



RALEIGH COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION AUTHORITY Meeting Minutes

June 22, 2021
11:00A.M.

1. Call to Order: Dave Tolliver

2. Roll Call

Present: Dave Tolliver, Linda Epling, Greg Duckworth, Ron Hedrick, Carl Roop, Molly Williams, Bill Calhoun, Billy Michael, BJ Pritchard, Detlef Ulfers, Gillian Tolliver, Sydney Clyburn (via Zoom)

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes (05/18/21)

Roop makes a motion. Epling Seconds. Motion passes.

4. New Business

4.1 Financial Statement May 2021

Cash is up \$43,000 from last year for the month of May. The Operating Income is up \$80,000 from last year, as well; this is not including grant or any other form of funding, aside from income. Calhoun says the year could potentially end with carry over. Approved.

4.2 Campground Hot Water Tank

Roop makes a motion, Epling seconds. Motion passed.

4.3 Capital Improvement Projects

Before discussing capital improvement projects, Williams wants to provide the board with an update on the amount that has been used out of the \$100,000.00. For things that have already been approved and purchased, the amount spent totals \$18,015.00. On this agenda, three items are being requested; this includes 10 AEDs for \$14,171.60 (these were mentioned in the last meeting, but not voted on – in this meeting, they are to be voted on), \$22,487 for one UTV, and \$23,890.00 for mowers (\$11,945.00 per mower). These items totaled amount to \$60,548.60. When adding the items already bought to the newly proposed items, the total is \$78,564.00. Out of Parks and Rec allotted \$100,000.00, \$21,564.58 is left over. Roop makes a motion to approve all purchases mentioned. Epling seconds. Motion passes.

4.4 Director's Report

Marshfork is doing well. There are no updates for it and Dry Hill. Reservations are being made for both properties. The Raleigh-Roundup USA Girls Fastpitch Tournament is scheduled for August 21st.

4H had a youth camp last week and another is scheduled for this week. Everything is going smoothly. Williams and other staff members attended the Subway teardown at the Crab Orchard Walmart. Many items were gathered (such as a counter with a sink, bread oven, two warming units, an Icee machine, and more) for only \$1,000.00. Most of the items are going to 4H, but the Icee machine is going to Fitzpatrick.

The Mountaineer Board at Stoco is doing somewhat better. The utilities are being paid out of pocket by the board members because the youth fund has no money in their account. The Mountaineer Board has asked permission to do some fundraising.

Lake Stephens has acquired more lifeguards over the last weekend, which puts the number of guards up to 11. While the beach is not fully staffed, it is better than what they started with. The beach is no longer at risk of becoming swim at your own risk. While it was an expense to pay for the lifeguard classes and certification, it was a good investment. Beach blast was a success. Over \$11,500 was made over two days, which is not including the vendor fees that were collected.

The disc golf course is making progress; Michael's crew is working on building the T-Boxes. Williams trying to acquiring unused turf left over from various projects. After that, all that's left is the grass seed, add the signs, and the baskets.

There is an updated events schedule; if any of the board members are interested, Williams will email it. The events include campfire programs, Tai-Chi on the beach, and swimming lessons. Williams is waiting on some of the supplies to make it in for the swimming lessons.

Williams and Calhoun are moved in to the new Parks and Rec office. Starting next week, the other employees will be moved in, as well.

Williams is looking at installing 5 new playgrounds. There will be one at both Stoco and the tent campground at Lake Stephens. The playgrounds being installed at these locations are on clearance at one company. The retail price for one playground is around \$62,552.00; the other playground is similar. Williams is able to get the close-out price of \$60,000.00 for both. After including the installation and border-surfacing, the total is around \$87,700.00. If the retail price had been paid, the total amount would have been over \$140,000.00. The other three playground sets are the larger ones. Fitzpatrick, the Lake Stephens overlook, and the Dry Hill center all require updated playgrounds and, therefore, they are the locations that the playgrounds will be installed. If these playground sets were purchased at retail, they would be between \$200,000.00-\$300,000.00 each (this is including installation, border-surfacing, and the playset). The energy pieces are an additional \$43,000.00. There is mention of other bathrooms at those locations, as well. The equipment on these playgrounds will be 50% off due to RCPRA being approved for an initiative. Victoria from Game Time or Cunningham is helping RCPRA to find funding. She is assisting in finding these foundations and grants. A lot of foundations are required to give funding to non-profits. If this is the case, Forward Southern WV will be the fiscal sponsor and funnel the funds to RCPRA for these funds. Williams is not requesting all of the funding for this project from the board; most of it will be obtained through grants, funds, and other

