

Colorado State Parks Board

MINUTES



Friday, March 3, 2006

Denver Post Building

1560 Broadway Avenue, Suite 110 – Denver, CO

Board Meeting: 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

THURSDAY, March 2nd

2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

BOARD WORK SESSION

- Colorado State Parks Leadership Team Update
 - Budget Update
 - Legislative Update
 - Personnel Update – Org Chart – Position Descriptions
 - Field Operations - Water Update
 - Board Elections
 - Board Reports
 - Upcoming Events
- Lyle Laverty
 - Elling Myklebust
 - Gary Thorson
 - Larry Kramer
 - Larry Kramer
 - Lyle Laverty

4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

OVER THE RIVER PROJECT

- Special Guests: Christo and Jeanne-Claude
- Larry Kramer
 - Michael French
 - Rob White

FRIDAY, March 3rd

9:00 AM

PARKS BOARD MEETING

(A) – Agenda Amendments, if necessary

(A) – Approval of February, 2006 Parks Board Mtg Minutes

PUBLIC COMMENTS

9:15 AM

AGENDA:

- (A) – Rulemaking
 - (A) – Bonny Lake Marina – Annual Fee Waiver Request
 - (A) – Lake Pueblo SP – Moore Property Acquisition Update
 - (I) – State Trails Grant Recommendations
- **Larry Kramer**
 - Richard Storm
 - Michael French
 - Michael French
 - Lori Malcolm

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 FOUR BUSINESS DAYS PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED EVENT.

ATTENDANCE

Parks Board Members:

Dr. Tom Ready, Chair
Wade Haerle
Tom Glass
Antonette DeLauro

Division Staff:

Tim Pollard, Deputy Executive Director - DNR
Lyle Laverty, Director
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
Kristi Quintana, High Plains Region Assistant Manager
Michael French, SE Region Manager
Heather Dugan, SE Region Assistant Manager
Lori Malcolm, Trails Program Manager
Maria Yslas-Brandt, HP Region Executive Assistant
Linda Foster, Assistant to the Director's Office

Guests:

Brian Bowles – Colorado Foothills Retriever Club
Brooke Fox, Chair – State Trails Committee

MEETING MINUTES

AGENDA AMENDMENTS - None

ADOPTION OF BOARD MINUTES

Adoption of February, 2005 Parks Board Meeting Minutes.

Moved: Antonette DeLauro
Seconded: Wade Haerle
Vote: Unanimous

PUBLIC COMMENTS –

- Brian Bowles of the Colorado Foothills Retriever Club commented on issues pertaining to a designated dog training area at Chatfield State Park. (additional written comments attached)

AGENDA

ACTION ITEMS

RULEMAKING

- Richard Storm

PURPOSE: To amend Parks Board regulation numbers 100, 103, 106, 305, 700, 701, 703, 704, 705, 706, and 708.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: On February 9, 2006, an information item was presented to the Parks Board detailing the proposed regulation additions, deletions and amendments.

DISCUSSION AND SUMMARY: Refer to the Basis and Purpose Statements that are associated with the proposed regulation changes.

DIVISION RECOMMENDATION: Approve as proposed by the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation.

- No public comment/no written public comment.
- Fee Discussion: Table amendments to regulation numbers 700, 701, 703, 704, 705, 706, and 708 to a later date.

SUGGESTED MOTION: I move that the Board of Parks and Outdoor Recreation adopt the regulation changes proposed for regulation numbers 100, 103, 106, 305 as proposed by the Division, along with the associated Basis and Purpose Statements.

Moved: Wade Haerle
Seconded: Antonette DeLauro
Vote: Unanimous

BONNY LAKE MARINA – ANNUAL FEE WAIVER REQUEST

- Michael French

PURPOSE: To seek Board action on the Bonny Lake Marina request to waive the marina concession annual fee for 2006 at Bonny Lake State Park (BLSP).

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 annual fee is paid while a \$500.00 administrative fee is paid only in the event the percentage of gross fee does not cover an amount equal to the administrative fee.

In 2000, 2003, 2004 and 2005 the Contractor was granted a waiver of the \$2,400.00 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 19 feet below normal pool. Only 1 of 3 boat ramps at BLSP are usable at this time due to low water levels. In January 2006 another fee waiver request has been made from the Contractor.

DISCUSSION AND SUMMARY: Water levels on Bonny Lake have dropped for the last 6 years. The marina bay where the Contractor’s boat rentals, wet slips and gas docks are located are dry and unusable at this time. Construction of extending, widening and limited dredging of the northern boat ramp (shortest distance to deep water) was completed in July 2005 and will allow boating access while the marina bay ramp is closed. Given the water situation the Contractor is willing to open the marina store and sell gas at the store. Contractor gross sales revenue has dropped every year for five of the last six years. Gross sales revenue from the Bonny Lake Marina was \$30,341.00 in 2005, \$28,156.00 in 2004 and \$50,147.00 in 2003.

DIVISION RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends that the Board approve the request to waive the 2006 annual fee and go to a straight 5% of gross fee for 2006.

SUGGESTED MOTION: I move that the Board of Parks and Outdoor Recreation approve the request to waive the 2006 annual fee and collect 5% gross fee for 2006 from the Bonny Lake Marina.

