

Hill County Park Board Meeting Minutes
In the Timmons Room, of the Courthouse
Monday, September 8th, 2025, 5:30 P.M.

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

Board Members Absent: Jake Strssel, Bill Lainer, Dave Fanning

Guests: Rose Cloninger, Jennifer Ehry-Zambaum, Kyle Leeds, Lowell Miller, Russell Zambaum

Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Lou to approve August Minutes. Seconded by Sheri. 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: *#26 Phelps Lane removing an owner:* Motion made by Larry to approve the request to remove father Mike Howen who has passed away off of the cabin lease. Seconded by Tony. Motion Passed.

Old Business: *Lodge:* Still fundraising. Attended the fossil festival, two signs were displayed with a couple people there to answer questions. Good feedback and a few new prospects. Friends of Beaver Creek Park were in attendance, and so far over half a million pledges placed.

New Business: *Intermittent Winter Work:* We have a summer seasonal worker that is still in High School, he was hired as a Jr. laborer. There is a program at his school that allows him to earn credit while he works up to 8 hours a week. The Park has a few hours left over from Dave W. retiring earlier this year. There are a few projects he can work on such as helping get the schoolhouse cleaned up and re-sheeting the ceiling, picnic tables need work and there is some indoor shop work as well. He gets out of school at 1 and gets to the Park by 1:30. If this is approved his status will change in October to Intermittent until December. Motion made by Tony to approve. Seconded by Larry. Motion Passed.

Grazing Transfer: Gail Solomon sent a request in to transfer her late husband, Teds allotment to her. Motion made by Larry to approve the transfer. Seconded by Tony. Motion Passed.

Public Engagement: Lou went over the details for the public engagement event he would like the Board to host. He will be emailing the board a copy of the presentation as the display TV wasn't working properly. Lou proposed the event take place in either December or January. Requesting that there is no front of the room presentations. Envisioning an open house/town hall type event that will allow members of the community to ask questions and find out more about the Park. Plans for snacks and refreshments are in the works along with finding the best location. This is a work in progress and details will be shared at future Park Board meetings until the event date is set.

Cabin Lease: Hold off until the Ad-Hoc group is done evaluating the Grazing Lease.

Committee Reports:

Grazing Committee: Have not met. Lou requested that the Board reviews the first page of the Grazing policies and procedures at the next Park Board meeting. Asking for it to be added to the October Agenda.

Group Reports:

Cabin Owner's Report: Cleaned road on the 22nd, talking to cabin owners to see if anyone wants to sell. Not many cabin owners out this year.

Friends of Beaver Creek Park: NA

Superintendent Report:

- Usage is slow since the middle of August. Labor Day was quieter than most, due to several events in town.
- Conditions: Relatively green, rain early in August was significant, which helps.
- Cattle on the Park, ranchers are electing to graze later in October and November this year. Most of them are on the South end and most are pairs totaling 802 currently on.
- Prepared for Labor Day by mowing and cleaning outhouses.
- Cattle prep included fence repairs, placing salt and repairing spring tanks
- Barn is now insulated, and the walls are being painted to brighten it up. The ceiling is unpainted. The boiler will be installed soon.
- Worked on tree and brush trimming on the roadsides. A better brush attachment for the skid steer might be needed in the future.
- Working on painting soffit and trim on the house.
- Fixing tables when we have time.
- Outhouse South of Lions is in and looks good.
- HPPA- completed a project around the pavilion where they inserted grids for pea gravel, so it won't fall out and won't get as muddy.
- Summer is over and it went smoothly with a great crew, two of the seasonals returned it was a great summer.

Claims: Motion made by Tony to approve the August Claims. Seconded by Lou. Motion Passed.

Public Comment: Rose C.: Asked about the boiler in the barn.

Lowell M A.: stated that the Chuck Zortman sign should say Zartman with an A not an O.

Lou H.: Conservation district did 5 plots on the 15th and Lou has the data.

The meeting adjourned at 6:02 P.M.: Motion made by Sheri to adjourn. Seconded by Larry. Motion Passed.

Next meeting: October 6th, 2025, in the Timmons Room at Courthouse at 5:30 pm.

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