

**ARIZONA OUTDOOR RECREATION  
COORDINATING COMMISSION  
(AORCC)  
OF THE ARIZONA STATE PARKS BOARD  
Peoria City Council Chambers  
8401 W. Monroe Street  
Peoria, Arizona  
August 12, 2004**

**A. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Chair Samp called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. Vivia Strang, Advisory Committee Coordinator, called roll and advised that there was a quorum present for the meeting.

**AORCC Members Present:**

Dick Samp, Chair  
Jeff Bell  
Steve Bills  
Pam Foti  
Bill Scalzo  
Ken Travous

**AORCC Members Absent:**

Duane Shroufe

**Arizona State Parks Staff:**

Robert Baldwin, Recreational Trails Grants Coordinator  
Pat Dutrack, Grants Coordinator  
Sue Hilderbrand, Acting Chief of Grants  
Vivia Strang, Advisory Committee Coordinator  
Jay Ziemann, Assistant Director External Affairs and Partnerships

**Attorney General's Office:**

Joy Hernbrode, Assistant Attorney General

**B. INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS AND STAFF**

Members and staff introduced themselves.

**C. ACTION ITEMS**

- 1. Approval of Minutes from the June 10, 2004 AORCC Meeting**

Mr. Bills moved and Mr. Scalzo seconded that the June 10, 2004 AORCC meeting minutes be approved as presented.

Motion passed 6-0.

**2. Arizona Trails 2005 Plan.**

Ms. Hilderbrand said the comment period for the draft Arizona Trails 2005 Plan ended two weeks ago. The Planning staff is currently reviewing those comments. At the AORCC October 14, 2004 meeting the final Arizona Trails 2005 Plan will be presented for approval.

**3. Consider Staff Recommendations for Funding FY 2004 Local, Regional and State Parks Heritage Fund (LRSP) Grant Projects.** Staff recommends awarding \$3,628,338 to the 17 highest-rated FY 2004 LRSP grant projects.

Ms. Dutrack distributed copies of a revised FY 2004 LRSP Grant Project Funding Recommendation. The design and engineering for the Wickenburg project was figured incorrectly. When the correction was made it changed the grant awards and the corrected amounts are reflected in the revised report. This year the Heritage Fund is fully funded at \$10 million and the LRSP portion is \$3.5 million. A total of \$3,652,823 is available for FY 2004 LRSP grants after including the prior year deobligations and uncommitted balance. Staff is recommending awarding \$3,628,338 to the top 17 projects as shown on page 25R. This funding line represents both the strategic plan goal and staff recommendations. There was a 20% cap this year of \$730,564 but the cap did not affect any of the projects this year.

Ms. Dutrack said staff is recommending if stateside Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) monies are available for the Federal Fiscal Year 2005 to hold the LWCF funds and utilize them for funding FY 2005 LRSP Heritage Fund applications.

Mr. Travous said in regards to transferring funds to the Navajo Nation there are some things that the Attorney General's Office requires and sometimes the Navajo Nation does not want to sign because of their sovereignty. This does not reflect on the value of the project only that there may be some difficulty in perfecting a contract for that project. Ms. Hernbrode stated that the Attorney General's Office would get it done somehow.

Mr. Scalzo moved and Ms. Foti seconded that the 17 highest-rated FY 2004 LRSP grant projects be approved for funding at \$3,628,338 and that this recommendation be forwarded to the Parks Board for final action.

Motion passed 6-0.

**4. Consider Staff Recommendations for Funding FY 2004 Trails Heritage Fund Grant Applications.** Staff recommends awarding \$378,290 to the six (6) highest-rated FY 2004 Trails HF grant projects.

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Mr. Baldwin stated that the FY 2004 Heritage Fund has been fully funded at \$10 million. Annually, 5% (maximum \$500,000) of the AHF revenue is made available to eligible Trails projects. There was a carry forward from prior year deobligations and uncommitted balance of \$217,007, and with the 5% State Parks Development set-aside of \$25,000 leaves total available revenue of \$692,007. The 20% cap of \$138,401 does not affect any of the projects submitted.