Moved: Antonette DeLauro
Seconded: Wade Haerle
Vote: Unanimous

LAKE PUEBLO STATE PARK – MOORE PROPERTY ACQUISITION UPDATE

- Michael French

PURPOSE: To request Board approval for an increase in the purchase price of the Moore property at Lake Pueblo State Park

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: This property was originally approved for purchase by the Parks Board in December, 2005. Our initial appraisal estimated a value of \$95,000, and a purchase contract for that price was drafted. That contract contained a seller contingency that the closing on the purchase of the property could only occur if seller’s lender (mortgage/note holder) accepted a “short sale” of the property, whereby the lender would agree to accept a reduced purchase price (\$95,000) which would be insufficient to cover the loan payoff. Seller’s lender did not agree to a short sale, and the contract was cancelled.

DISCUSSION AND SUMMARY: Subsequently, we obtained another independent appraisal of the property, which estimated a value of \$130,000. Payoff of seller's loan is in the amount of \$123,787, together with several hundred dollars in additional fees. Seller has agreed to a purchase price covering the loan payoff and fees. Seller will not receive any cash from the sale of the property to State Parks, but will be released from future payments and debt on the property.

DIVISION RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends the Board authorize the Director to negotiate and consummate the purchase of the Moore property at the higher purchase price stated above, at Lake Pueblo State Park. The Director has found this acquisition of land to be necessary, suitable or proper for parks and outdoor recreation purposes.

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 Moore Property at the higher purchase price stated above, at Lake Pueblo State Park.

Moved: Wade Antonette
Seconded: Antonette DeLauro
Vote: Unanimous

INFORMATION ITEM

2006 STATE TRAIL GRANT AWARDS

- Lori Malcolm

- 1) **PURPOSE:** To provide information on the 2006 Recreation State Trail Grants as recommended by the State Trails Committee.
- 2) **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 Great Outdoors Colorado and 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 the Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) application is December 1st.

Subcommittee Recommendations:

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

The Recreation Trails Grant Subcommittee reviews *Non-Profit Small, Non-Profit Large, Federal Small, Federal Large, State, County, and Local Small, State, County, and Local Mid, State, County, and Local Large, Planning, Special Projects, and Equipment Trail Grants* and consists of seven members from the Trails Committee, a representative from Great Outdoors Colorado, and four Regional Trail Coordinators. Scoring on the grants is the combination of scores from the Recreation Trails Grant Subcommittee and approximately 45 outside reviewers. Outside reviewers represent all aspects of trail recreation including enthusiasts, conservation groups, and parks professionals.

The OHV Grant Subcommittee is made up of the OHV representative from the Trails Committee and nine members from organized OHV groups. Program and regional staff provide direct input to the committee. The OHV Subcommittee held open meetings to interview the applicant and score the grant applications. Public input was accepted at the OHV subcommittee meeting and was evaluated as part of the grant selection process.

The Recreation Trails Grant and OHV Grant Subcommittees make recommendations to the State Trails Committee concerning which grants should be funded based on the ranking process, overall project score and public input.

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.

Project descriptions were posted on the website and public comment on the projects was solicited widely, all public comments received were evaluated as part of the grant selection process.

The lists of applications considered by each subcommittee are attached.

Type of Grant	Total Applications	Total \$ Requested
Recreational Trail Grants		
Equipment	6	\$218,200.00
Planning Grants	9	\$175,415.00
Special Projects	5	\$100,000.00
Non-Profit Small	3	\$44,450.00
Non-Profit Large	6	\$747,600.00
Federal Small	5	\$66,200.00
Federal Large	12	\$1,062,520.00
State, County, Local Small	5	\$176,150.00
State, County, Local Mid	10	\$1,117,500.00
State, County, Local Large	8	\$1,539,800.00
Total Recreational Trail Grants	69	\$5,247,835.00
OHV Grants	39	\$1,916,250.00

Based on the grant scores, the attached funding list was developed for each grant category. On February 27, 2006 the State Trails Committee met and took formal action, approving the priority lists submitted by staff and the subcommittees. The Great Outdoors Colorado Board will review all GOCO funded trail grants at

their March 3rd and March 24th meetings. The Parks Board and GOCO Board approval is required before funding can be distributed to the grantees.

Funding

For the 2006 Trails Grant cycle we anticipate \$3,356,825 for trail grants from the following funding sources:

Source of Funding	Dollars Awarded
GOCO: Local Government Funds	\$ 700,000.00
GOCO: State Parks	\$ 504,500.00
Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)	\$ 353,408.00
Federal Recreational Trails Program-Diversified & Non-Motorized	\$ 200,417.00
Federal Recreation Trails Program - Motorized	\$ 90,000.00
Off Highway Vehicle Fund	\$1,508,500.00

3) **DISCUSSION AND SUMMARY:**

For this year, 69 Recreational and 39 Off-Highway Vehicle eligible applications were received for a total grant request of \$7,164,085.00. The projects were scored by 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 Trail Grants		
Non-Profit Small	3	\$44,450.00
Non-Profit Large	4	\$334,125.00
Federal Small	3	\$40,550.00
Federal Large	4	\$230,400.00
State, County, Local Small	2	\$58,000.00
State, County, Local Mid	4	\$433,000.00
State, County, Local Large	2	\$350,000.00
Planning Grants	4	\$68,000.00
Special Projects	4	\$ 70,000.00
Equipment	3	\$129,800.00
Total Recreational Trail Grants	33	\$1,758,325.00
OHV Grants	33	\$1,598,500.00
TOTAL		\$3,356,825.00

The priority funding lists contain the recommended awards for each grant category.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Dr. Ready, Chair

Antonette DeLauro, Secretary