

**Minutes of Meeting  
Bureau of Land Management  
September 21, 2016  
9:00 a.m.**

The Kootenai County Board of Commissioners: Chairman Dan Green and Commissioner David Stewart met to discuss the following agenda item. Also present were KCSO Lieutenant Stu Miller and Deputy Clerks Randi Davis and Lisa Music. Also present were Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Field Manager Kurt Pavlat, and citizens Chris Fillios, Arnold Marquardt, Robert Zabka, Stuart Nordberg, Austin and Maria Mullen, Duane Stensrud, Daniel Fay, Brent Regan, Randall Beat, Laura Templeman, Norman Milem, Linda Bushling, Duane Gross, Bob Grammer, Tammie Puga, Deon Borchard, Robert Mattfeld, Scott Foster, Bill Singleton, Rusty Shepphard, and Jennifer Locke. Commissioner Marc Eberlein was excused.

- A. Call to Order:** Chairman Dan Green called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.
- B. Changes to the Agenda:** There were no changes to the agenda.
- C. Old Business:** There was no old business discussed.
- D. New Business:**

**Meeting with BLM Field Manager Kurt Pavlat to discuss the Wallace (Blue Creek) Forest Conservation Recreational and Forest Health Project**

Chairman Green opened discussion stating the meeting was a BOCC meeting, and not a public hearing. He said BLM was present to give the Board a briefing on upcoming area projects. Chairman Green added that the National Resource Advisory Board was created to give the BOCC recommendations concerning state and Federal land use issues within the County borders. He said there was no decision being presented for the BOCC to make, and BLM had jurisdiction over its land. BLM Field Manager Kurt Pavlat said there would be a public information meeting at 6:00 p.m. on September 29, 2016, at Blue Creek Bay so citizens could gain more in depth information on BLM projects.

Mr. Pavlat presented a three part proposal fact sheet summarizing projects on forest health, hazardous fuels, and recreational enhancement. He said the 751 acres of Federal land east of Fernan Lake was originally acquired to provide public access to Coeur d'Alene Lake, and enhanced public recreational opportunities. Mr. Pavlat stated BLM was going to improve forest quality to 618 acres of that area by thinning dying trees, reducing hazardous fuels to decrease wildfire risk, and improving recreational areas. He said the trail system would be improved with the addition of a new mountain bike trail and gravel parking lot. Mr. Pavlat stated the proposal did not include a new boat launch, motorized use of trails or roads, new roads, overnight camping, aerial spraying of noxious weeds, or lighting and paving of the parking area.

Mr. Brent Regan pointed out that the proposed one acre parking lot would accommodate more than 10 vehicles, and Mr. Pavlat said BLM would scale the lot down.

Mr. Regan expressed concern about how the new mountain bike trail might cause more traffic in the rural area. He suggested a citizen advisory committee be created to address issues outside the scope of the Natural Resource Advisory Board.

Ms. Laura Templeman pointed out that the natural water sources in the proposed improvement area were used by residents nearby. Mr. Pavlat said BLM was mindful of that, and would minimize sediment moving into Blue Creek or Lake Coeur d'Alene. Ms. Templeman asked whether chemical pesticides would be used in the area. Mr. Pavlat confirmed that only pesticides that would not affect the quality of nearby water sources would be used along roads to treat knapweeds.

Mr. Austin Mullen asked who would provide law enforcement in the area. Mr. Pavlat said the BLM would provide an officer periodically. He said BLM also had a service contract with KCSO to provide law enforcement.

Mr. Randall Beat stated an increase in mountain bike usage could lead to more traffic in the area, and expressed concerns of increased fire danger as a result. Mr. Pavlat said BLM was going to reduce hazardous fuels through tree thinning, which would help decrease the risk of wildfires.

Ms. Linda Bushling expressed concern about a possible increase in drug use and home burglaries in the area.

Mr. Robert Mattfeld pointed out that BLM was associated with the International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA), and asked what the next generation of mountain bike trails was projected to be. Mr. Pavlat replied extensive trail expansion could possibly take place in Utah.

Mr. Duane Stensrud expressed concerns about erosion caused by the proposed mountain bike trails and possible increased equestrian use.

Ms. Tammie Puga discussed decreased wildlife in the area because of projected increased traffic. Mr. Pavlat stated some wildlife would be displaced during the implementation of the proposal, but would return.

Mr. Daniel Fay said the quality of land usage had declined in the area over the years, and encouraged BLM to look for opportunities to increase quality land usage.

Mr. Bill Singleton expressed concerns about wildlife leaving the area and not returning.

Mr. Norman Milem asked if BLM would be favorable to a citizen advisory board, and Mr. Pavlat confirmed it would on an ad hoc basis.

Chairman Green asked Mr. Pavlat to include the Sheriff in BLM's email distribution list for projects and prescribed burns, and Mr. Pavlat confirmed that he would.

- 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. There were no public comments.

Chairman Green adjourned the meeting at 10:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM BRANNON, CLERK

DANIEL H. GREEN, CHAIRMAN

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Randi Davis, Deputy Clerk

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