Mr. Baldwin said the staff recommendation follows the ASP strategic plan of awarding 50% of trails grants to high priority projects. High priority projects are defined as those scoring at least 80 of 100 points in the rating criteria.

Ms. Foti asked Mr. Baldwin to comment on the low scoring of the Grand Canyon Nation Park application.

Mr. Baldwin said the application scored very poorly on the first 3 categories, which are the planning categories. Basically the strategic plan and the comprehensive plan were not identified very well in the application. This project is strictly a renovation project and the main focus is to repair portions of the trail that have worn out over the years. The application does not include many of the components to make it a high priority project. Things like educational components, signage, etc. are not needed at this time. The available dollars are going to trail repair and trail repair is an eligible category as far as trail projects are concerned.

Mr. Bills said that perhaps at some time in the future changes relating to improving or changing the rating criteria for renovation projects could be done.

Mr. Baldwin replied that the criteria is up for review this year. After the Arizona Trails 2005 Plan is approved by AORCC and the Parks Board there will be a task force committee organized to help determine what criteria will be looked for in grant projects during upcoming grant cycles.

Mr. Travous asked if the rating criteria distinguishes between renovation and regular maintenance on trails.

Mr. Baldwin said the definition for renovation is in the Trails Heritage Fund grant manual and it is very specifically designed to differentiate between common maintenance and renovation. In this case the renovation is fortification or rebuilding of a trail that was insufficient in the beginning. This is a one-time thing and continuous renovation of the same section of a trail would not be allowed.

Mr. Travous asked if this was a trail that Mr. Baldwin had recently hiked and had he seen the areas requesting renovation.

Mr. Baldwin said he had recently hiked the Bright Angel Trail and saw the requested renovation area. Within the first four miles of the Bright Angel Trail, where it descends from the south rim to Indian Gardens, is a highly used portion of trail by day hikers and

mule packs. The trail was very definitely hollowed out and there was evidence of areas where repairs had been made by putting in a solid rock base and covering it with materials. This renovated surface was much more stable.

Mr. Travous moved and Mr. Bills seconded that the six (6) eligible projects be approved for funding at \$378,290 and that this recommendation be forwarded to the Arizona State Parks Board for final action.

- 5. Consider Approval of FY 2005-FY2007 Law Enforcement and Boating Safety Fund (LEBSF) Allocation Schedule.** Staff recommends adopting the revised LEBSF allocation formula to determine revenue allocation per county for FY 2005, FY 2006 and FY 2007.

Mr. Baldwin distributed revised copies of the LEBSF allocation for FY 2005, 2006, and 2007. He said the LEBSF revenues are derived from a portion of watercraft license taxes paid by boaters at the time boats are registered. The Parks Board sets the allocation percentages based on the watercraft survey done every three years. The revised chart uses column G (Percent Boat Use Days from 2003 Survey) and column C (Personnel Costs) and figures the percent allocation.

Ms. Foti moved and Mr. Bell seconded to adopt the revised LEBSF allocation formula (revised Attachment A) to determine revenue per county for FY 2005, FY 2006, and FY 2007 and that this recommendation be forwarded to the Parks Board for consideration.

Motion passed 6-0.

Mr. Baldwin said it has been noted that there are significant differences in column F on the original and the revised sheet for the LEBSF allocation formula. He was not sure if the percent allocations would be affected or not and staff will bring the information back to AORCC if the allocations are affected.

- 6. Consider Extending the Project End Date for the City of Flagstaff Trails Heritage Fund Project #680011, FUTS: Bow & Arrow Wash Trail Phase I.** Staff recommends extending the project end date by 12 months to November 17, 2005 for the Flagstaff Trails Heritage Fund Project #68011, FUTS: Bow & Arrow Wash Trail Phase I.

Mr. Baldwin said the City of Flagstaff cites a delay in completing the signing of the trail due to the need for further design work and changes in staff.

Mr. Bills moved and Mr. Bell seconded to extend the project end date by 12 months to November 17, 2005 for the Flagstaff Trails Heritage Fund Project #680011, FUTS: Bow & Arrow Wash Trail Phase I, and that this recommendation be forwarded to the State Parks Board for final action.

