



MINUTES:

Approved November 19, 2020

Commission Meeting Agenda

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

September 17, 2020

WSPRC HQ, 1111 Israel Rd. SW, Tumwater, WA 98501

The meeting will be strictly accessible to the public via telephone and the internet

Commissioners: Chair Steve Milner, Vice-Chair Michael Latimer, Secretary Mark O. Brown, Cindy Whaley, Sophia Danenberg, Diana Perez and Ken Bounds.

Director: Donald Hoch

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission has decided to change its regularly scheduled meeting on September 16 and 17 in Pullman, Washington, to a one-day online commission meeting.

This meeting begins promptly at 9:00 a.m. and runs until about 4:30 p.m. on September 17.

Members of the public may attend remotely using one of the following phone numbers or web link:

US Toll: (415) 655-0001

Seattle Toll: (206) 207-1700

Meeting Access Code: 133 404 8199

Attendee Link via the web:

<https://watech.webex.com/watech/onstage/g.php?MTID=ebe1360506c8a8c279c2cb8e67a2c7ad0>

Time: Opening session will begin as shown; all other times are approximate.

Order of Presentation: In general, each agenda item will include a presentation, followed by Commission discussion, and then a decision. There will be no oral public comment during the meeting.

Public Comment:

Written public comment will be accepted for all agenda items until 5 p.m. on September 15, but please note the Commission will not be taking any oral public comments during the meeting.

You may also submit written comments to the Commission by email or mail. **All comments must be received by 5 p.m. on September 15.** Any comments received after the cutoff will be given to the commission before its next meeting.

Email: Commission@parks.wa.gov

Mail: WSPRC, Attn: Becki Ellison, PO Box 42650, Olympia, WA 98504.

COMMISSION MEETING

- 9:00 a.m. CALL TO ORDER** – Steve Milner, Commission Chair
- Call of the roll
 - Chair Steve Milner, Vice Chair Michael Latimer, Secretary Mark O. Brown, Commissioners Sophia Danenberg, Ken Bounds, Diana Perez and Cindy Whaley
 - Introduction of Staff
 - Don Hoch, Director; Mike Sternback, Assistant Director; Peter Herzog, Assistant Director; Shelly Hagen Assistant Director; Anna Gill, Communications Director; Owen Rowe, Policy & Governmental Affairs Director; and Becki Ellison, Executive Assistant. Excused: Becky Daniels, Human Resources Director
 - Andy Woo, Assistant Attorney General
 - Changes to the Agenda
 - Approval of the Agenda
 - Item E-1 was withdrawn. An Executive Session is not needed today
 - **Motion by Mark O. Brown** to approve the agenda as presented with changes. Second by Diana Perez.
Approved unanimously as presented with changes.
 - Logistics
 - Approval of minutes of previous meeting: July 30/August 27, 2020 – Olympia/Web Work Session
 - **Motion by Sophia Danenberg** to approve the minutes as presented. Second by Mark O. Brown. **Approved unanimously as presented.**
- 9:10 a.m. COMMISSION COMMITTEE REPORTS**
- Real Estate – Mark O. Brown
 - Budget – Ken Bounds
 - Legislative – there were no legislative committee meetings
- 9:30 a.m. REQUESTED ACTION ~~ITEM WITHDRAWN~~**
- Item E-1: Adjustments Land Classifications and Long-Term Park Boundary – Fort Ebey State Park
This item asks the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission to approve a minor adjustment to the long-term boundary of Fort Ebey State Park to include an adjacent parcel currently belonging to the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

9:16 a.m. REQUESTED ACTION

Item E-2: Sale of Excess Timber from Forest Health Treatments

This item asks the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission to approve the sale of excess timber resulting from a forest health thinning project at Palouse to Cascades State Park Trail. All proceeds in excess of the cost of the sale will go to natural resource stewardship purposes.

REQUESTED ACTION FROM COMMISSION:

That the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission:

1. Delegate to the Director authority to approve the sale of timber at Palouse to Cascades State Park Trail (Bullfrog Property) as recommended by staff.
2. Affirm that cash proceeds from the sale of timber will be reinvested into natural resource stewardship and related interpretive activities per Commission policy.

