

MINUTES  
KICKAPOO RESERVE MANAGEMENT BOARD  
KICKAPOO VALLEY RESERVE VISITOR CENTER  
May 20, 2021

- I. 7:00 PM Meeting called to order by Co-Chair Susan Cushing.
- Board members in attendance: Scott Lind, Travis Downing, Reggie Nelson, Susan Cushing, Dave Maxwell, A.J. Mann, Julie Hoel, Tina Brown; absent: Dick Wallin, Bill Quackenbush.  
Staff: Jason Leis, Jonel Kiesau, Erica Cronk.
  - Motion by Lind/Nelson to approve the agenda. Unanimous.
  - Compliance with open meeting law: Cushing -Yes, agenda posted in compliance with State law.
  - Brown/Maxwell motion to approve April 15, 2021 minutes with correction of listing Scott Lind as Board member in attendance; minutes approved as amended. Motion carries.
  - Public Input: None.
- II. Budget Report:
- Cronk – [handout]. Year to Date/Revenues/Projections. Cronk met virtually with DOA accounting May 19<sup>th</sup>; introduced to new DOA budget analyst Jake Griffith. Review 12100 Revenue Appropriation budgeted vs actual expenses incurred through May 17, 2021. Encumbrance in 12100 is forestry expense accounted for but work not yet complete. 12200 Gifts & Grants Appropriation and 12400 Law Enforcement Appropriation both in good standing going into end of Fiscal Year. 16100 Base Allocation Appropriation does not carry over. DOA accounting will work to get that balance down to zero.
- III. Education Program Update:
- Kiesau – Welcoming school groups back - almost daily; meeting mostly outdoors. Summer camp registration is full or almost full for several camps; Kiesau looking at adding a few more weeks for camps with waiting list. Worked with DHS putting together Emergency Operation Plan for training camp instructors related to COVID protocol. Camp instructor training scheduled for early June. Driftless Dialogue series is still ongoing with outdoor hikes; next one scheduled for Saturday with Brad Steinmetz on Dam History. Kickapoo Valley Forest School (KVFS) update: in the process of hiring a front desk/KFVS office assistant, as well as a classroom aide. Interviewed and hired an AmeriCorps member; working on universal snack program.
  - Dam Challenge update [review draft poster on screen]: race will be done differently this year due to staffing and COVID concerns. The route will be marked for participants over a two-week period with t-shirts and racer swag. Not sure how timing will be handled. Race is major fundraiser for Education program; silent auction to help with fundraising. No pasta supper.
  - School Zone/grounds posting info. recommendation: Leis - [review maps on screen]. State law requires designated school grounds and school zone however that only applies to grades 1<sup>st</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>. The first year of KVFS is pre-K and Kindergarten so State laws do not apply. KVR is public property open to hunting; cannot hunt within 100 yards of a building but you can carry a gun. This first year, the only place we can restrict guns is within the building(s) - we already had that option with concealed carry - KRMB previously voted to allow concealed carry in the Visitor Center building. Year two of the KVFS will include 1<sup>st</sup> grade - need designated school grounds [review on screen]. School grounds means no weapons allowed at all. School zone is 1,000 feet out from the school grounds. School zone does allow concealed carry, however no hunting allowed. Start educating the public via newsletters, brochures, and social media about upcoming changes to hunting/gun restrictions. Consider trimming down school grounds to reduce school zone, so Old 131 Trail remains an option for hunters to access. Stop releasing pheasants in school zone and adjacent area. The school is working on a Hunters on the Premises Policy that will dictate when they can move

outside the school grounds. Building(s) would need posted signs if weapons are to be banned. Hoel/Lind motion to restrict weapons and post in compliance that no guns are allowed in Visitor Center and Prairie Springs Classroom when school year starts Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>; this includes concealed and open carry (Law Enforcement exempt). Motion carries.

- KVFS Tiny House move to KVR Summer 2021: Kiesau - [review on screen]. Ready to be used by KVFS - question is where to park it. Suggested locations – needs to be somewhere accessible – depends on power – heat is the main consideration; goal is to have solar power. Need to have a clearly established walkway and signage to access KVFS office. Rent is \$3,000 per school year – will be temporary office until something permanent gets established. Lind/Hoel motion to allow tiny house to be placed on KVR property. Motion carries.
- Prairie Springs Classroom: Lind - [review drawing and building plans on screen]. Windows, roof, etc... have been ordered – funding is in place. State Building Commission has agreed to accept building as gift from Friends of KVR. Plan to have volunteers helping with construction mid-June.
- Exhibit Update: Kiesau – Design team is reusing what they can from current exhibits and keeping waste out of the landfill – lots of interactive displays. Education components throughout. Grand opening is scheduled for Spring 2022.

- IV. Cultural Awareness Training for KRMB Members Discussion: Hoel update – Workshop for KRMB members. Land Acknowledgement Statement needs discussion before agreeing to use it. Hoel will check with Quackenbush before next KRMB meeting in July about offering training.
- V. Public request to harvest willow on KVR Property: Leis update – Member of the public contacted KVR office about harvesting willow and selling goods created from the harvest. KRMB rule already states cannot harvest and sell for commercial gain. Lind/Brown motion to decline commercial harvesting of willow. Motion carries.
- VI. Executive Director Interviews/Hiring: Brown update – Selection Committee has met several times via Zoom. Nineteen applicants, narrowed down to six. Amended questions sent to Nathan Draeger in HR. Committee will have updates for KRMB in June. Interviews are scheduled for June 2, 2021 at the Visitor Center starting at 9:30am.
- VII. Other issues:
- Calls for Suggestions of Future Agenda Items – Hoel reminder of upcoming National Trails Day event planned for June 5, 2021; will offer guided hikes, music, food, and more. Marcy's recognition of service celebration planned for June 17<sup>th</sup>, 6-9pm; electronic invites coming soon.
  - Brown approached about \$5,000 NATOW grant; needs utilized by June 30<sup>th</sup>. Brown wondering if KVR could incorporate with the Adopt-a-Trail; have tribal members adopt their own trails.
  - Leis – Friends of KVR accepted a ground driven seeder donation from a private individual valued at approximately \$13,000.00. Leis will be point of contact and will work up an agreement for the equipment to be loaned out (for a fee) for others to use. Funds collected with go to Friends to maintain equipment as needed.

Next KRMB meeting July 15 (if needed), 2021. Brown/Hoel motion to adjourn; motion carries. Meeting adjourned 8:57PM.

Recorded by: Erica Cronk