



**BENTON COUNTY**  
Park Board

**MEETING MINUTES**

**12 November 2019**  
**Benton County Justice Center**  
**7122 West Okanogan Place, Kennewick**

**Members Present**

Karla Brown  
Robin Emmingham  
Laauli Faamausili, Vice Chair  
Richard Nordness  
Diana Ruff, Chair

**Employees Present**

Adam J. Fyall

**Members Absent**

Dave McNeal  
Yessica Rosas

**Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance / Roll Call**

Chair Ruff called the meeting to order at 6:31pm. Roll was called, with five members present, establishing a quorum. The Pledge of Allegiance was cited.

**Review and Approval of Agenda**

The Agenda was approved as presented.

*Motion: Nordness, Second: Emmingham, Vote: 5-0.*

**Approval of Minutes**

Discussion/approval of the October minutes was deferred to a later date.

**Reports to the Board**

**Chair's Report**

None.

### Staff Report

Mr. Fyall added some editorial comments about two County employees that have been out with illnesses. He later elaborated on the recent break-in at Two Rivers Park and answered questions about camping at Horn Rapids, particularly regarding the online reservations system previously used and the general rise in campground use over the past 20 years.

### Business

#### By-Laws & Policy Manual Discussion

The Board worked through heavily pre-edited versions of both documents section by section, accepting and rejecting proposed changes and further editing the language. Vice Chair Faamausili led the discussion of the By-Laws, which included brief discussions of Robert's Rules of Order and the Board's Secretary/Treasurer office, currently unfilled. Chair Ruff led the discussion of the Policy Manual, which featured extended discussions staff/Board administrative boundaries and Board members' participation in Washington Recreation and Parks Association events.

Mr. Fyall took notes and will issue final drafts of each document reflecting the evening's discussions. Along with the edit version, members will also see a final clean version, reformatted to better fit with the County's updated brand aesthetic. The topic will be on the December meeting for [assumed] final action.

#### Long-Term Absence Question

While the agenda item was not taken-up specifically, the By-Laws were amended (proposed) to allow for extended excused absences for up to one year.

#### Rattlesnake Mountain Time Trial

Mr. Fyall introduced the Board to a concept being developed by Chinook Cycling Club that may become a proposal for a new bicycle event on Rattlesnake Mountain. He described some of the logistical and permitting challenges, and the role Benton County could play hosting the event at Horn Rapids. Mr. Fyall mentioned that the Board may see a more formal proposal in the next few months and be asked to support the idea.

### Public Comment

The Chair sought additional comments from the audience, which included four guests:

- George Hager, TCSA: Provided a general update of what is going on at the Shooting Facility, noting that TCSA is anxious to pave the Canyon Road in early 2020.
- Linda Smith, RRR: Talked about how the Board used to have a regular fall meeting in Prosser.
- Mickie Chamness, NPS: Updated the group about the recent NPS plant sale and what is being done with unsold leftovers from that event.
- Cindy Faith, PSR: Talked about riding the fenced corridor that is now the access easement through the recently acquired private property north of Hover Park.

### Poll of the Board

Board members thanked the partners and volunteers for their time and commitment to parks and recreation issues and also expressed gratitude and satisfaction for the time spent working through the by-laws. Specifically, Vice Chair Faamausili thanked Ms. Faith for her interest and

time at Hover Park; Mr. Emmingham asked for a brief Two Rivers Park boardwalk update and suggested that a public meeting onsite might be useful; and Chair Ruff explained that the December meeting would feature the traditional potluck and reading of the *Polar Express* by Hank Sauer.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03pm.

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