Motion passed 6-0.

**D. REPORTS**

**1. Parks Board Actions on AORCC Items.**

None.

Mr. Travous said that the Parks Board would like to review all of the Grant Application Manuals, especially in light of the latest State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP).

Mr. Travous said one of the Parks Board members has asked for a review of the State Lake Improvement Fund (SLIF) 20% cap. He requested that someone attend the September Parks Board meeting to explain the 20% cap. Ms. Hilderbrand said staff would research the history of the 20% cap and provide AORCC with any information. Mr. Scalzo might attend the Parks Board meeting.

**2. FY 2003 and FY 2004 Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Update.**

Ms. Hilderbrand said that Ms. Dutrack is in the process of getting contracts signed for this past year. For the current year the latest news is that the subcommittee for the stateside portion of LWCF has approved \$91.5 million. There are still a lot of steps to be taken before this becomes final.

**3. FY 2004 Heritage Fund Revenue Update.**

Ms. Hilderbrand stated that the Heritage Fund was fully funded at \$10 million for FY 2004.

**4. Guidelines for Donated Labor and Materials.**

Mr. Baldwin said staff does not feel the minimum wage is an appropriate value for volunteer trail work and is adopting a value based on current market rates. Donated labor will be valued at \$10.00 per hour for trail crew workers and \$14.00 per hour for a certified trail crew supervisor. Staff feels that increasing the value allowed for trail volunteers will greatly assist trail managers in meeting grant match requirements.

**5. Advisory Committee Recruitment.**

Ms. Strang said there are a total of 15 positions open within four of the volunteer advisory committees: Historic Preservation Advisory Committee (HPAC), Arizona State Committee on Trails (ASCOT), Off Highway Vehicle Advisory Committee (OHVAG), and Natural Areas Program Advisory Committee (NAPAC). Information and applications can be found online on the Arizona State Parks website.

**E. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chris Ewell, City of Phoenix Parks and Recreation, said he wanted to address the issue of carrying forward the Land and Water Conservation Funds (LWCF) if it becomes available for FY 2005 and holding it for the next grant cycle. In the past funding for grants has been given out until LRSP runs out and then any additional projects are awarded with funds from LWCF. Mr. Ewell asked AORCC to reconsider holding the LWCF monies for the next grant cycle and distribute it as it becomes available to the projects eligible for that funding. Mr. Ewell said the funds are needed to help develop this neighborhood park.

Ms. Dutrack said one of the reasons staff is asking AORCC to hold the LWCF money is because this year the money came in at the beginning of April and it was difficult and cumbersome to go back and award funds to projects that were approved back in September 2003. There is a lot of uncertainty as to when the LWCF money is going to come in or even if it will come in. Staff tries to follow the strategic plan and this year the funding being recommended and the strategic goal were on the same line. The LRSP and LWCF grant application manual states on page 3 that Arizona State Parks will consider unfunded LRSP applications from the FY 2004 grant cycle for LWCF awards and this has already been done.

AORCC did not recommend changing the original recommendation.

**F. SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS, MATTERS OF BOARD PROCEDURE, REQUESTS, AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA**

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Mr. Travous said there is a website for a group trying to revive a new Land and Water Conservation Fund. It is called "Americans Saving American Places (ASAP)" and there is a place to sign a petition online, which will be sent to Congress asking them to fund the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

Mr. Travous said this year there should be enough money in SLIF to give out grants again. The ASP portion of SLIF will have to be used to make up for the 75% cut in the ASP budget. He may be asking AORCC members to contact their local legislators. This money needs to be used for its intended purposes and not be used by ASP to keep going. He would like the budget and the special funds that AORCC oversees and the possibilities of having full funding for those projects, as originally deemed, placed on the next AORCC agenda.

The next AORCC meeting is scheduled for October 21, 2004 in Phoenix at 1:00 p.m.

**G. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Travous moved and Mr. Bills seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

Chair Samp adjourned the meeting at 1:45 p.m.