



Snyderville Basin Special Recreation District
Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February 10, 2022
Virtual Meeting via Zoom
Meeting ID: 857 7918 3389
5715 Trailside Drive
Park City, Utah

Board Members in Attendance: Ryan Bruce, Ben Castro, Brandi Connolly, Len McGee, Larry Moffitt, Carrie Westberg. Board members participated electronically via Zoom and at anchor location.

Absent: Nate Brown

Staff Present: Mike Baker, Matt Benge, Stacy Carpenter, Steve Good, Director Dana Jones, Brian Kadziel, Justine Kadziel, Ben Liegert, Allie McKinney, Ben Pearson, Sam Schwoebel, Matt Wagoner. Staff participated electronically via Zoom and at anchor location.

Attending Guests: K. Brown, Matthew Idema, Shawn Potter, Alex Stewart

CALL TO ORDER AND PUBLIC INPUT

The meeting of February 10, 2022, was called to order by Chair Connolly at 6:03pm.

No public input. Chair Connolly closed public input at 6:03 pm

CONSENT AGENDA

1. REQUEST TO APPROVE MINUTES FROM 01/13/21
2. REQUEST TO APPROVE THE PRIOR MONTH'S EXPENDITURES
3. REQUEST TO APPROVE STANDING AND AD-HOC COMMITTEES

AD HOC COMMITTEES:

Capital Investment & Strategic Action Plan Committee - Ben Castro (Committee Chair), Brandi Connolly, Len McGee

STANDING COMMITTEES:

District Director Liaison & Annual Review Committee - Brandi Connolly (Committee Chair), Larry Moffitt, Carrie Westberg

Personnel Committee - Ryan Bruce, Brandi Connolly, Len McGee (Committee Chair)

Audit Review Committee (All Board Members)

Trails Committee - Ben Castro, Len McGee, Larry Moffitt (Committee Chair)
Open Space Committee - Nate Brown (Committee Chair), Ryan Bruce, Ben Castro
Parks & Recreation Committee - Nate Brown, Ryan Bruce (Committee Chair), Carrie Westberg

BOSAC (County Appointed): Ben Castro

MOTION: To approve the three-point Consent Agenda [CASTRO / WESTBERG] All in favor: Bruce, Castro, Chair Connolly, McGee, Moffitt, Westberg. None Opposed. Abstain: None. Absent: Brown. Motion carries.

REVIEW OF 4TH QUARTER 2021 FINANCIAL REPORT

Board members received the 4th Quarter 2021 Financial Report from Carpenter in their Board packets prior to the meeting. Carpenter discussed the reorganization of budget. Carpenter stated that for the 4th Quarter 2021 Fieldhouse cost recovery was approximately 79.8% and that Recreation cost recovery was 83.3%. Carpenter stated that the District is \$2.4 million under budget and explained that it can be attributed to conservative revenue estimates related to property taxes, conservative expenditures, low staffing as well as covid related conservancies.

Director Jones explained the District's goal to operate as one combined department as a whole. The Board and Director Jones discussed how the funds would be budgeted and reported among the different departments. The Board and Director Jones discussed how to report the District's cost recovery most efficiently and accurately.

TRAIL ACCESS PLANNING UPDATE

Board members received a staff report from Wagoner in their Board packets prior to the meeting. Wagoner stated that as a continuation of the Access Planning Process that began in 2021 with the Multi-Disciplinary Group, a study of trail user volume and origin was undertaken by the District. Wagoner discussed the data regarding trail use volume. Wagoner explained that trail use volume was down slightly for 2021. Wagoner stated that since parking enforcement has progressed at trailheads, there has been a gradual decrease in average daily traffic at trailheads.

Wagoner discussed the data surrounding user origin. Wagoner stated that trail usage for 2021 was broken down into three categories: local users equating to 40%, day visitors equating to 38% and out of area users equating to 22%. Wagoner explained that usage from residents nearest trailheads has increased over last 4 years (a trend that coincides with data from COVID-19 pandemic indicating a decrease in distance travelled for outdoor recreation, especially by urban residents), users coming from middle distances, including the Salt Lake Valley have decreased over the same time period, and that visitors from more than 50 miles away has been relatively steady if not decreasing slightly. Wagoner discussed the COVID-19 impacts regarding this data. The Board thanked Wagoner for his detailed reporting and collection of this information. The Board and Wagoner discussed how this data has affected trail maintenance and etiquette.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF RENEWAL CONTRACT FOR THE SUMMIT PARK FOREST HEALTH AND FUELS MANAGEMENT PROJECT

Board members received a staff report from Wagoner and Bengé in their Board packets prior to the meeting. Bengé summarized the 2020 Summit Park Forest Health and Fuels Management

Project. Bengé stated that there are approximately 1,200 piles remaining to be burned to complete this project. Bengé explained that although burning is dependent on multiple variables including air quality and environmental conditions, it is likely that the remaining piles can be completed in 2022.