ACTION:

Motion by Mark O. Brown to approve the staff recommendation as proposed in the Requested Action above. Second by Ken Bounds. **Approved unanimously as requested.**

9:35 a.m. BREAK

9:51 a.m. REQUESTED ACTION

Item E-3: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program – State Parks Category – Project Ranking

This item asks the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission to evaluate mission alignment and rank grant projects proposed for funding in the State Parks category of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program.

REQUESTED ACTION OF COMMISSION:

That the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission:

1. Approve the ranked project list for the WWRP - State Parks category projects as recommended by staff.
2. Authorize staff to submit the approved ranked project list to the Recreation and Conservation Office for inclusion in the WWRP State Parks project evaluation process.

ACTION:

Motion by Ken Bounds to approve the staff recommendation as proposed in the Requested Action above. Second by Cindy Whaley. **Approved unanimously as requested.**

Amendment to the motion by Cindy Whaley to swap #6 Mount Spokane - Bear Creek with #5 Green River Gorge – Icy Creek Ridge. Second by Michael Latimer.

All those in favor: Cindy Whaley, Ken Bounds, Sophia Danenberg, Mark O. Brown, Diana Perez and Michael Latimer. **Opposed:** Steve Milner. **Amendment approved 6-1 as amended.**

Rank	Project Number	Project Name	Average Score	Grant Request
1	20-1223A	Deception Pass State Park—Nyberg Property	8.14	\$1,978,750
2	20-1293A	Inholdings and Adjacent Properties 2020	6.14	\$1,000,000
2	20-1312D	Lake Wenatchee Pedestrian Bridge	6.14	\$2,520,000
3	20-1433A	Olallie State Park—Mt. Washington	5.86	\$926,656
4	20-1528D	Willapa Hills Trail—Pacific County Bridges	5.57	\$1,222,250
5	20-1555A	Green River Gorge—Icy Creek Ridge	5.00	\$2,700,000
6	20-1556A	Mount Spokane—Bear Creek	4.86	\$2,724,200
7	20-1593D	Lake Samammish—Issaquah Creek Loop Trail	4.57	\$2,727,968
7	20-1599A	Twin Harbors State Park Residential Acquisition	4.57	\$733,785
8	20-1603A	Riverside—Little Spokane River Robinson Property	4.14	\$858,100

**10:59 a.m. WASHINGTON WILDLIFE & RECREATION PROGRAM
RESOLUTION**

**Resolution of the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission supporting a
\$140 million Request for the Washington Wildlife & Recreation Program**

WHEREAS, the Washington Wildlife & Recreation Program (WWRP) is one of the key funding sources for state park acquisition and development therefore contributing to the long-term future of the State Park system; and

WHEREAS, an analysis of real estate prices, construction cost indicators, per capita spending on the outdoors, and the total 2021-23 grant requests support an increased request for WWRP; and

WHEREAS, population growth continues in Washington state necessitating the need for further park acquisition and development to ensure per capita access to state and local parks; and

WHEREAS, there is a direct link to physical and mental health with the amount of time spent outdoors recreating in natural settings; and

WHEREAS, dramatically increased use during the current COVID-19 pandemic underscores the need for parks and trails to support the mental health and well-being of state residents; and

WHEREAS, current WWRP recreational development projects such as surfacing segments of Willapa Hills and Palouse to Cascades Trails will better serve the public and entice new visitors to the State Parks system; and

WHEREAS, current WWRP grants will provide funding to acquire inholdings and critical properties adjacent to state parks; and

WHEREAS, the WWRP directly aids the Commission in its mission to connect Washingtonians with their natural and cultural heritage;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the Washington Parks and Recreation Commission supports a \$140 million capital funding request for the Washington Wildlife & Recreation Program for the 2021-23 biennium **and request the Chair to author and send on our behalf a letter to the Governor with a copy of this resolution and additionally copy House and Senate capital budget chairs and ranking members.**

Adopted this 17th day of September, 2020



Chair, Washington State Parks & Recreation Commission

ACTION:

