

**BEAR PAW SERVICE DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
March 7, 2015 – 9:00 AM

**Directors Present:** Mark Ackerman, Andrea Folkertsma, Andy Earnst, David Dempsey, Greg Brock,  
(Randy Barton, Chrissie Howard)

**Directors Absent:** Patrick Palmer, Mark Songer

**Others Attending:** See attached list (Attachment #1)

**Call to order:** Mark Ackerman called the meeting to order beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Reading of Minutes:**

Greg Brock makes a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Andrea Folkertsma seconds the motion. Motion is carried unanimously.

**Financial Report:** Andrea Folkertsma delivers the Financial Report as follows: We are not doing bad as we are at a 90.09% collection rate, this leaves us only 9.9% behind. The donation from the Condo's is what has us behind. We are pretty well on mark with our expenses. There are a few overages and these will be addressed later on in the meeting. Account 4343 keeps going up due to costs increase. Account 5016 is over due to bad weather and having more service calls from Claude Hughes. Ms. Folkertsma asks if there are any questions, there are none.

**Manager's Report:** Randy Barton presents the Manager's Report as follows:

**Pool:** Pool signs were purchased as well as lifesaving equipment. There was a leak in the pool this winter in the same place as before. Tri-State pools was called in to fix the leak but the owner has had some medical issues but assures us he will get it repaired.

**Cameras:** We had to replace a monitor due to a wiring issue. Parts were bought and the issue was fixed and the monitor is now working. Randy believes the wiring issue came from the monitor getting knocked around by the guards. Mark Ackerman asks if we should put it in a more secure place or maybe in a cabinet. Mr. Barton states maybe this would help. Mr. Ackerman asks Mr. Barton to look into it.

New Car Window Decals have been ordered.

Guards: Disciplinary action was taken with Kelly Wilson and he was suspended without pay and he is now on final written warning. This is certainly not the first time there has been an issue with Mr. Wilson.

Zoning: We have 3 New Constructions and 2 Additions.

Roads: There were problems with an area Crisp Asphalt paved last October that was due to a bad mix. Crisp is aware of the problem and is going to fix it. There was a list of grading and gravel work to be done then snow and moisture came in so we can't do it until it dries up some.

Snow Removal: We used up our supply of salt but we kept the roads clean thanks to Claude, Jamie and Tyler. We are out of salt and are trying to replenish it. We had problems with the salt spreader due to a wiring issue but it is resolved.

Mowing: The mowing contract came up and we have 3 bids so far. It is important for us to hire someone who has workman's comp insurance.

Utilities Inc. is changing fire hydrants. When they are finished there will be seven painted a bright red. The old ones were 80 years old.

There was an 8.9% increase in our general liability insurance from last year.

Mark Ackerman asks Randy Barton to speak on the pool lift issue. Mr. Barton states we had an issue with the batteries being dead last year. We purchased new ones and they are now checked every week and charged. It's a good idea to refresh the guards on how to operate before we open the pool this season. Mr. Ackerman asks Mr. Barton if there are any updates on the dumpsters. He states they are supposed to notify us if they are going to take them out. Wayne Roberts states the guy that picks up the trash from the dumpsters said if Bear Paw will keep it clean we have a good chance of keeping them. He makes a report everyday of how clean or not clean the area is. Everything has to be placed inside the dumpsters and not on the ground. Mr. Ackerman asks if that means we keep them clean we can keep them? Mr. Roberts states yes it does. David Dempsey states maybe we should have a more formal way of keeping them cleaned up. Brian Nelson asks if TVA can't keep them cleaned up as well. Mr. Dempsey states we should post this on our website. Andrea Folkertsma states we should put a sign out there. Mr. Ackerman states we will look into a more formal way of taking care of this issue.

Mark Ackerman states we will move on to committee reports. We worked hard to form committees and have had lots of movement in a positive direction.

Mr. Ackerman asks David Dempsey to speak. Mr. Dempsey speaks on the Tax Revenue and states different entities in Bear Paw pay different rates. Before we can expect more revenue from these entities we need some involvement. Mr. Dempsey states he hosted a meeting and had a discussion with some of these entities as well as Ron Taylor. We had 5 action steps that are included in the minutes from December. Dave Jacobs, our Landscape Committee Chairperson, has done a good job. The ladies group has gotten a lot of community involvement going. Andrea Folkertsma asks David Dempsey if anyone addressed the amount of money not received from the entities at the meeting that was held with them. Mr. Dempsey states no, we just worked on getting to that point. We need value established with them before we discuss that issue. We listened to their perspectives and there are some old perceptions and raw nerves there. We need to get them involved more.

Job Description Committee: Ron Taylor states he and Andy Earnst spent last fall writing job descriptions for the Bear Paw Service District employees. He states they utilized the County system for employee conduct, dress code, job performance, etc.

Firewise: Ron Taylor, Firewise Committee Chairperson, introduces Charles Choplin stating Mr. Choplin was the one that got us the funds of \$12,000 last year. He has also done the control burns, he has done one already on the hill and will do another one within 60 days. Firewise is an ongoing project and boils down to three phases; (1.) Vegetation Phase- we will have to spray every year. (2.) Firebreak- we do not have good firebreaks and this concerns everyone in Bear Paw. If we apply for the grant again we can get money

