



**BENTON COUNTY PARK BOARD**  
**MEETING MINUTES**

March 8, 2022, 6:30 p.m.  
Benton County Administration Building

**Board Members Present**

Dave McNeal, Vice Chair  
Karla Brown, Secretary  
Robin Emmingham, Member  
Kit McBurney, Member  
Sarah Funk, Member  
Yessica Rosas, Member

**Benton County Employees**

Adam Fyall  
Peggy Brown  
Robert Blain  
Juan Manzo

**Board Members Absent**

Laauli Faamausili, Chair

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

Vice Chair, Dave McNeal, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Review & Approval of Agenda**

The March 8, 2022 agenda was approved as submitted.

**Approval of Minutes**

The revised Minutes of January 11, 2022 and the Minutes of February 8, 2022 were approved as submitted.

## **Monthly Reports to the Board**

### **Chair's Report**

There was no report at this time.

### **Committee/Subcommittee Reports**

There were no significant reports at this time. Member Emmingham mentioned that there was an article in the Tri-City Herald regarding E-bikes and traffic. Vice Chair, McNeal mentioned that there was only one member on the Ordinance Committee at this time. He said there wasn't a rush to get more members on the committee at this time, however, members Karla Brown and Sarah Funk mentioned that they'd be willing to join the committee.

### **Staff Reports**

Juan Manzo: Mr. Manzo informed the board that the new park caretaker, Carson Robison, is doing a great job at Two Rivers. He's working at cleaning up the park by pruning and trimming the trees, weeding, and getting the BBQ's welded enough for more use this summer. Mark Finkbeiner, Horn Rapids park caretaker, is getting the park cleaned up for the summer season as well. Cindy Faith, Purple Sage Riders, commented on the garbage being dumped at Hover Park. Her chapter is sponsoring a garbage clean-up on Sat., Mar. 12<sup>th</sup> at 10 am. She hopes that a park board member will be able to attend.

Adam Fyall: Mr. Fyall mentioned that there was not much to add to his written report, and that there would be significant project updates during the Business portion of the meeting.

## **Business**

Robert Blain led the discussion of several capital projects.

- **Capital Projects Updates:**

- Cameras & Wi-fi-

- Due to the increase in car break-ins at Candy Mountain and Badger Mountain, the County is looking at installing cameras at those and other parks. Having Wi-fi access at Horn Rapids could be used for remote booking at the campground, as well as, allowing staff to care for park duties more efficiently.

- Two Rivers Park Restroom and Boardwalk-

Before the Two Rivers restroom and boardwalk project can move forward, the Shoreline Master Plan and flood zone analysis through FEMA must be done first. The permits needed for this project must also be renewed. Robert Blain met with the Two Rivers Restroom subcommittee to discuss colors and design. He also met with White Bluffs Consulting to get a scoping document put together for the restroom and boardwalk project. Since the park lies in a flood zone, the existing footprint of the park will need to be raised a couple of feet or so. He's hoping that for the boardwalk a floating platform can be created across the water. The goal is to get this project finished this year, but it may take longer with the permits. There is money in the parks fund to get these projects done, but we're waiting on permits and other entities.

- Rattlesnake Mountain Shooting Facility Law Enforcement Range-

Adam would like to see this project get off the ground. Feedback from the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation has been good, but the SEPA process has so far fallen short of what the tribes wanted.

- Hover Park Parking Area-

This project was recently started with a historical survey being done by Knutzen Consulting. Before the project can resume, we're waiting for the go ahead from the Corps of Engineers. The contact signage for Horn Rapids and Hover Parks must be bid out due to the high estimated cost of the project. We need a couple of breakthroughs so that we can get moving on these projects that have been hanging over head.

- Candy Mountain Preserve Private Road 669 Paving-

County Parks will conclude its share of paving part of PR 669 this spring. It is still not fully decided what the scope of that project will be. This decision will be determined largely on one of the neighbors, through whom property PR 669 traverses. If the property owner agrees to have paving over their property, then the County will pave about 550 linear feet connecting two previously paved sections. If the adjoining owners do not want their property paved over, the County project will only include the portion of PR 669 crossing the County-owned trailhead/parking area property - about 350 linear feet.

- **Parks Comprehensive Plan-“Pre-Scoping”:**

The county has received four submittals for the Parks Comprehensive Plan consultant bid. The next step is to set up a date to review the submittals and set up interviews to select a consultant and get them under contract. The kickoff of the park plan before the Board should include topics of interest in the community, capital park projects, park policies, short and long term goals/ideas, and funding. Adam mentioned that to be state compliant with the comprehensive plan one needed to be implemented every six years. If you're state compliant then you'd be eligible for state funding.

## **Public Comments/Poll of the Board/Adjournment**

### **Public Comment:**

Dan Chappel (RRR) asked about putting a port-a-potty at the south end of the Horse Camp. He felt that would be beneficial. He also mentioned the Surprise Ride Event set for May 8<sup>th</sup>.

Linda Smith (RRR) shared the same sentiments as Dan. She also wanted to remind the board to use their microphones so those in the audience can hear their comments.

Cindy Faith (PSR) wanted to thank the community in the cleanup at Hover.

George Hager (TCSA) mentioned spring maintenance and getting ready for big matches coming up at the shooting facility.

Mickie Chamness (NPS) couldn't be heard by the clerk for comment.

### **Poll of the Board:**

Robin Emmingham wanted to thank Juan and Robert for sharing the progress on park projects. He wanted to know where we're at on the camp host for Horn Rapids. He's excited about the Comprehensive plan and getting the parking lot done at Hover. He thought maybe Air Soft could possibly become another park partner. There's a lot of work to do, but progress is evident.

Karla Brown wanted to mention that the tech was on point for the meeting, and she echoed the same sentiments as Yessica.

Sarah Funk is honored to be able to participate on the board. She wanted to thank the park partners.

Kit McBurney appreciated all the information presented. She has learned a lot. She wanted to thank

the park partners for their hard work.

Yessica Rosas is excited about Cindy's report on the cleanup at Hover and how the community came together to help clean it up. She felt inspired by what was presented at the meeting. She wants to see a significant push to continue the progress on the park projects.

Dave McNeal appreciated Juan's "on the ground" information and progress report on Two Rivers. He appreciates the park partners. Maybe the board can consider some of these different groups as potential park partners.

Adam mentioned maybe the county can help fund the port-a-potty at the horse camp. He also mentioned that when there's a surplus in the budget, funds get reimbursed into six funds which the park fund is one of those reimbursed.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:54 pm.

The next regular meeting will be held on the second Tuesday in April at the Administration Building.