



# City of La Verkin

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## Confluence Park Executive Board and Technical Advisory Committee Minutes Wednesday, May 19, 2021, 3:00 p.m.

### Present:

#### Board Members:

|                  |                       |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| Richard Hirschi  | La Verkin City        |
| Kathleen Neilson | Washington County HCP |
| Kaden DeMille    | Hurricane City        |

#### Advisory:

|                 |      |
|-----------------|------|
| Jessica Kinross | UDWR |
| Steve Meisner   | VRP  |

#### Others:

|                 |                                    |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| Randee Sanders  | Washington County                  |
| Rex Sorenson    | Hurricane City resident            |
| Richard Cutts   | Hurricane City resident            |
| Patricia Wise   | La Verkin City resident            |
| Mike Chandler   | Ash Creek Special Service District |
| Christy Ballard | La Verkin City staff               |

Before the meeting began Mike Chandler gave an update on the Ash Creek SSD treatment facility. They are moving forward. He anticipates early spring 2022 to put the project out to bid. The County will need to determine if they would like to install power, water, and restrooms anywhere in the Park.

### **I. Meeting Called to Order:**

Mayor Richard Hirschi called the meeting to order at 3:25 pm with no quorum.

### **II. Business:**

#### 1. Status of the La Verkin Power Station Trailhead and staircase

Kathleen reported the staircase still needs to be finished. The area is so dry and windy that welding is a hazard. Mr. Westlund is going to try and figure something out because the project needs to be finished by June 1, 2021.

She and Randee will be working on the final paperwork to get it submitted by the end of the month.

*Kaden DeMille arrived at 3:26 pm*

Steve suggested having the Fire Department saturate the area with water to mitigate the fire hazard.

Kathleen mentioned La Verkin City is working on a park at the trailhead.

## 2. Status of the Virgin River bridge

Kathleen reported this project is moving forward, the engineers are working on it. They plan to begin the groundwork in September of this year.

Steve mentioned the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is who they are waiting on.

Kathleen reported piers will not be placed in the Virgin River.

## 3. Report on vandalism in the Park

### 4. New County law enforcement officers

Kathleen reported a group of teenagers used lava rocks to try and break the door at the power plant. They were not able to get in.

The camera footage was given to the Washington County Police Department.

The County has hired two officers that will be patrolling and providing security for the Desert Reserve, including Confluence Park. However, if there is an issue, it would still be quicker to contact the La Verkin Police Department.

Kaden mentioned the school resource officer might be able to help identify the individuals.

Richard Cutts said the concrete foundation on the Hurricane side of the Park has graffiti all over it again. He suggested removing it since it has no historical significance.

The road goes right to it so getting equipment there should not be an issue.

Randee reported the algae bloom is in the River. It is not a terrible concern. However, the County is going to put up signage at the beach area warning of the potential danger.

The River will continue to be tested throughout the Park.

## 5. Farming update

The fields have been planted and are being flood irrigated.

Randee reported the first field was planted with pollinators.

Mike Schijf took a group of bird watchers to the Park and they counted more birds than they have in years past. He attributes that to farming.

## 6. Other park projects

Randee said Brad Winder, the County's noxious weed supervisor, would like to take members of a conference he is attending on a field trip to Confluence Park to see the nightshade plants.

Cameron is okay with the request if they stay on the trails but wanted the Board's approval.

The Board was okay with Mr. Winder's request.

Kathleen commented on the problem we have had with trying to eradicate nightshade from the Park.

**III. Approve Minutes: March 17, 2021**

The motion was made by Kaden DeMille to approve the minutes as amended, second by Kathleen Nielson. DeMille-yes, Hirschi-yes, Nielson-yes. Motion carried unanimously.

**IV. Public Concerns for Board Consideration:**

Richard Cutts asked about the Rocky Mountain Power property.

Kathleen reported Mr. Blackmore has come into possession of the property but she was not sure how much of it he purchased.

Richard explained the location of the area. He feels the issue is that the property Mr. Blackmore wants to trade for buildable property is cliffside and is useless to everyone. He is opposed to the Board doing any trade for un-usable cliffside property.

Kaden reported he has not seen anything come from Mr. Blackmore to Hurricane City. He agrees that if the property is unusable the County should not even consider the trade.

Kathleen said Richard and Rex are concerned about the property directly behind them. She also mentioned Hurricane would benefit from the trade because it would extend the street that would allow another exit for the residents up there. Right now, they only have one way in and one way out.

Several issues would need to be addressed before a trade could be considered, if the easement would even allow it.

Richard requested this item be on a future agenda.

**V. Board Member Concerns:**

No comments were made.

**VI. Adjourn:**

The motion was made by Kathleen Nielson to adjourn, second by Kaden DeMille. The motion carried unanimously at 4:05 pm.

Minutes were taken by Christy Ballard.

June 14, 2021

Date Approved



Richard Hirschi, Chair