so we can start doing firebreaks along the easements and roads. We need to lean on TVA to clean up there easement. Janet Duffey may be able to help. (3.) Pump-Storage Tanks- we met with regional guy and he could do an assessment of where we are at. Ron Taylor refers everyone to the handout he has. There are seven potential areas for pump to replenish water. Four along the front of the lake and three along the back of the lake. This would cost a significant amount of money. Andrea Folkertsma asks if there is grant money for this. Mr. Taylor states there are ways to get grants. If we don't get approved for a grant then it will cost us out of our pockets and it's very expensive. David Dempsey states the guy from Eagle Mountain has been through the same as us. Charles Choplin states Eagle Mountain is unique like Bear Paw. We have all this water available with no access to it. We have addressed a second way in and out of here and it is a major concern. Charles Choplin states the guy from Eagle Mountain is super smart and Ron Taylor is all over this program. Mr. Choplin states he is happy to see the acceptance of this program here in Bear Paw. This is something that is ongoing. Ron Taylor states there are two areas they are looking at right now. The valley between the burn pile and Village Rd. If it catches on fire and jumps to Highland there is no telling where it would stop. The second area is the water tower area. If a fire broke out it would jump across and take out the cottages and recreation center. Mr. Choplin states to keep in mind to keep your yards cleaned. People need to come in after the spring and fall and clean their leaves up. Ron Taylor states Eric, Charles Choplin's boss, would like Bear Paw to be the shining star for Western North Carolina. The whole state only has about \$60,000-\$70,000 of grant money with only about 8 communities. If we move forward within the next 60 days we have a good chance of getting some grant money. Wayne Roberts states the Water Company put the hydrants in because they found out if they had them they could charge more money, are these hydrants going to help Firewise? Mark Ackerman makes a motion to move forward with taking the next step in approaching Bryan Foster, the person from Eagle Mountain. Andrea Folkertsma seconds the motion. Motion is carried unanimously.

Dave Jacobs states Chris Sheridan done fall clean-up. He does a lot of individual properties inside Bear Paw so it was convenient to get him to do this for us. The estimate for the spring clean-up, weeding, planting, fertilizing, mulch, etc. was \$1,510. This will be done April 1<sup>st</sup> – June 30<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Jacobs passes this on to Mark Ackerman for the board to decide but states that he will oversee this. Mr. Ackerman passes this on to the Finance Officer, Andrea Folkertsma. Ms. Folkertsma states we have funds available for this and it is very much needed. If you come into a place as beautiful as Bear Paw you appreciate beautiful landscaping. Mark Ackerman makes a motion to have Chris Sheridan of Hillside Landscaping do the spring clean-up and landscape maintenance. Greg Brock seconds the motion. Motion is carried unanimously. Denise Wise asks is this would take up the whole Landscaping budget. Andrea states no, we have money for other things. Denise states we need more seeding on the lawn and creek. The creek also needs rock put in it because it keeps weeds out. Ms. Folkertsma states we will have extra money to continue the landscape committee work.

Ms. Folkertsma asks if there is anything needing done in the playground area and tennis courts. Randy Barton states we need to repair the cracks at the tennis courts. We have to find someone to do the work and doesn't know when we can get this done.

Roads: Greg Brock states there are no real problems. Wayne Roberts states he cannot get to the back of his house. Mr. Brock states Randy Barton has addressed this issue and asks Mr. Barton to speak on this. Mr. Barton states as soon as the weather breaks and it dries up we can fix Mr. Roberts road. Mark Ackerman states it isn't a money issue but rather a timing issue as we are just waiting on it to dry up some due to the amount of rain we have had. David Dempsey asks if the \$1,000 road deposit we require is enough to cover damages to the roads. Mr. Barton states there are a few issues with the deposit we require as we could be challenged and it result in issues. Ron Taylor asks if we take before and after pictures. Mr.

Barton states no we do not, he just does inspections. Ron states we should do before and after pictures. David Dempsey states with the thickness of our roads we should have a lighter load limit on our roads. Eileen Humphlette states she appreciates the way the roads were cleared and handled during the snow this year. Mr. Barton states Claude and Jamie done a lot of hard work and a very good job of that this year.

New Business: Mark Ackerman states Randy Barton has a couple of things he would like to address. Mr. Barton states we checked on security cameras for the clubhouse and the pool area and received a quote. The quote was for eight cameras, monitored by our guards, and the person recommended the system to be wireless. The price came to \$3,140. Mark Ackerman asks how much have we spent on our current system. Mr. Barton states several hundred dollars for the monitor. Mr. Ackerman asks how old the monitor is. Mr. Barton states about five years old and it is fine for the guardhouse area but this other system will allow us to monitor other areas. The \$3,500 is for equipment only and does not include installation costs. Mark Ackerman asks the board if we should pursue this further. Andrea Folkertsma states we should check with the Marina and get some information about the new system they have installed. Randy Barton describes the area that needs concrete work. The stairs needs about \$350 worth of work for the rails and concrete repair. The main problem is under the roof area on the pool deck. We have names and will try to get someone to give us a free quote. The slab at the pool is starting to sink a little bit. Andrea Folkertsma states she has no problem fixing the handrail on the stairs but is concerned about the area under the pavilion, we don't want to have to do it twice. Mr. Barton states it is a separate area. Eileen Humphlette states the carpet at the pool needs replaced. Denise Wise states the wooden stair steps have lights that do not work but would work if we would do some electrical work on them. Wayne Roberts states the area that is sagging was built on rail road ties and covered with cement blocks and they are now rotted. Andrea Folkertsma makes a motion to accept Randy Barton's proposal to move forward with the proposed repair. David Dempsey seconds the motion. Motion is carried unanimously.

**Announcements:** Next meeting will be May 9, 2015 at 9:00am

Eileen Humphlette says thanks for supporting Bear Paw Live. The first event will be June 27<sup>th</sup>, the second event will be August 1<sup>st</sup> and the third event will be September 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Adjournment:** Andrea Folkertsma makes a motion to adjourn. Greg Brock seconds the motion. Motion is carried unanimously.

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**Date**

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**Greg Brock, Secretary**