

Hill County Park Board Meeting Minutes
In the Timmons Room, of the Courthouse
Monday, August 4th, 2025, 5:30 P.M.

Board Members Present: Larry Kinsella, Lou Hagener, Tony Reum, Sheri Williams, Bill Bildger, Dave Fanning, Chairman Jeff Jensen, Park Superintendent Chad Edgar

Board Members Absent: Jake Strissel

Guests: Mark Magelssen, Terri Magelssen, Kim Cripps, Renelle Braaten, Cathy Jamruszka, Frank Leeds, Pete Stiffarm, Kyle Leeds

Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Lou to approve the July minutes. Seconded by Dave. Motion Passed.

Approval of Agenda: Motion made by Larry to approve the Agenda. Seconded by Sheri, Motion Passed.

Public Comment on Agenda Item/Agenda Requests: NA

Cabin Business: #25 *Phelps Lane*: Courthouse stated she needed to go to Clerk & Records office and no motion is needed.

#36 *Alkali Springs*: Improvement Request to install a New Cabin, Septic Tank, Cistern and Gray Water Drain. All improvements will meet Park Rules and Regulations. The Well will need to be logged with ownership to the County. Motion made by Larry to approve the improvement requests. Seconded by Tony. Motion Passed.

#4 *Quarter Gulch Lane*: Cabin Transfer from Susan Lowen to Mark and Terri Magelssen. Motion made by Larry to approve the transfer. Seconded by Sheri. Motion Passed.

#4 *Quarter Gulch Lane*: Site Improvement Request: Repair Fence, Replace Roof (new will be Green in color), Install power meter pole along North fence line, move outhouse and install plastic tank underneath. Motion made by Sheri to approve the Improvement Request. Seconded by Tony. Motion Passed.

#8 *Blackie Coulee* & #10 *Alkali Springs*: Are behind on payments and have not passed inspections. Motion made by Sheri to have the County Attorney send letters of notice. Seconded by Dave. Motion Passed.

Old Business: *Lodge*: Still fundraising, the group had a meeting last Thursday and focused on larger donors and how to get them to participate. September 17th there will be an event at the Lodge for some of the donors, this will be an invitation only event. Architects have been asked to finish the plans as they are currently 75% complete. Korb is looking at taking on sub-contractors for the project. We have raised \$450,000 so far.

Cabin Lease: Clean up the lease and have the delinquent cabin form match up. Lou mentioned provisions on transfers and having them come into compliance. Further stating that when a lot is up for sale it needs to come into compliance at that time. Be it an oversized lot, wrong color, or anything that is not up to date with the current rules and regulations.

New Business: *C&C Market Signage*: Pete Stiffarm took over Grandma's and is launching a new market opening on Wednesday. They would like to place signage near Taylor Road to let campers know there is a store close. Pete stated that they would be willing to sell Park Permits and help bridge the gap with the tribe if needed in the future. A concern mentioned from the Board was that they didn't want any advertising on the Park. Stating it could open up a problem with others wanting billboards or advertising as well. Pete stated the sign didn't have to have their name, just something simple like the word "store", an arrow along with how far away it is. After a brief conversation Pete was asked to speak with MDT (Montana Department of Transportation) as he will also need their approval. He was asked to also bring back some sign designs that will

match what the Park already has. Motion made by Lou to table the signage topic. Seconded by Sheri. Motion Passed.

Grazing Allocations: Grazing committee met and has two recommendations for the Board.

They recommend Allocations for 2025 be determined by the 3-year Average numbers for the 2025 Grazing season. Motion made by Lou to approve the 3-year average allocation numbers for 2025. Seconded by Tony. Motion Passed.

The second item is about an allotment that won't be utilized this year, also noted the future of the Grazer is unsure. The Committee recommended a South end Grazer move if they are willing to then advertise for the remaining allotment. Anyone can apply for the allotment including current grazers, 10,000 AUDs would be available if the Grazer chooses not to move. If they move only 6,000 AUDs will be available. If more than one application is received a random draw will take place. Motion made by Lou to follow the recommendation from the Grazing Committee and advertise for 14 days. Seconded by Larry. Motion Passed.

Committee Reports:

Grazing Committee: Grazing committee met and had two recommendations for the Board.

They recommend Allocations for 2025 be determined by the 3-year Average numbers for the 2025 Grazing season. They also recommend that the allotment that won't be utilized this year be advertised anyone can apply and it will for 2025 only.

Group Reports:

Cabin Owner's Report: NA

Friends of Beaver Creek Park: Had a meeting and discussed the Lodge. They are receiving lots of donations.

Superintendent Report:

- Park usage: Busy all summer.
- Park conditions: Very green and relatively wet, fire danger is low.
- Park Work: mowing over the month, Brush cutting sides of roads and campgrounds, the Nature trail was cut again, painted some of the outhouse doors, and graded roads.
- Fixing picnic tables in spare time
- Finishing up some of the house repairs, painting the eve and soffit
- Kiwanis is running full and smooth
- FEMA and flood status: no new progress over the last month, told to be patient as they are making changes.
- Northwestern Energy donated 18 employees to help with litter clean up. They gave \$100 per employee and issued the Park a check for \$1,800 for their help. Chad asked if we could deposit the funds into the Lodge fund. (It was agreed to add the check to the Lodge fund)

Claims: Motion made by Lou to approve the July Claims. Seconded by Dave. Motion Passed.

Public Comment: *Lou H:* Asked the commissioners if they scheduled interviews for the two applications they received for the open Park Board position.

Lou H: The conservation district is doing water monitoring on Big Sandy and Beaver Creek they are collecting samples once a month in the middle of the month reach out to Emma if you are interested in joining.

Lou H: Reminded the Board about his suggestion to have a public engagement event about the Park. He asked for it to be added to the Agenda to get planning started, suggesting the event to happen over the winter.

The meeting adjourned at 6:29 P.M. : Motion made by Sheri to adjourn. Seconded by Tony. Motion Passed.

Next meeting: Monday September 8th, 2025, in the Timmons Room of the Hill County Courthouse at 5:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Danielle Eldridge Administrative Assistant to the Park Superintendent.