fundraising opportunities that Williams has discussed with both Roop and Hedrick. Williams is not sure regarding the total amount required. To order Stoco and Lake Stephens' cabin/tent area playgrounds, \$87,700.00 is required. These playgrounds are not included in the fundraising, but Williams can include them if necessary. The board recommends that Williams order the playgrounds and put this order of business on the next commission agenda.

WVU Tech – Softball Field - Williams gives a breakdown of the purchases required for the WVU project. The board at Fitzpatrick is up and the only thing that is being waited on is AEP. To acquire field dirt, bricks, and to have a back stop removed, it will cost a total of \$6,800.00. Until the new building, which will house the tractor, bathrooms, concession, etc., is built, the tractor and other materials will be housed in a transportable building. After the permanent building is completed, the transportable building will be moved to Lake Stephens. The transportable building will cost \$8,000.00. Hedrick states that the funds that WVU Tech is offering for the new building project should be transferred into RCPRAs name in order to avoid potential conflict. Roop proposes that Tech should engineer, build, and dispense funds towards the building project. A motion is made to approve the \$8,000.00 for the temporary building. With tech designing, building, and providing funding for the new building project. The temporary building will be moved to Lake Stephens once the new building is completed. Hedrick seconds. Motion passes.

5. Old Business

5.1 Capital Improvement Projects

a. AEDs

The AEDs will be placed at different locations within the parks. One is going to Stoco. Marshfork will be receiving an AED, which will be placed within the bathrooms. There will be multiple AEDs placed at every other location. They are automated and also come with a how-to disc.

a. UTV

5.2 Core Drilling

Williams and Pritchard went down to the previous drill site. Some trees were cleared and there is a small area of concrete, but the site is non-invasive. The drilling company is interested in pursuing drilling once more. Williams has inquired about how much water the company would require, where the water would go after they were finished with it, and if they would require a DEP permit. Williams does not see any reason to decline their offer. They do require a DEP permit, if they use the water out of the lake, they are required to transport in less water. This means that there would be less on the lake road. Roop makes a motion to approve the drilling. Epling seconds. Motion to allow drilling passes.

Additional Discussion:

Ron Hedrick - Flooding issue at Fitzpatrick

During the last big rain, Hedrick went to Fitzpatrick to observe the water activity. There was as much water going over the dam as there is in the creek. Hedrick states that the water is pressurized. The way the culvert is sitting, it is more in line with the flow of the creek than the dam is. The ripples from the water going through the culvert can be seen 70-100 ft. out into the lake. Hedrick is concerned that with one large rain, all of the improvements that are being made could be ruined. He suggests that repairs be made and

restrict the water flow on high ground. Michael says that it is owned by CSX and they should be called. Hedrick suggests that we test the various options out before we commit to one project. Ulfers is going to travel to Fitzpatrick to take a look at the situation, and then get in touch with CSX.

Tolliver - Enforcement

Tolliver is inquiring to Roop about what might need to be done for Pritchard to be able to issue tickets to patrons at Lake Stephens and other parks, if necessary. Roop states that, in order for Pritchard to become a conservator of the peace, he would need to have a municipality within a certain distance of the location. He could be made a park ranger, but in that case, rules and regulations must be made. The magistrate will not fine people under such circumstances. Williams states that violations of the rules and regulations consistently occur, but that the police will not respond to the calls reporting violations due to it being the private property. Roop states that he is going to find out why it is considered "private property." Duckworth states that it could be due to the way that the callers report the incidents or the way they articulate the situation. Over the course of the last weekend, a woman was recklessly driving around the campground. After the call went in to the 911 center, some of the other campers heard over the scanner that the call should be dismissed due to the property being private. The sheriff is going to be contacted to determine why they observe the lake as private property.

6. Adjournment

Roop makes a motion to adjourn.
Adjourned.

Next Meeting July 20, 2021 at 11:00am at the Raleigh County Commission Office.