

**Minutes of Special Meeting
Parks and Waterways
October 28, 2015
2:00 p.m.**

The Kootenai County Board of Commissioners: Chairman Dan Green, Commissioner Marc Eberlein, and Commissioner David Stewart met to discuss the following agenda item. Also present were Parks & Waterways Director Nick Snyder and Deputy Clerk Alicia Lynch. Also present were Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation (IDPR) Director Dave Langhorst, Recreation Resources Bureau Chief Dave Claycomb, Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Trainer Blair Geiger, and citizens Allen and Linda Littlejohn.

- A. Call to Order:** Chairman Dan Green called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.
- B. Introductions:** There were no introductions.
- C. Changes to the Agenda:** There were no changes to the agenda.
- D. New Business:**

Discussion with Dave Claycomb from Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation (IDPR) regarding Off-Road Recreational Vehicle (ORV) funding partnerships

Parks & Waterways Director Nick Snyder raised for discussion the topic of raising money for the potential ORV Park through grants and requested IDPR's input on how a partnership could be formed between the County and IDPR. He explained that there were several grants the County could apply for to develop this park and while a match was not required it would make the County's offer more competitive. Mr. Snyder posed the question what could IDPR do to help the County either raise grant match funds or make a competitive offer for a grant.

Commissioner David Stewart asked Mr. Snyder if the park would require a full time Operations Manager. Mr. Snyder explained that he predicted the position would be seasonal during the peak times the park was in use (March-September) and that all staff would be funded by the park use fees.

Commissioner Marc Eberlein asked if building a Recreational Vehicle (RV) park on the grounds would affect local RV Park business negatively. Mr. Snyder replied that in his research the local RV Parks are at capacity so the additional RV Park would not harm local business but add to it.

IDPR Recreation Resources Bureau Chief Dave Claycomb stated that he was personally a supporter of the planned park but foresaw obstacles in getting IDPR Board approval to change the current process for using grant funds. Mr. Claycomb's concerns lay in the appearance of favoritism. He also reasoned that if the County used the money set aside for their trail maintenance then the County's trails would suffer while the project was being developed. He suggested the alternative of adding a County fee to the motor bike

registration like the County currently does for snowmobiles and boats to generate the funds for the grant match.

- E. Public Comment:** This section is reserved for citizens wishing to address the Board regarding a County related issue. Idaho Law prohibits Board action on items brought under this section except in an emergency circumstance. Comments related to future public hearings should be held for that public hearing.

Citizen Allen Littlejohn raised concerns with removing 700 to 1500 acres of property from the County tax rolls for this park and questioned the validity of a government constructing a park as opposed to a private entity.

Commissioner Stewart explained that the land the County was researching currently claims Timber Exemptions and the County would make more money on the land using it as an ORV Park. Mr. Claycomb stated that only government agencies were able to use the grant funding for the project. Commissioner Eberlein added that a private entity would be looking to make money whereas a user funded project supported by the government would provide a service for a fee and would not be seeking a profit.

Citizen Linda Littlejohn asked if the County had researched how the park would affect emergency services. She stated she also resented additional fees for motor bikes and all-terrain vehicles as not everyone would be using the park.

Chairman Green felt it was premature to look into emergency services as it had not been decided if the park would be developed at this stage.

Commissioner Stewart added that if an additional fee were to be added it would be a voluntary fee for those members of the community who wanted to use the park.

Commissioner Eberlein stated he would like to see more input from the public concerning the additional fee to help fund the grant match.

Chairman Green adjourned the meeting at 3:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM BRANNON, CLERK

DANIEL H. GREEN, CHAIRMAN

BY: _____
Alicia Lynch, Deputy Clerk
