



City of LaVerkin

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Confluence Park Executive Board and Technical Advisory Committee Minutes Wednesday, February 17, 2016 4:00 p.m. 435 N. Main, LaVerkin, Utah

Present:

Board Members:

Bob Sandberg	Washington County – HCP
Kerry Gubler	La Verkin City
Clark Fawcett	Hurricane City
Paul Heideman	Toquerville City

Others:

Steve Meisner	Virgin River Program
Kathleen Nielson	Grant Writer
Lucy Ormond	Hurricane City Trails Committee
Ken Hooten	La Verkin City Council Representative
Christy Ballard	La Verkin City
Lane Blackmore	
Derek Hall	

- I. **Meeting Called to Order:** Kerry Gubler called the meeting to order at 4:00pm.

Mayor Gubler welcomed Paul Heideman, the new representative for Toquerville City.

II. Approve Minutes:

Motion was made by Bob Sandberg to approve the January 20, 2016 minutes as written, second by Ken Hooten. Bob-yes, Kerry-yes, Paul-yes. Motion carried unanimously.

III. Business:

A. Access Points Grant- Kathleen Nielson

Kathleen reported Hurricane needs a bit of dirt work and then it should be complete.

Clark Fawcett arrived at 4:03pm

Mr. Blackmore volunteered to help Hurricane level the trailhead area.

Kathleen explained the SR9 trailhead and Center Street signs still need to be installed. She has contacted Derek with La Verkin City to let him know. Everything should be complete in the next couple of weeks.

B. Discuss plans for Hurricane Trailhead celebration-Bob Sandberg

The celebration will be on April 16, 2016 at 10am. Each of the cities will advertise it. Kathleen will notify the newspaper.

Clark will contact local businesses for the refreshments.

The Mayor of Hurricane and/or Clark, and Bob will speak.

Lucy will be in charge of a hike.

C. Update on Ken Anderson property acquisition-Bob Sandberg

Bob is still working on the funding to purchase the property from the bank.

The Conservation Fund is willing to front the money and purchase the 185-acre property if they can be assured they will be paid back.

HCP was willing to help if the group could get additional partners. Bob is making a presentation to the Virgin River Program to see if they are interested in collaborating. If enough money could be acquired for a match, we could also apply for a Section 6 grant.

Bob explained where the property is located.

D. Irrigation water update-Bob Sandberg

Bob explained he is still working on an agreement between Confluence Park, La Verkin City, Ash Creek Sewer District, and WCWCD for irrigation water.

After the water is secured, we will work on how to irrigate the fields.

Mayor Gubler feels confident that something can be worked out.

E. Road work and removing dirt piles-Bob Sandberg

Bob reported there is a large pile of fill dirt below the old dairy barn that is available if anyone is interested.

The County Road Department is moving some of it onto the road to try to build it up.

They are only doing it when they have time, so it may take a little while.

F. Discuss priorities and Park improvements

The major access points to the Park are almost complete. The irrigation water is being worked on and the power station has a chain link fence around it so it won't be a liability and to prevent further vandalism.

Bob wondered if the Board had any projects they would like to see done and if so, do they want to apply for grant money.

Irrigation water is the first priority and a bridge connecting Hurricane and La Verkin is second.

Picnic tables have been discussed before and Hurricane High School agreed to build a prototype to see how the students do. They have built one table and a second one's in the process of being built; hopefully they can get a couple more done by the end of the school year.

G. Public Concerns for Board Consideration:

Lane Blackmore has been working with Bob and Kathleen in a property exchange. He received a call from Commissioner Victor Iverson generally fielding the idea. Mr. Blackmore is getting into a situation where he would like some feedback from the Board as to whether or not the exchange is a possibility.

There are other transactions he could make with the property but wanted to know he has given every opportunity for this transaction to happen before he moved on.

Mayor Gubler will put it on the next agenda.

Bob mentioned he feels it is a good idea for the Board to look at the information that has been discussed and to get their feedback. Ultimately, it will end up being Fish and Wildlife Services and Division of Wildlife Resources that make the call. Bob is continuing to work with Fish and Wildlife Services. DWR said if the County would spend the money to do an EA, follow NEPA on it then they would consider it. He is working with the Fish and Wildlife Services to see if the County really does need an EA.

The Commission supports the exchange.

Paul Heideman left at 4:47pm.

Lane mentioned that perhaps a short-term relationship of an easement would work so Hurricane can connect Main Street and 100 and let the land exchange be a long-term goal.

Bob said the Conservation Easement DWR has on the property specifically states the County cannot authorize a linear easement or right of way across the property.

Lane asked if the Board sees the need to request access to 200 North where the gas line is.

Bob replied yes, the Park would need access to the gas line.

H. Board members concerns:

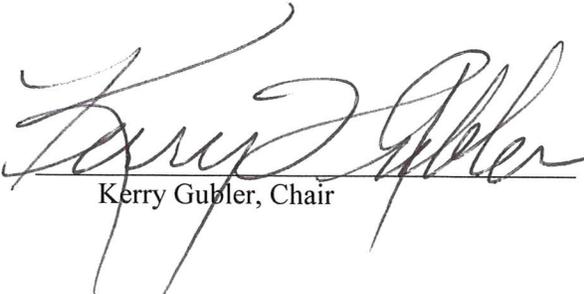
None.

I. Adjourn:

Motion was made by Bob Sandberg to adjourn, second by Clark Fawcett. Bob-yes, Kerry-yes, Clark-yes. Motion carried unanimously at 4:50pm.

Minutes taken by Christy Ballard.

March 11, 2016
Date Approved


Kerry Gubler, Chair