Motion by Mark O. Brown to approve the Resolution of the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission supporting a \$140 million Request for the Washington Wildlife & Recreation Program. Second by Cindy Whaley. **Resolution approved unanimously as requested.**

Amendment to the motion by Mark O. Brown to add “and request the Chair to author and send on our behalf a letter to the Governor with a copy of this resolution and additionally copy House and Senate capital budget chairs and ranking members”. Second by Ken Bounds. **Amendment approved unanimously as requested.**

11:07 a.m. REQUESTED ACTION

Item E-4: Grayland Beach Ocean Beach Approach State Park Property Acquisition

This item asks the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission to authorize acquisition of the Wicklund Property adjacent to the Grayland Beach Ocean Beach Approach State Park Property in Grays Harbor County.

REQUESTED ACTION FROM COMMISSION:

That the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission:

1. Authorize the Director or designee to acquire the Wicklund Property as shown in Appendix 1 and as recommended by staff, subject to available funding and under terms advantageous to the Commission.

ACTION:

Motion by Cindy Whaley to approve the staff recommendation as proposed in the Requested Action above. Second by Mark O. Brown. **Approved unanimously as requested.**

11:25 a.m. BREAK

12:00 p.m. REQUESTED ACTION

Item E-5: 2021 Supplemental Operating Budget Request

This item asks the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission to: 1) approve the submittal of a 2021 Supplemental Operating Budget request to the Office of Financial Management (OFM) and 2) authorize the Director to make changes to the dollars and items requested as needed to finalize the request for submittal.

REQUESTED ACTION OF COMMISSION:

That the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission:

1. Authorize the Director to submit a \$234,000 (General Fund-State) 2021 supplemental operating budget request to the Office of Financial Management for 1) COVID-19 cost reimbursement, and 2) proposed General Fund reductions related to Whale Watching materials, the scenic bikeway program and employee compensation savings related to not implementing the 7/1/20 COLA increase for management.
2. Authorize the Director to make changes in dollar amounts and/or items in the 2021 supplemental operating budget proposal request as needed for submittal to OFM.

ACTION:

Motion by Ken Bounds to approve the staff recommendation as proposed in the Requested Action above. Second by Sophia Danenberg. **Approved unanimously as requested.**

12:33 p.m. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

12:56 p.m. DIRECTOR REPORT

1:03 p.m. 2020 SUMMER SEASON OPERATIONS REPORT

This item will be a verbal report led by Operations staff to update the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission on the 2020 summer season.

Staff Presenters:

Ryan Layton, NE Region Manager, Wenatchee Region HQ
Scott Griffith, SE Region Manager, Wenatchee Region HQ
Ed Girard, Operations Manager, HQ
Laura Holmes, Operations Support Manager, HQ
Diana Dupuis, Park Ranger 4, Inland Northwest Area, Spokane
Bryn Zsidiewisz, Park Ranger 2, Long Beach Area
Alysa Adams, Parks Interpretive Specialist 2, Upper Cowlitz Area
Diana Lopez, Park Aide, Blue Mountain Area, Pasco

3:27 p.m. STAFF REPORTS

3:45 p.m. ~~EXECUTIVE SESSION~~ *Not needed*

4:23 p.m. ADJOURN

Disclaimer: It is intended that this summary be used with the meeting materials provided in advance of the meeting. A recording is retained by WSPRC as the formal record of meeting. The recording is available through a Public Disclosure Request to the WSPRC records officer at public.disclosure@parks.wa.gov.

BE 9/17/2020

An audio recording is retained by WSPRC as the formal record of meeting. The recording is available through a Public Disclosure Request to the WSPRC records officer at public.disclosure@parks.wa.gov approximately 5 business days after the meeting.

The services, programs, and activities of the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission are covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you need special accommodations to participate in this meeting, please contact the commission assistant Becki Ellison at (360) 902-8502 or becki.ellison@parks.wa.gov. Accommodation requests should be received at least five business days prior to the meeting to ensure availability. Please provide 7-day notice for requests to receive information in an alternative format and for ASL/ESL interpretation requests.