Bengé stated that Alpine Forestry has met performance expectations, proving to be an effective project partner. The District recommends that their contract be renewed for 2022 to continue work on the Summit Park Forest Health and Fuels Reduction Project. Bengé explained that this expense has been accounted for in the 2022 general budget and that there is potential for partial reimbursement pending award of grants from the Utah State WRI program.

The Board and Bengé discussed the dimensions of a pile.

MOTION: To renew Alpine Forestry's contract for 2022 at a rate of \$400/hour for pile burning, \$200/hour for slash management, and \$1,650/acre for timber treatments not to exceed a total of \$83,000.00 [WESTBERG / MCGEE] All in favor: Bruce, Castro, Chair Connolly, McGee, Moffitt, Westberg. None Opposed. Abstain: None. Absent: Brown. Motion carries.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF GOAT GRAZING CONTRACT

Board members received a staff report from Wagoner and Bengé in their Board packets prior to the meeting. Bengé explained that in the Fall of 2019, the District hired 4 Leaf Ranch to conduct a pilot program to treat undesirable plant species by grazing goats on 20 acres of Willow Creek Open Space. Bengé stated that following the success of the pilot program the District signed a three-year contract with 4 Leaf Ranch in 2020 that involved treating 22 acres of open space in Toll Canyon for weed abatement, as well as fire mitigation, and 66 acres of Willow Creek Open Space each year for three years. Bengé explained that the grazing project at Willow Creek was successful, not only in removing the undesirable vegetation, but in creating opportunities for positive engagement with the public. Bengé stated that due to drought conditions in 2021 and subsequent environmental stress on vegetation the District decided not to renew the contract with 4 Leaf Ranch that year.

Bengé explained that the District would like to bring back 4 Leaf Ranch to complete the contract and continue the grazing project on Willow Creek Open Space. Bengé stated that the treatment area would remain only in Willow Creek and is projected to begin in early July. Bengé explained that the treatment time can be slightly variable dependent on staff, environmental conditions, number of goats available, but should last between three and four weeks. Bengé stated that the not-to-exceed amount for Willow Creek is \$66,000.00 for the entire 66 acres and is accounted for in the general budget for 2022.

The Board and Bengé discussed the benefit of beginning this project in early July instead of fall.

MOTION: To renew the agreement with 4 Leaf Ranch to treat 66 acres of Willow Creek Open Space with the price not to exceed \$66,000.00 and to allow the District Director to execute the necessary documents [MOFFITT / WESTBERG] All in favor: Bruce, Castro, Chair Connolly, McGee, Moffitt, Westberg. None Opposed. Abstain: None. Absent: Brown. Motion carries.

126 **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF ASPEN RESEARCH PROJECT**

127 Board members received a staff report from Wagoner and Bengé in their Board packets prior to
128 the meeting. Wagoner explained that the PRI Open Space below the Olympic Park is one of the
129 few properties where quaking aspen trees dominate the canopy. Wagoner explained that the
130 structure of the forest over the past several years has begun to change, and that stand density has
131 declined while dead trees both standing and down have become more common. Wagoner stated
132 that the District would like to enter into a multi-year agreement with Utah State University, by
133 allowing a student as part of the Utah State University Environment and Society master's degree
134 program, to lead the study with guidance from university faculty. Wagoner explained that the
135 District's desired outcome from the study is to determine reasons for forest health decline,
136 measure aspen forest status and to develop actionable management plans to improve stand
137 quality. Wagoner stated that surveys will be conducted in an attempt to bridge the gap between
138 community values and environmental conditions.

139
140 Wagoner stated that the total cost of the project is estimated at \$80,788.00 over a two-and-a-half-
141 year period. Wagoner explained that this equates to \$32,315.20 for 2022 and 2023 followed by
142 \$16,157.60 in 2024 and that this amount is accounted for in the 2022 budget as a
143 consultation/management planning expense.

144
145 The Board and Wagoner discussed the gradual decline of this grove over the past decade.
146 Wagoner explained that the District is concerned for any chronic problems the grove may be
147 experiencing as well as any acute problems that the District may be able to address. Wagoner
148 stated that the District plans to use the information from this study to help prevent or mitigate
149 any health issues that may arise at other properties in the District. The Board and Wagoner
150 discussed how other nearby aspen groves exhibit extremely different character from this grove.

151
152 The Board and Wagoner discussed the possibility of applying for grant funds to help offset the
153 cost of this project for future years.

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155 **MOTION:** To approve the three-year agreement with Utah State University in the amount of
156 \$80,788.00 and allow the District Director to execute the necessary documents [WESTBERG /
157 CASTRO] All in favor: Bruce, Castro, Chair Connolly, McGee, Moffitt, Westberg. None
158 Opposed. Abstain: None. Absent: Brown. Motion carries.

