENDATION:

District 1 - Debra Thorson, OHV Representative
District 2 – Britt Weygandt
District 4 – Brooke Fox
District 5 - Dick Bratton
At Large - Charlie Cox, Snowmobile Representative

V SUGGESTED MOTION

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I hereby move to approve the following persons for the vacancies on the State Trails Committee:

- District 1 - Debra Thorson, OHV Representative
- District 2 – Britt Weygandt
- District 4 – Brooke Fox
- District 5 - Dick Bratton
- At Large - Charlie Cox, Snowmobile Representative

Moved: Doug Cole
Seconded: Wade Haerle
Vote: Unanimous

INFORMATION ITEMS

ARCHERY RANGE IN CHEYENNE MOUNTAIN STATE PARK - Mike French

I PURPOSE

To seek Board approval to move forward on final plans for a 3-D archery range and associated facilities at Cheyenne Mountain State Park.

II BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In 2002, staff was contacted by the Colorado Bowhunters Association (CBA) regarding the potential of incorporating a 3-D archery range and associated facilities at Cheyenne Mountain State Park. According to CDOW records for 2003, there were 2470 archery hunters in El Paso County who purchased a total of 3452 archery licenses, yet there are minimal facilities available in the county to support this growing sport. Within El Paso County there are no public 3-D archery ranges, which accommodate practice and/or competitive shooting events. After examining potential locations, impacts, and economic viability of such a range, staff requested that the CBA submit a proposal defining the components of a 3-D range, as well as the revenue potential to be realized from the addition of this recreational amenity to the park's master plan. This proposal was submitted November 21, 2002 and is attached for your consideration.

III DISCUSSION AND SUMMARY

The CBA proposed archery facility for Cheyenne Mountain State Park appears to have merit in terms of providing a much-needed recreational opportunity, as well as the potential of adding to the park's self-sufficiency bottom-line.

Regional Recreational Need Based on the most recent CDOW data, there are nearly 3000 archery hunters in El Paso and Teller Counties within a 45-minute drive of the park. There is currently a 3-D archery range at the Air Force Academy, however, access is very limited, and sometimes closed altogether during high terrorists threat levels. Ft Carson's range was eliminated several years ago by a new housing project just across the street from the park. There are no practice or hunter education field facilities available for area archery enthusiasts and hunters, and the need/demand is significant. The CDOW recognizes that there is a significant niche to fill regarding both recreational and educational

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opportunities related to the sport of archery hunting and, conceptually, will support the development of a range with Hunter Education funds.

Cheyenne Mountain State Park By incorporating a 3-D archery facility into the park, Colorado State Parks is responding to a significant recreational deficiency in the Colorado Springs region. The park gains what should become a significant revenue generator to help meet its self-sufficiency goal. The park would add a new and non-traditional recreational opportunity with minimal impact on the wildlife habitat, or the other natural resources located in this area of the park. Staff has no future plans to utilize the acreage located south of Pine Oaks Road, and as a result, this location provides more than adequate space to meet safety requirements of the proposed range. Colorado State Parks will partner with Colorado Bowhunters Association to design, build, operate and maintain an archery facility that can become the model for other parks throughout Colorado.

Financial Support Both the CDOW and the Colorado Wildlife Commission (CWC) have responded positively when asked by the CBA if they would financially support this new Park facility. Staff anticipates going before the CWC during their September 2005 meeting during which Commission discretionary funds are allocated to various projects.

Incomplete Elements

- (1) Since this archery range was not in the original master plan for Cheyenne Mountain State Park, a public process to obtain citizen input on the range will be necessary. Staff hopes to accomplish this process prior to the Board's August meeting.
- (2) Consideration must still be given to a fee structure for use of these archery facilities. Additionally, a Memorandum of Understanding must be crafted which adequately defines the basic components of an operation/maintenance agreement between Colorado State Parks and the CBA.

IV DIVISION RECOMMENDATION

Staff recognizes the value of adding a non-traditional recreation opportunity to the park's master plan, as well as the revenue potential of this proposal, which further supports the self-sufficiency outlined in our business plan. The archery range should help Colorado State Parks fulfill its mission of providing quality recreational experiences while effectively managing the outstanding natural resources found at Cheyenne Mountain State Park; therefore, staff recommends the Board give conceptual approval for this proposal, and direct staff to move forward and complete the outstanding elements defined above, so that the archery range can become a part of the park master plan.

V SUGGESTED MOTION

None.

UTILITY EASEMENT REQUEST – CHEYENNE MOUNTAIN STATE PARK - Mike French

I PURPOSE

To inform the Board of a request for utility easement at Cheyenne Mountain State Park, and seek direction for further action.

II BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Prior to the acquisition of the JL Ranch property, Colorado State Parks was involved in discussions with Danny Mientka of Equity Holdings, Denman Investments, and the City of Colorado Springs regarding the extension of utilities to Mientka’s property south of what would become Cheyenne Mountain State Park.

In 1985, Denman Investments and GF Land Company (Equity’s predecessor) jointly annexed their properties to the City of Colorado Springs. Contemporaneously, the two landowners negotiated and petitioned Colorado Springs City Council for approval of a master plan and annexation agreement calling for development and equitable participation in the required utility infrastructure. When Cheyenne Mountain State Park became a reality and planning ensued, the location of anticipate utility infrastructure changed. Equity is again petitioning Colorado State Parks for an easement which will provide infrastructure to service their property. Specifically, the easement they seek would extend south from the park’s trailhead, eventually crossing Pine Oaks Road to the Equity property. Conceptually, Equity foresees a master plan, which will include development of a convenience store, storage units, and a car/RV wash facility.

Staff has repeatedly informed Equity that such an easement would be both feasible and that upon written request, the matter would be forwarded to the Board for consideration. Staff has made Mr. Mientka aware that there will be a cost for this easement, and he has stated he understands this and recognizes that it is the price of doing business. A letter from Natural Design Solutions, Equity’s planning team, as well as additional information regarding the history of this issue, is included for your review.

III DISCUSSION AND SUMMARY

In consideration of the park’s final master plan, staff feels this request for utility easement is feasible. Additionally, there appears to be little or no impact to critical natural resources found at the park. However, a full resource assessment based on a projected easement alignment will be necessary prior to final Board approval.

The Equity property is located directly across Hwy. 115 from Gate 5 (Titus Blvd.) on Fort Carson, and adjacent to Pine Oaks Road. Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) has future plans to realign Titus Blvd. and Pine Oaks Road. It is unknown at this time when this project will take place, or what potential impacts will be an outcome of this work.

Adjacent to the Equity property, staff has been working with the Colorado Bowhunters Association to develop a 3-D archery range. It is unknown at this time what potential conflicts might arise from the proximity of the proposed range to Mr. Mientka’s property.

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The first phase of construction at Cheyenne Mountain State Park is currently underway and significant work has been completed. This work includes construction of roads and utilities as called for by the park master plan. Utility sizing is based on the park master plan, which was approved by the Colorado Springs Utilities department. It is unknown at this time what impact to the park's infrastructure the extension of utilities to the Equity property will bring.

IV DIVISION RECOMMENDATION

There is an unknown variable in this request, which will require further study. Specifically, should Equity's planned development require additional utility capacity beyond that already approved in the State's master plan, what will the impacts to park infrastructure be, and what are the associated costs, and potential time considerations? With this in mind, staff recommends the Board authorize further study of this issue.

V SUGGESTED MOTION

None.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Dr. Ready, Chair

Doug Cole, Secretary