

MINUTES  
KICKAPOO RESERVE MANAGEMENT BOARD  
KICKAPOO VALLEY RESERVE VISITOR CENTER  
January 21, 2021

- I. 7:00 PM Meeting called to order by Chair Richard Wallin.
- Board members in attendance via Zoom: Richard Wallin, Travis Downing, Reggie Nelson, Susan Cushing, Dave Maxwell, A.J. Mann, Bill Quackenbush, Scott Lind, Julie Hoel, Tina Brown, Paul Hayes (via meeting room). Staff: Marcy West, Jason Leis, Jonel Kiesau, Erica Cronk, Robin Hosemann. Audience: Lonnie Muller, Episcopa News; Julia Buckingham, Kickapoo Valley Forest School (KVFS) Lead Teacher, Jackie Yocum.
  - Motion by Hoel to approve the agenda with addition to KRMB action of a second site selection for consideration for the Kickapoo Valley Forest School (KVFS) satellite classroom. Consent.
  - Compliance with open meeting law: West - Yes, it has been posted in compliance with State law.
  - Downing/Nelson motion to approve November 19, 2020 minutes; motion carries.
  - Introductions and Public Input: Scott Lind, new KRMB member filling Ron Johnson's vacant seat, introduced to KRMB, staff and audience.
- II. Budget Report -
- West - [handout reviewed on screen]. FY21 Revenue and Expense Summary through January 20, 2021. Review of appropriation accounts. 12100 revenue appropriation; carries over to new fiscal year. 12200 gifts and grants appropriation. 16100 base allocation appropriation funded via the Conversation Fund; primarily covers 2.75 permanent staff, building and facilities costs. 12400 law enforcement appropriation not listed on handout but funded via the Tribal Gaming Revenue. Watching closely the 12100-revenue appropriation; negative revenue for Educ. Program due to pandemic, however, increase in recreation revenue will help offset somewhat. West/Cronk will continue to work with accounting team at DOA to reallocate funds at end of FY if any shortfalls.
- III. Education Program -
- Overview of spring/summer 2021 plans and request to increase Summer Camp fees. Kiesau - looking for KRMB to approve recommendation from Education Committee to increase summer camp fees. Plan is to run camps mainly outdoors with COVID precautions in place. Justification for increase includes additional training and supplies required for extra safety measures, fees have not been raised in several years, and KVR charging considerably less than comparable camps. Scholarships will continue to be an option through Friends of KVR. Hoel/Downing motion to increase summer camp fees by 50% this year. Motion carries.
  - Update on options to house KVFS - Year 1 and request Board action to accept gift of a satellite classroom structure not larger than 500 sq ft and in keeping with the current aesthetic of the KVR buildings and approve daily use of Visitor Center classroom in winter months. Update: Hoel - [review aerial photo of site options on screen]. KVFS Building Committee broke down into three sub-committees: Site, Design and Fundraising. Site Committee reviewed several sites and came up with two options. Site B (first choice) near ciiporoke - chose based on solar location, ease of hooking up to existing electrical and room to grow in that area. Option A (second choice) would work but not ideal - near highway noise and would disrupt popular Wintergreen trail. Review Sonja Newenhouse building design [review on screen]. Hoel - looking for KRMB approval to continue process for 500 sq ft classroom structure. Kiesau - DPI grant cannot pay for brick and mortar. Hoel - funds would come by targeting individual donors and money administered through Friends of KVR. Hoel/Hayes motion to accept gift of 500 sq ft satellite classroom keeping in aesthetic with current KVR buildings. Motion carries. Hoel/Hayes motion to pursue option B as first choice and option A as second choice. Motion carries. Downing/Hoel motion to approve daily use of Visitor Center classroom in winter months. Lind suggests getting approval from local code official before proceeding. Motion carries.