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160 **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF RECOMMENDATION TO COUNTY**
161 **COUNCIL TO ACCEPT TRAIL EASEMENT CHANGES FOR THREE MILE CANYON**
162 **TRAIL**

163 Board members received a staff report from Baker in their Board packets prior to the meeting.
164 Shawn Potter with Promontory explained that the District currently holds a trail easement for the
165 Three Mile Canyon trail located within the Promontory Development. Potter stated that
166 Promontory will be developing a new par 3 Golf Course in an area adjacent to this trail in the
167 near future and is requesting an alteration of the Three Mile Canyon trail alignment to
168 accommodate the access required to construct the new golf course.

169
170 Wagoner explained that the District is working closely with Promontory to create a new trail
171 alignment that will bypass the affected section of trail by constructing a new segment to

circumvent the golf course construction zone. Director Jones explained that the District is recommending that the Board approve a recommendation to County Council to vacate the existing trail easement while acquiring a new trail easement for the new alignment.

The Board and Wagoner discussed the multi-use accommodations for the trail. Chair Connolly thanked the District staff and Promontory for working closely and efficiently on this project together. The Board and Matthew Idema, with Promontory, discussed the time line of construction for this trail. The Board and Idema discussed maintaining the trail as an active pass through for use during construction.

MOTION: To forward a positive recommendation to the Summit County Council to vacate the existing Three Mile Canyon trail easement while simultaneously accepting an updated Three Mile Canyon trail easement that is reflective of the new alignment [MOFFITT / MCGEE] All in favor: Bruce, Castro, Chair Connolly, McGee, Moffitt, Westberg. None Opposed. Abstain: None. Absent: Brown. Motion carries.

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

Board members received a staff report from Director Jones in their Board packets prior to the meeting. Director Jones stated that the District has been working with Summit Lands and Mountain Trails Foundation to get the 5k Green Heart trail open for public use. Director Jones stated that the District has received positive feedback from the public about the use of this new trail. Director Jones discussed the Winter Sports Extravaganza taking place on February 12th and encouraged the Board to attend the event.

Director Jones stated that the District has met with the Ice Arena to update Park City on the direction the Board is leaning regarding the Ice Arena contract. Director Jones explained that the City will be discussing the contract and deciding if they would like to maintain the current contract as is or if the District will be providing an advance on future scheduled payments which would be credited back to the District by 2030.

Director Jones stated the importance of the District's Strategic Planning moving forward and explained that the District is reviewing examples of request for proposal (RFP) and strategic plans from other Parks and Recreation Departments. Director Jones stated that the District will meet with the Strategic Planning AD-HOC Committee to discuss the best way to proceed.

Director Jones explained that the District is preparing to update policy and procedures and discussed where the Board can access the current policy and procedure documents.

UPDATES FROM DISTRICT COMMITTEES

STANDING COMMITTEES:

District Director Liaison & Annual Review Committee: Chair Connolly stated that the committee discussed Utah Legislative Bill 66 regarding e-bikes and how that can impact the District's trail maintenance and safety.

Personnel Committee: Did not meet.

Trails Committee: Moffitt stated that the committee discussed the Three Mile Canyon trail changes, trails access planning update, Osguthorpe Farm, Green Heart trail, the

Winter Sports Extravaganza and PP-50. Director Jones stated that Park City Council is interested in having a work session on trails and suggested the Trails Committee attend to represent the Board.

Open Space Committee: Wagoner stated that committee discussed the items on the meeting agenda including contract renewals and the Aspen Grove Project.

Parks & Recreation Committee: Did not meet.

BOSAC (County appointed) – Did not meet.

AD HOC COMMITTEE:

Capital Investment and Strategic Action Plan Committee: Did not meet.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS AND REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS

Chair Connolly stated that contingent upon the status of COVID-19, the Board is planning to meet in person next month for those who are able to attend. Castro commended the District's hard work and cooperation with other departments on the Green Heart project.

At 7:38 pm, Chair Connolly called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting of February 10, 2022 [MOFFITT / WESTBERG] All in favor: Bruce, Castro, Chair Connolly, McGee, Moffitt, Westberg. None Opposed. Abstain: None. Absent: Brown. Motion carries.

MOTIONS:

MOTION: To approve the three-point Consent Agenda [CASTRO / WESTBERG] All in favor: Bruce, Castro, Chair Connolly, McGee, Moffitt, Westberg. None Opposed. Abstain: None. Absent: Brown. Motion carries.

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MOTION: To approve the three-year agreement with Utah State University in the amount of \$80,788.00 and allow the District Director to execute the necessary documents [WESTBERG / CASTRO] All in favor: Bruce, Castro, Chair Connolly, McGee, Moffitt, Westberg. None Opposed. Abstain: None. Absent: Brown. Motion carries.

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264 Mile Canyon trail easement that is reflective of the new alignment [MOFFITT / MCGEE] All in
265 favor: Bruce, Castro, Chair Connolly, McGee, Moffitt, Westberg. None Opposed. Abstain:
266 None. Absent: Brown. Motion carries.

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269 favor: Bruce, Castro, Chair Connolly, McGee, Moffitt, Westberg. None Opposed. Abstain:
270 None. Absent: Brown. Motion carries.

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272 Minutes prepared by Allie McKinney

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274 Clerk/Board Member Approval: 