



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

August 11, 2020, 6:30 p.m.  
Benton County Justice Center  
Kennewick, WA 99336

Meeting provided by Video (via Zoom)

**Board Members Present**

Dave McNeal, Vice Chair (via Zoom)  
Robin Emmingham, Member (via Zoom)  
Karla Brown, Secretary (via Zoom)  
Richard Nordness, Member (via Zoom)  
Diana Ruff, Member (via Zoom)

**Benton County Employees**

Adam Fyall (via Zoom)  
Kirk Engle (via Zoom)  
Robert Blain (via Zoom)  
Peggy Brown (via Zoom)

**Board Members Absent**

Laauli Faamausili, Chair (Absence - Excused)  
Yessica Rosas, Member (Absence- Excused)

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

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

**Review & Approval of Agenda**

The August 11<sup>th</sup> agenda was approved as submitted.

**Approval of Minutes**

The Minutes of July 14, 2020 were approved.

**Monthly Reports to the Board**

## Chair's Report

Board Vice Chair, Dave McNeal, stated that there was no report at this time.

## Committee/Subcommittee Reports

There were no committee or subcommittee reports at this time.

## Staff Report Update

Adam reported that the Park Board will tele-meet at least until public meetings are allowed. Benton County is looking at using Cisco Web-ex for virtual meetings in the future.

News:

- **Badger Mtn Centennial Preserve:** moving materials into the new building with some additional ancillary project to be completed, such as design and installation of a new entrance sign, asphaltting the connecting driveway, placement of a small retaining wall on the uphill side, adding dirt/gravel on downhill side of building for parking, placement of bollards.
- **Horn Rapids Park:** camping revenue is down, Wave Design submitted their assessment on office building-will reconvene with subcommittee to discuss.
- **Sunplash/Wanawish:** subcommittee is meeting with Tapteal Greenway to discuss issues impacting this area.
- **Two Rivers Park:** park seeing heavy use, annual meeting with Corps of Engineers for compliance inspection will be August 26, Nature Trail is getting cleared and clean, capital projects team cleaned off the boardwalk plan and soon will proceed with that project probably with a design/build type contract.
- **Horse Heaven Vista:** more boulders to be placed, new signs added.
- **Hover Park:** once we get contract with Knutzen Engineering we can have board meet with them on-site.
- **Rattlesnake Mtn Shooting Facility:** Dept of Transportation granted a break-in-access off SR225 of range property, a second break-in-access was denied so to counter that is to move the main entrance gate up the driveway and create a fork to the north to direct traffic to the new facility and allow law enforcement their own access.
- **Vista Park/Wallula Gap Preserve:** Nothing new to report.

## Business

- **Hover Park-new parking area:**

- Board discussed how it would like to proceed with the project given pandemic limitations
- Proposed a subcommittee for parking lot project
- On-site meeting between Board and Knutzen Engineering would be ideal
- Have preliminary plan/design in place before going to public forum
- **Horse Heaven Vista:**
  - Encourage Board members to visit park and get an idea of where they'd like to go with this area
  - Discussion centers on the restrooms which bear the burdens of maintenance and vandalism
- **Horn Rapids Park:**
  - Trouble with semi-permanent campers: more litter, campsites not kept clean, restrooms/showers unkempt, parties, guests overstaying their 14-day limits
  - Discussion of whether or not to close the park early due to behavioral issues of the guests
  - Discussion of other alternative measures rather than to close the park early

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

The public gave no comment. The Board had some closing comments.

Robin Emmingham expressed a desire to meet in-person. He is looking forward to the Hover Park project.

Karla Brown had no comment.

Diana Ruff mentioned that Badger Mt. is seeing more hikers which means more trash, but not to the point of looking littered up.

Dave McNeal expressed a desire to thank and recognize Linda Smith with a commemorative plaque outlining her accomplishments she has done for the Park Board. He would like the board to circulate other ideas to give her recognition.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:18 pm.

The next regular meeting will be held on the second Tuesday in September at the Justice Center/Zoom.