

BREAKS INTERSTATE PARK COMMISSION

Minutes of Meeting

The Breaks Interstate Park Commission met for a regularly scheduled meeting on November 13, 2003 at Breaks Interstate Park.

Commission members present were: Mr. Jack Sykes, Chairman; Mr. Elster Stanley, Secretary; Mr. Andrew Mullins; Mr. Walter Fletcher; Mr. Ishmael Richardson, Jr., representing Mr. Joe Maroon, Director, Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation; Mr. John Paul, representing Ms. Ann Latta, Secretary of Tourism and Commissioner of Kentucky State Parks.

Mr. Willard Owens, Vice-Chairman, was unable to attend the meeting.

Guests present were: Mr. Mike Hill, Summit Engineering, and Mr. John Michael Johnson, Kentucky Department of Transportation. Also, Ms. Rena Powers, Dickenson Star Newspaper.

The chairman called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Mr. Hill and Mr. Johnson presented proposals for the Potter Flats' Bridge, to the Commission. The Commission discussed the different aspects of the bridge and decided to proceed with the 39-foot wide, low water bridge. Mr. Andrew Mullins made the motion and Mr. Walter Fletcher seconded. Motion carried. The next step in the process is to have a public hearing, which Mr. Johnson hopes to have before Christmas.

The next order of business was approval of the minutes for the September 11, 2003 meeting. Mr. Walter Fletcher made a motion to approve them and Mr. Elster Stanley seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Elster Stanley made a motion to approve the financial statement for October 31, 2003 and Mr. Walter Fletcher seconded. Motion carried.

Superintendent Mullins reported on several items as follows: 1.) Visitation for the year is down approximately 8 %; but visitation in October was up compared to 2002, the white water rafting count was also up compared to last year. 2.) The molasses stir-off in October was a success and we will try it again in 2004, hopefully, the cane will be ready the first weekend in October.

There was only one item of old business and that was the sale of the old house down in the stable area. The park advertised the house for sale in the local papers, but apparently no one was interested, since we did not receive any bids. The Commission decided to have park employees tear the house down and if there was any salvageable material in the house, the park could use it or sell it at the commission's discretion.

The Commission discussed the plans made for Breaks Interstate Park's 50th anniversary in 2004. There have been two meetings so far and a third is scheduled for December 2, 2003 at 10:00 a.m. in banquet room. Ideas include a series of summer concerts and an antique car cruise. Superintendent Mullins will send the minutes of these meetings to the Commission to keep them abreast of the activities planned for the summer.

The Commission discussed the campground rates for the 2004 season. It was decided to raise most of the campsites \$2.00 per sites. The full hookup sites in C-Spur which have 50 amp electric service will be raised \$5.00 per site. Campground rates for the 2004 season will be: Primitive site \$9.00, site with electricity \$10.00, site with electricity and water \$11.00, site with electricity, water and sewer \$12.00 except C-Spur which is \$15.00. Mr. Walter Fletcher made this motion and Mr. Elster Stanley seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Andrew Mullins made a motion at 2:08 p.m. for the Commission to go into executive session, under VA Code 2.2-3711 A.3 to discuss the acquisition of real property for a public purpose. Mr. Walter Fletcher seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Andrew Mullins made a motion to close executive session at 2:33 p.m. and Mr. Walter Fletcher seconded. Motion carried.

Each member certified that to the best of each member's knowledge only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting

requirements under VA Code Chapter 2.2-3711 A.3 was discussed. A roll call vote as follows:

Mr. Jack Sykes	yes
Mr. Andrew Mullins	yes
Mr. Elster Stanley	yes
Mr. Ishamel Richardson	yes
Mr. Walter Fletcher	yes
Mr. John Paul	yes

In closed session the Commission discussed hiring attorney Herman Lester and giving him the authority to purchase gas rights and surface disturbance right on 500 acres of property in the Potter Flats area. This would be mainly the Elswick heirs. He has the authority to spend up to \$200,000.00. Mr. Walter Fletcher made the motion and Mr. Andrew Mullins seconded. Motion carried.

The Commission also discussed retaining Mr. Herman Lester in the acquisition of property adjacent to the Ratliff Hole. Mr. Paul Ratliff and Mr. Steve Ratliff are the owners. Mr. Lester is to have the property surveyed, and appraised and report to the Commission. Mr. Andrew Mullins made the motion and Mr. Walter Fletcher seconded. Motion carried.

At this time, Mr. Jack Sykes excused himself from the meeting.

Mr. Andrew Mullins made a motion to hire Summit Engineering, to do the design work on upgrades the Commission would like to take care of on Kentucky Route 80. The list of upgrades includes: 1.) Acquisition of the gas and oil surface disturbance rights. 2.) Acquisition of the Jesse Stewart's property. 3.) Acquisition of the property in the vicinity of the Ratliff Hole. 4.) Improvements in the vicinity of the Ratliff Hole include restroom facilities, bathhouse and shelters. 5.) Improvements in the vicinity of the unknown soldiers grave. 6.) Improvements in the overlook area including the addition of a picnic shelter. 7.) Improvements at Center Creek including the addition of a picnic shelter. Mr. Walter Fletcher seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Sykes returned to the meeting.

The Commission set the date for the next regularly scheduled meeting to be Thursday, March 11th, 2004, lunch at noon and meeting at 1:00 p.m. Mr. Andrew Mullins made the motion and Mr. Walter Fletcher seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Walter Fletcher made a motion for the meeting to adjourn, Mr. Elster Stanley seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting concluded at 2:40 p.m.