



**COUNTY PARKS BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
October 8, 2020**

- I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER:** The regular meeting of the Natrona County Parks Board brought to order at 5:30p.m. By Chairman Roy Buck.
- II. ROLL CALL:** Those in attendance were Parks Board Members Dave North, Jim Miller, and Stuart Hill. Parks Director Mike Haigler and Commissioner Brook Kaufman (liaison) Tina Kruse was absent.
- III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- IV. APPROVAL:** Stuart Hill motioned for approval of the September 10, 2020 minutes. Dave North seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- V. REPORTS- Park Director:** Stuart Hill motioned to accept the Directors Report as written and opened the meeting up for discussion. Dave North seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Chairman Roy Buck asked if Mike Haigler had anything to add in addition to any items.

Mike Haigler responded yes; items 4. and 5. under the mountain report.

**A. MOUNTAIN PARKS UPDATE:**

**4. Trail Center:**

Parks Director Mike Haigler reported that the contractor would be at the Trails Center on the 19<sup>th</sup> of October to start tearing the building down. Lyle Murtha has started the process of gathering the public and user groups. There are tentative dates set right now for Friday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> from 1p.m. to 5p.m. and Tuesday, October 27<sup>th</sup> from 1p.m. to 5p.m. The meeting will most likely be held at the AG Center. Lyle will let Mike know which date works best based off the people's response.

**5. Bear Trap Meadow Shelters:**

Mike Haigler reported that the same contractor for the Trails Center will also do the tear down and removal of the three shelters in Bear Trap Meadow. Asbestos was found on one of the shelter roofs. That will need to be dealt with first. The process will continue after the asbestos removal.

Chairman Roy Buck asked if there were any questions from the Board.

Jim Miller asked Mike Haigler if they plan to leave the foundation of the Trails Center.

Mike Haigler responded that yes, they had originally bid it to take it out but he decided to leave it so the trailer can be placed on the foundation.

Chairman Roy Buck asked if Mike Haigler foresees any problems placing the temporary shelter.

Mike Haigler responded that he does not foresee any problems right now and as long as the water and sewer system are not disturbed there shouldn't be any issues. He knows the contractor is going to be cautious, but that would be the only small item that would need to be fixed if there were damages. Mike reported that he is still waiting on the permit for the water well to reconnect; it is still connected but they are not allowed to operate it yet. There is some maintenance to do on it, with the well casing and reconfiguration of the pumps. The DEQ has not approved that yet. Mike reported that they have started the process of moving the leech field. The Fire Department and the Health Department have given a tentative ok. Some trees have been removed but he has not received the final ok. Mike stated that that needs to happen before winter.

Chairman Roy Buck asked if there was an idea on a time frame to get the permissions back from the DEQ.

Mike Haigler responded that Berry Vinn sent him a text this week saying that Karen Farley is reviewing it. They are trying to let them do it under "maintenance" versus "full reconstruction." If it's done under maintenance there won't be a whole lot of hold up other than the resizing of the pump. There may need to be a little pump house up there, but there would be water back down to the lodge. Mike reported that the downside is that if that doesn't happen then he doesn't have water to go into the trailer.

Stuart Hill asked if Mike has a plan B.

Mike Haigler responded dry camping.

Jim Miller asked what the size of the temporary building is.

Mike Haigler responded that it is 44'x14' if he remembers correctly, or 46'. He reported that there is one sitting out past the Beacon Club, to the west, if anyone wants an idea of what it looks like. It has a brown and gold roof.

Dave North asked if it is a Wyoming shed.

Mike Haigler reported that it was made in Montana.

Stuart Hill asked what amenities it has.

Mike Haigler responded that it has a great room, counter space to sit and/or stand, and cupboard space under that. They anticipate putting some of the furniture back in there from the lodge. It's not as big as the lodge but it's a place to get warm and go to the bathroom.

Stuart Hill asked Jim Miller what the team was going to do for waxing and such.

Jim Miller responded that it is up to the coaches. They have reached out to the District but he does not know what they have come up with. There has been talk that they are going to have the kids do it but it does not look like that is going to work so they are trying to figure out what to do. Jim Miller

reported that Harry Brubacher is talking to Jason Gutierrez on what he will accept up there for a temporary building.

Chairman Roy Buck asked if Commissioner Kaufman had any questions or comments.

Commissioner Kaufman replied that she did not.

Chairman Roy Buck stated that that covered all of the updates and moved to section six.

**VI. INFORMATIONAL:** Chairman Roy Buck asked if anyone had any information on the Central Wyoming Trails Association cleanup day.

Jim Miller reported that he was there that day and Tia from the Central Wyoming Trails Association took care of the bike trails and the Nordic Club took care of the ski trails. The Nordic Club had about 20-25 people. That also included community people that walked by and started helping. They got a lot done and the Nordic side covered all the trails but that's not including the Biathlon; but it's ready for skiing.

Stuart Hill asked Jim Miller how the Biathlon looked.

Jim Miller responded that he has not been over there due to construction going on.

Mike Haigler reported that they are paving on the North East end.

Jim Miller reported that that is what is causing all the activity going on, going up the mountain with trucks coming and going. He also reported that the Equestrian Club served the food and had 4 or 5 people there.

Roy Buck stated that is was good to see all those groups working together.

Jim Miller reported that he was responsible for getting all the community people involved and Tia was responsible

for the Central Wyoming Trails. There were a number of people. Skiers, snow shoe-r's, the running club, bikers, equestrians, and community members. Jim reported that Martins Hut was ready for use. About 5 cords of wood had been split and he thanked Visit Casper for contributing the food.

Roy Buck stated that it gave him a good feeling to see all the people still coming together to take care of projects. He reported that it makes him feel good about our community.

Stuart Hill stated that he has the warm fuzzies from all those people coming together.

**VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Chairman Roy Buck opened the floor for public comment.

Douglas Irvin thanked Mike Haigler and the Board for all the progress that they have made this summer. The trail work by Mr. Chrisman's land is looking very nice. He mentioned all the groups working on the trails on September 26<sup>th</sup>. CWTA and Nordic people all working together. Tia did a great job making sure she had people there that knew what needed to be done. He thanked the Snow Gypsies for stocking up the emergency shelters with firewood for the season and for the work at the Ponderosa Shelter. He

commented on things to keep in mind for the winter and next year. Rotary needs eyes on the top of the falls trails; some of the work is decaying and falling down. He commented that it's a safety hazard and there needs to be a plan. He reported that he would like to encourage the Parks Board to keep working on the easements by Mr. Chrisman's property and Michael Reed's property. He would like to keep asking on the progress of that so that can finally be tied up. He thanked the Board for their time and their service.

Mike Haigler responded that he has been in contact with the Rotary Club and 71 Construction. They are supposed to be going up there and taking a look at that. He stated that that would need to be addressed.

Commissioner Kaufman stated that she can not speak on the Mike Reed property but there has been many conversations with Mr. Chrisman and the easement has not yet been signed but they are working towards the language on that. She believes it's in his court to sign so they are very close.

Hearing comments the floor was closed.

#### **VIII. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:**

Dave North reported that Mike Haigler has done more than anyone expected and wanted to express his gratitude.

Roy Buck reported that what Mike has done is amazing.

Jim Miller also thanked Mike.

Commissioner Kaufman reported that these projects seem to take a lot of time but it does come together.

The board members also thanked and applauded Road, Bridge, and Parks Office Manager Glenna Nash for 40+ years of services. She will retire October 20, 2020.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business to come before the Parks Board, Chairman Roy Buck adjourned the meeting at 5:55p.m.