- IV. Land Management Committee: Update: Wallin – committee met virtually January 12, 2021.
- Committee recommends final approval of updated 5-year Land Management Plan to KRMB [reviewed on screen]. Hayes: pg. 4 change wording from prairie restoration to prairie planting; pg. 5 delete the words “the fisherman’s”. Brown/Cushing suggest siting sources where significant data used and change background color - white easier to read. Yocum: pictures in public document need cited. Wallin/Cushing motion to approve plan with changes discussed. Motion carries.
  - Approve updated Commercial License Agreement [reviewed on screen]. Wallin: changes to agreement made from previous year based on input from State attorney; most notable change is contractors not following rules set forth in agreement nullify and void their agreement. Hayes: on pg. 5 under Events & Defaults (viii) Section (b) Remedies (i) lists 10(a)(i)-(vi) instead of (i)-(viii); Leis will reach out to attorney for clarification. Revisit agreement at February meeting for final approval.
  - Project priorities for 2021 presented [reviewed on screen]. Wallin – issue with water in basement at maintenance building; added pipe off downspout to direct water away - seems to be working but will continue to monitor. Also monitor drainage problem in heated bay at maintenance building. The ground source heat pump at Visitor Center has potential leak. Pressure test conducted 1/13/21 – no leak found in loop; repairs made at seal in garage – will continue to monitor. Other upcoming expenses include sidewalk replacement in front of Visitor Center, roof run-off eaves, exhibit upgrade, and garage retrofit for storage by fall of 2021. Committee recommends highest priority to Bridge 16/Old Hwy 131 project bank stabilization and protecting the Old Hwy 131 trail from further damage during high water. Deciding factors include public safety concern, use of Old Hwy trail for maintenance and very costly repair if further damage occurs. Leis working with DNR and Paul Krahn of Trout Unlimited on plan and permits for beginning work; estimate \$36,000 for east bank. Timeline for project will be dependent on permits and weather but needs completed ASAP. West will try and identify funding sources. Fixing and reopening the Hay Valley Trail is the next priority; estimated cost for boardwalk is \$23,000. Trail has already been closed for over a year. Need to consider funding sources. Lowest priority deemed repairs to Jug Creek and Billings Creek Trail(s). Trails will get repaired this year as time and resources allow.
  - Approve adding groomed segment of ski trail south of Visitor Center along river; winter use only. Leis - trail typically used for Winter Fest dog sled route; takes five minutes to groom. Would only get groomed during ski-season. LM recommendation to allow grooming as ski-trail. Hoel/Maxwell motion to continue grooming trail during ski-season. Motion carries.
  - Recommend approval to allow trail segments to transition to shared use: Rockton trail areas [reviewed map on screen]. Wallin - Pete Taylor from Bluedog Cycles attended LM meeting in January to request changing Rockton Trail from horse only to multi-use and the small portion of horse trail that leads up to Blackhawk Rock to multi-use. The current Rockton Trail that is bike only would be abandoned or used as staff maintenance only. Committee recommends changing Rockton Trail segment to multi-use but leaving the Blackhawk section alone. Quackenbush would like to see horse and bike trail leading up to Blackhawk remain the way it is; current horse trail is already wet and messy. Quackenbush/Hoel motion to change Rockton Trail to multi-use and eliminate the Rockton bike trail and leave Blackhawk section as is with a bike and horse trail separate. Motion carries.
  - Discussion regarding option to purchase property adjacent to the Reserve. Wallin – approximately 16 acres of land for sale boarding KVR property by Bridge 6. West would like to continue discussion with property owner on purchasing the land or portion of it keeping in mind our mission of preservation and protection. Hayes/Quackenbush motion for West to continue pursuing the discussion. Motion carries.
- V. Calls for Suggestions of Future Agenda Items – none.

Next KRMB meeting February 18, 2021. Quackenbush/Cushing motion to adjourn; motion carries.  
Meeting adjourned 8:50PM.

Recorded by: Erica Cronk