

HARVEY COUNTY PARKS ADVISORY BOARD

MEETING – EAST PARK

April 20, 2015

Members present: Zack Phillips, Derrick Richling, Carolyn Schwab, Jim Lasiter, Pat Jackson, Cynda Conrade,

Members Absent: Greg Brenzikofer, Terry Gowin

Staff Present: Parks Director, Kass Miller

Guest: Carol Buller, potential new advisory board member.

Minutes: The minutes for the March meeting were approved as submitted.

Operations Report – Kass Miller:

- Unruh Mowing Service will do the mowing this year- contract has been signed. They are the only company that bid on this service. Kass was a little disappointed as the costs went up around 25%. Last year cost to mow East Lake was \$1700 each round – this year it will be \$2,000; West Park, last year \$750 per round – this year it will be \$1,000; Camp Hawk last year \$350 per round – this year it will be \$500 per round....\$2800 in 2014 - \$3500 in 2015.
- Dump Station at West Park has not been draining very well. Had a company come out to roto-rooter it out; claimed they could not get completely through; thought perhaps there was a collapsed pipe. Had a second company come for second opinion & they were able to go completely through. Station is now working fine. Just have to remind campers on what is and what is NOT to go into the dump station.
- Boat ramp by the office at East Lake is a little hazardous at this time to launch a boat due to water being low. The concrete ramp only goes so far into the water & some users have to back too far into water to launch their craft and fall off the end of the ramp. They are working on a temporary solution until the water level comes back up. Zack suggested Kass talk to Road & Bridges to see if they could be helpful.

Directors Report – Kass Miller:

- Kass will begin the process of interviewing applicants for Operations Supervisor position that is open. He had 19 qualified applicants.
- There were 15 qualified applicants for the seasonal position at West Park in the bait shop. They plan to hire 2 people to work 20 to 30 hrs. per week.
- He has hired a full time maintenance worker, Ken Kaiser. Ken is from Wichita & has extended construction experience. He should fit in nicely with the Harvey County Park system.
- Easter egg hunt that was held was very successful. They had 2000 eggs & could have used more. Looking to next year, they will double or triple this amount. Gussed they had around 250 kids. They had help from the sheriff's office & also explorer scouts.

- There was a good turnout for the Crappie tournament held at West Park. They had 22 teams amounting to around 41 fishing. Pulled out 354 crappie (1 was a carp). The tournament ran from Friday to Sunday at 2:00. First place team caught 124 fish; second place, 87 & third place, 72 fish.

Old Business:

- **Fish Stocking:** Kass received approval to go beyond the budget for fish stocking which will allow for 3 stockings this year. They have already done one stocking. Memorial Day there will be a full stocking & on the 4th of July a small stocking. KDWP did put 500,000 saugeye fry in East Lake. Zack asked if the increase cost of mowing will affect future fish stockings. Kass commented he had to justify going over the budget & this was accomplished by the decrease in some of the services at Camp Hawk (no one living in the residence, etc.).

New Business – Kass:

- **Calendar of Events:** Kass has had the brochures printed & will see that each park board member receives a brochure. They plan to send to 10% of the visitors of the park; sending out to sponsors or park events & fishing derby attendees.
- **Fishing Future Certification:** This program is in partnership with KDWP resulting in certified instructions to hold family/group “fishing” classes. Ranger, Stu Scott has been a certified instructor for several years and has given some classes in the past. They are working on getting other rangers certified. They also run back ground checks on individuals applying for this certification.

Board Member Comments:

- Carolyn said she had just returned from 10 days in Texas. She noted that many of the Texas State Parks have wild life viewing stations which are quite impressive. While she noted Harvey County Parks are not State Parks, she wondered if this was something that could be done here. She is going to send Kass pictures that she took for him to review.
- Zack announced that he would not be at the May meeting & Cynda will preside in his place. Zack also has signed up through United Way for a class on leadership training.

No further discussion, Jim moved, Cynda seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

Respectfully, Pat Jackson Secretary.