



**BENTON COUNTY**  
Parks Department

**STAFF REPORT TO  
BENTON COUNTY PARK BOARD**

**MARCH 2023**

**FINANCIALS**

<b>Park Development Fund Cash Balance:</b>	\$ 931,662.22 (Jan 17 2023)
<b>2023 Revenue from Camping &amp; Donations:</b>	\$ 50.00 (Mar 10 2023)

**GENERAL NEWS**

**Communications Coordinator:** We have a pool of 26 candidates winnowed to 4 interviewees, next week. It will be nice to get someone into this position. It helps Facilities, Parks, and Fairgrounds quite a bit.

**BADGER MOUNTAIN CENTENNIAL PRESERVE**

Nothing to report.

**CANDY MOUNTAIN PRESERVE**

**Candy Mountain Preserve – PR 669 Paving:** We will be bidding this project soon for a spring paving.

**Candy Mountain Preserve – Restroom:** After a few years of sponsorship, Chinook Cycling Club is going to step-away from paying for the portable toilet at the Candy Mountain parking lot, citing the combination of a substantially increased monthly fee (\$50 to \$130) and a steady decline in club revenues. The County will be able to step in for the remainder of the biennium (I think). We will begin paying for the restroom April 1. We use a different company and will have a slightly lower monthly rate, but this would not have made a difference for Chinook. Longer term, having a sponsor would be ideal.

**HORN RAPIDS PARK**

**Horn Rapids Park – Wanawish Dam Safety Elements:** One of the priorities coming out of our parks planning process is the direction to do some things at Horn Rapids to make on-water

travel safer. Benton County sheriff's deputy and former state legislator Brad Klippert is seizing upon this, and he contracted our office to see about placing a life jacket loaner station at the Horn Rapids Park boat launch. This is very encouraging, and I am continuing the conversation with Officer Klippert. He would be a great ally in this effort.

## **RATTLESNAKE MOUNTAIN SHOOTING FACILITY**

**Rattlesnake Mountain Shooting Facility – New Concessionaire Agreement:** Still waiting on the State Fish & Wildlife Commission for a cue on this.

## **TWO RIVERS PARK**

**Two Rivers Park – Restroom:** Still awaiting final word from the Corps of Engineers.

**Two Rivers Park – Boardwalk:** We had a good kick-off meeting this past week that included staff, Board member Emmingham, and the project lead for the consultant, Brian Cole from MacKay & Sposito. We went over schedule, design elements, process, and so on. We can update more at the meeting.

## **OTHER COUNTY PARKS**

**Horse Heaven Cemetery:** Another item called for in the parks planning process is moving ahead with a marker of some kind at the cemetery that makes our best effort in naming everyone who know of that is interred there. I have the best list that we have developed over the years. I suggest a letter going out under the Board's letterhead seeking any more information about this cemetery that anyone might have. Distribution to include other cemeteries in the area, the state agency that oversees cemeteries, local historical societies and so on. We can see what sort of response that generates, then take it from there.

**Horse Heaven Vista:** Nothing new to report.

**Hover Park:** We are awaiting a few things, namely conclusion of evaluation of our parking lot proposal by the Corps and conclusion of the parks plan. With this we can begin to formalize something with Airsoft and deliberate more about what to do with the parking and access.

**Vista Park:** Nothing new to report.

**Wallula Gap Preserve:** Nothing new to report.

## **OTHER NON-BENTON COUNTY PARKS**

**Bateman Island:** Adam may add some comments at the meeting.

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