

Joint Meeting Minutes HTR Benefit District-February 24, 2018

The joint meeting of the HorseThief Reservoir Benefit District and the Pawnee Watershed boards met on February 27, 2018 at the HorseThief Lodge at 7:00 p.m. The HTR board members present were: Troy Brown, Henry Reed, Sam Seybold, Chris Law, Randy Wehkamp, Steve Seibel, Gene Webb and Mike Shriwise. Josh Hobbs, HTR Manager and Heather Mihm, HTR Administrative Assistant; Adam Dees, HTR Attorney were also present. Pawnee Watershed members present were: Andy Stairett, Dan Wehkamp, Brad Ochs, Tim Gibbs, Harlan Nuss, Jim Ryan, and Brit Hayes. Randy Still, PWS Manger; Isaac Aberson, PWS Assistant Manager; Bob Frazy, PWS Advisor and Dave Snapp, PWS Attorney were also present. Others in attendance were: Kale Lempka, Jennifer Durrant, Quenton Blattner, Phillip Parish, Samantha Parish, Kurt Strasser, Lane Halling, Wayne Schwartz, and Casey Fitzgerald.

After supper was served, Greg Mills and Phil Gould gave a presentation on Historic Scott State Park and the new park Little Jerusalem. Greg discussed some of the challenges small parks face and how to conquer those issues, such as always add new amenities that the public needs and do at least one event like 5k's each month, two events are best.

After the presentation, the HTR meeting was called to order by Chairman, Mike Shriwise at 8:25 p.m.

Brit Hayes, PWS President called the joint meeting of the Pawnee Watershed to order. Isaac Aberson read the minutes of the last joint meeting held in February 2017.

Phillip Parish discussed Friends of HTR and their upcoming activities and the large number of people that come to events. Phil wanted both boards to know that they also utilize the park on a personal level as well.

Old Business: None

New Business: The HTR board asked for justification of the new fence below the dam. HTR had offered to install beaver deceivers or pay for all the trapping of beavers plus liability insurance. Both boards discussed the reasoning's for their decisions on the beaver issue. Randy Still commented that PWS was required to place fence per their insurance.

The HTR board also wanted justification for the fence around the recent silt dam that was built on the south side of HTR. There was some additional acreage that was excluded from the project property. It was discussed that the neighboring cattle would possibly graze that area. Randy Still stated at the construction of the silt dam the engineers that designed the silt dam required that fence be placed where it is currently.

Chris Law mentioned that all correspondence needed to go through the manager's one on one and not the administrative assistants. Randy did confirm that he did have Josh's correct email.

Other Business: Discussion was held on the shade structures. Bob Frazy listed his concerns to the HTR Board. The HTR board will continue with the structures, but will take Bob's concerns into consideration.

It was also noted that HTR will be having Lea Ann Seiler submit a grant to the Mariah Fund for a stage to be permanently built on the HTR property. There was no further discussion held and no further questions or concerns arose from either boards. If the grant is approved, HTR will notify the PWS board of location, appearance, and the start date of the stage project.

Josh wanted to remind each board member (both PWS and HTR boards) to slow down and go the speed limit that is posted in the park. A reminder to also stay on the roads because tracks in the grass will only encourage others to drive off road.

Casey Fitzgerald spoke on behalf of his group, Family Outdoor Recreation. Casey is very active within HTR and pushes all others to do the same. He helps host numerous events at the park and always promotes HTR events on his active Facebook page.

Wayne Schwartz spoke to both boards about how much he loves HTR. He is also working with Friends of HTR on the bait part of the Friends of HTR store. Wayne and his family utilize the park on a regular basis and is always ready to help when needed. Wayne also addressed to always do new things to help access to help satisfy taxpayers and lake goers.

Old Business: The PWS wanted to discuss plans for food plots that will be planted throughout HTR. Discussion was held between both boards regarding the upcoming season for planting food plots.

New Business: PWS asked that HTR come up with a five year work plan. HTR listened to their recommendations and would consider a plan but didn't see the need in having one.

HTR gave copies of the 2017 and 2018 financial budgets as they requested. There was no further discussion.

There are some concerns regarding the Reserve Fund requirement of \$2,000,000.00. Josh had handouts from Shawn Hoebener and explained how the Reserve Fund works. Dave Snapp, PWS Attorney asked for permission to contact our auditor, John Hendrickson at Kenney McKee for our Annual Audit to help clear up any confusion that the PWS Board might have. Dave Snapp will send HTR a letter addressing what documents PWS would like to have regarding bonds and endowments.

PWS requested that HTR share any construction plans and or projects the remainder of 2018. Josh talked about the shade structures, the stage grant and the possibility of an access road. There was a lot of concern from the PWS Advisor, Bob Frazy on the shade structures. Josh informed Bob and the PWS board that shade structures would go as planned and that McKibbin would finish setting them up in March.

Josh was also asked about plans for prescribed burning. At the time of the meeting, Josh notified the PWS Board that there was not any prescribed burning in the near future, due to dry weather and burn ban in the county. He noted that with the current dry conditions there will be no controlled burns. That may change if we do get some steady rains.

Randy led discussion on HTR not having an Emergency Action Plan. Troy Brown, and Steve Seibel HTR Board Members let Randy know that HTR staff will make a calling list in case of an emergency. However, HTR will not have a booklet for each emergency that could take place at HTR. There was no further discussion

Manager's Report: PWS Manager, Randy Still, read notes on what projects have been done or are coming up in the future for PWS. Josh Hobbs, HTR Manager wanted to let the PWS Board know that they do a good job with watching downstream water flows and he looks forward to both boards working together to improve HTR access for the taxpayers of Finney, Ford, Gray and Hodgeman Counties.

Gene Webb made a motion to adjourn the HTR joint meeting at 10:15 p.m. Sam seconded and the meeting was adjourned.

Jim Ryan made a motion to adjourn the PWS joint meeting at 10:16 p.m. Harlan Nuss seconded and the meeting was adjourned.

X

Randy Wehkamp
Secretary