

## MINUTES

DOE MOUNTAIN RECREATION AUTHORITY BOARD  
August 5, 2014

The meeting of the Doe Mountain Recreation Authority (DMRA) Board was held on Tuesday, August 5, 2014 at 1:00 p.m. at the First Tennessee Development District, Johnson City, Tennessee.

Board Members Present:

Larry Potter  
Richard Strang  
Gabby Lynch  
Frank Arnold  
John Gregory  
Mike Farmer  
Jerry Grindstaff  
Bob Richards (proxy for Brock Hill)  
Lawrence Keeble  
Terry Maughon  
Ray Stout  
Matt Garland  
Dave Jones

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Potter at 1:03 p.m.

R. Stout motioned to approve the July 1st minutes. J. Gregory seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment Period

No public addresses were made.

Financial Report

Due to the Johnson County books not being closed and reconciled yet for FY14, G. Lynch was unable to give the financial report.

Old Business

*Adoption of Final Doe Mountain Management Plan:* The Board found a number of formatting and paging typos and decided that one more review should be made in order to clean up the document. B. Richards, G. Lynch, D. Jones, and M. Farmer offered to go through the plan and check for revisions within 2 weeks. The delay will allow the Hunting & Shooting Sports Committee's July 2014 recommendations to be inserted into plan. Revised, final plans will be distributed to the Board at the October 7<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Discussion ItemsIndividual Committee Reports.

- a. Natural Resources: G. Griffith presented. A new contact has occurred with an Appalachian State University adjunct faculty member and botanist for trail corridor surveys. M. Farmer and G. Lynch met with the botanist, who has experience with High Country flora and would like to build a relationship with the DMRA and increase the knowledge base about the mountain's plant life, including rare, threatened, and endangered species.
- b. Master Planning: No additional report; action steps outlined above to fix final plan issues.
- c. Administration: R. Strang presented. G. Lynch met with Allen McGhee & Associates, the auditing firm that will be conducting the DMRA's first audit. The work should be completed this summer. Brushy Fork Environmental Consulting, Inc. has completed its hydrological repair work on Morefield Branch, and the DMRA submitted its cash match invoice for payment. B. Richards showed the Board photographs from his site visit to the Morefield Branch area. RTP grant update – M. Garland spoke for the First TN Development District's ability to serve/support the DMRA's RTP project component needs. G. Lynch submitted updated RTP match commitment letters to B. Richards, the last step before the FHWA obligating the funds to the DMRA and signing a contract.
- d. Adventure Tourism / Business Development: M. Garland presented. The next Adventure Tourism application window has not been scheduled yet by his agency.
- e. Marketing & Outreach: No report at this time.
- f. Roads & Trails / User Groups: M. Farmer presented. The Johnson County Trails Association has grant money set aside to purchase right-of-way easements for local trails and has offered to help the DMRA if needed. About half of the beginner mountain bike trail has been completed. A necessary re-route project on one of the multi-use trails has been completed. L. Potter mentioned the high number of North Carolina riders and families who are coming on the weekend, having hearing about the mountain by word-of-mouth. M. Farmer noted that the DMRA needs to have an official grand opening; discussion ensued about how official opening is to be timed with more trails being developed. D. Jones noted that "grand openings" are usually staged as media events; the FTDD can help promote such an event. J. Gregory noted that the RTP grant money starting to flow in is a "big story" around which an opening event could be built.
- g. Hunting/Shooting Sports: No report at this time.

Other Business

The September DMRA Board meeting has been cancelled. The October Board meeting will take place on Tuesday, October 7, 2014 at 1:00 pm at the Doe Mountain Visitor Center, Harbin Hill Road, Mountain City.

Adjournment

L. Keeble motioned to adjourn at 2:59 p.m. J. Grindstaff seconded the motion.

Respectfully Submitted By:

  
Gabrielle K. Lynch, Secretary/Treasurer