

**Harvey County Parks & Recreational Advisory Board**  
**Minutes of**  
**April 16, 2012 at East Lake**

**Members Present:** Larry Schmitt, Norman Alexander, Jim Lasiter, Carol Buller, Derrick Richling, Pat Jackson, Zack Phillips, Debbie Cobb, Walt Silvernale

**Members Absent:** Jerry Vetter, Dorothy Zook

**Rangers Present:** Kass Miller, Shannon Metz

**Minutes:** Minutes of the February & March meeting were approved as submitted.

**Special Use Permits:** Shannon reported a church group wants to use Shelter 1 at West Park the last part of June for Sunday morning service & are requesting amplified sound. She does not think it will be a problem, but the special use permits do not allow amplified sound. The board stated if she thought it would be okay, they did not have a problem with allowing it.

**Park Staff Reports:**

**Camp Hawk: Kass:** Lots of mowing being done. Removed 4 trees along creek. Eagle project painted the disc golf containers & they look nice. Shelter is really booked up. The refrigerator needs replacing & also the ceiling fans.

**East Lake: Kass:** Burned the Osage Nature Trail - got a lot done. Removed some of the remaining trees that did not burn. Got new pads along the campers row - also new fire pits. Have 18 new picnic tables. Soda machines got new pads at each restroom. All summer help hired. Need to do some roof work on Volunteer Hall. All but one of the new Oak trees that were planted are doing well.

**West Park: Shannon:** Lots of mowing also at West Park. East Lake & West Park were stocked with fish the first part of April 10 trees were planted around pads 1-5 & 23. Also 1 by the floating dock. They had some donation money that was just sitting in an account left over & this was used for the trees. She also commented that Tim Unrein, a 9 yr old camper that camps at West Park a lot with his father, went to Dillons Nature Center with his class for Arbor Day. Dillons had a drawing for 3 trees and suggests the trees be planted at their home or in a park. Tim's name was called in the drawing & he won a Shumard Oak tree which he promptly stated he wanted to donate it to West Park. The tree has been planted at Pad #2 & the park board expressed their thanks to Tim for this donation. A new sign is being designed for the park. Shannon passed out an Educational Brochure for West Park & also small magnetic

calendars for promotional material. These will be passed out to visitors at both East Lake & West Park. If successful, will do it again next year. Would like to see 1 Educational program each month & also incorporate this type of promotion at East Lake. Shannon said this had been done before, but had kind of gone by the wayside - so they are trying to implement it again. She has completed her summer hiring.

Shannon also advised that the county commissioners would like to have a county-wide employee picnic at West Park on June 2nd or 3rd. This would be free to employees & it is also free fishing weekend & canoes could be used at no charge. The commissioners would do the cooking & pop & water will be served. Individuals are welcome to bring other beverage if they desire.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Fishing, Boating & Hunting: Fishing:** As Shannon stated, both lakes have been stocked. Kass passed out a bid from Harbin Fish Farm (revised) and called the boards attention to the first & last stocking dates which were cut in half due to the first bid being over budget. They choice this plan as they did not want to miss a month of stocking the lakes. Larry asked about getting wipers stocked in the lake. Kass said that Harbin can get them, but have to go to Oklahoma. A person from Kansas Dept of Wildlife is supposed to come out to East Lake & survey our population of bass, but no date yet. Ryan is working on scheduling a bow fishing tournament again this year.

**Hunting:** Shannon advised she had been approached by an individual that would like to do a lottery drawing for bow hunting of deer at West Park. This would incompass a two week time frame. Shannon stated she is not in favor of this unless it would be profitable as this would require closing the entire park for this time frame due to the way West Park is laid out. Unless he could guarantee a large revenue for the park from this event, shutting down all the trails would not be advantageous to the park revenue. A discussion followed with many questions regarding safety, land boundaries, closing trails to bird watchers & other users; the fact that West Park is not big enough. Kass recommended that this project might work at East Lake & it was left for Shannon to give the individuals name to Kass & he will follow up with more information such as time - cost of a lottery ticket, etc.

**Facilities Roads & Grounds** - Shannon reported they filled some pot holes at West Park. Also the commissioners are trying to get out to view the erosion problem around the dam. Kass said at East Lake still want to get rip rap on jetties & around the lake. .

**Land Park Use & Resource Management:** No Report

**Old Business:** A discussion was continued regarding the board meeting every other month. Shannon commented she had suggested it due to busy summer months plus also during winter shut down not much is going on. Also some of the members drive some distance to only attend a 30 minute meeting when there is not much to discuss. Larry commented this could work unless we had projects that needed to be worked/planned out. Pat stated if we needed to meet every month, this would be something that could be changed. Kass advised he is going to check with retired ranger Marion to see if there is a set of by laws that stated the advisory board is to

meet every month. The only paperwork that could be located was a resolution regarding formation of the board, membership tenures, etc. The board members did not feel every other month would be a problem. Also Larry asked that they check with commissioners to see if they had a problem with the board not meeting every month.

Kass stated that some campers at East Lake are professional photographers & they said they would get some updated pictures that we could use in a new brochure. They would do this for perhaps a seasonal camping pass and/or other camping incentives. Larry said he would get in touch with Steve Rudiger, a former board member, & see if we could get brochures printed at a reduced cost that he helped with before.

February minutes were reviewed as they did not get passed out in March. Larry asked Kass about the Harper Trail steps & there need for repair. Kass said he needs to look at them.

**New Business:** Kass & Shannon stated that they had to submit a 5 year plan for park improvements & they stated that one of the improvements requested was to develop the old ranger area at East Lake into a horse camp ground. Shannon also stated that they have begun work on next years budget. Kass stated that the State Troopers are going to hold the C.A.S.T. event at East Lake again this year. Also the online auction service, Purple Wave, is going to come out to the parks to review some of the outdated/used/confiscated equipment and this will be put on line for sale. Some of the items include a camper, truck, several boats, motors, etc.

Kass also wanted to put an end the a "rumor" that has been going around that the State had taken over East Lake..this is not true!!

Larry advised the board that new officers will be voted on in May, so be thinking of nominations for Chairman, Vice Chairman & Secretary.

Next meeting: May 21, 2012 at Camp Hawk

Respectfully submitted:

Pat Jackson, Secretary