



FEBRUARY 4, 2020 BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
DOE MOUNTAIN RECREATION AUTHORITY BOARD

A meeting of the Doe Mountain Recreation Authority (DMRA) Board of Directors was held at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 4, 2020 at the First Tennessee Development District, Johnson City, Tennessee.

Chairman Reese called the meeting to order at 12:58 p.m.

I. Board Members Present

Frank Arnold	
Mike Farmer	Anne Marshall
Jerry Grindstaff	Dan Reese
Carolyn Hawkins	Tim Sain
Dave Jones	Mike Taylor
Gabby Lynch	Ray Stout

Absent: Kristy Herman, Kevin Parsons, Ron Ramsey; *(Board member Don Hurst has retired, and his replacement has not yet been assigned by the Commissioner of the Department of Economic & Community Development.)*

DMRA Staff and Guests Present:

Tate Davis, Executive Director  
Dillon Cornett, part-time DMRA maintenance staff  
Mona Alderson  
Angie Stout  
Lynn Hicks  
Bob Richards  
Gloria Griffiths  
Lisa Freiss  
Jeff Freiss

II. Minutes from the November 5, 2019 meeting were reviewed. **R. Stout motioned for approval of the minutes. C. Hawkins seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

III. Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

#### IV. Financial Report

F. Arnold reported that the DMRA's Johnson County agency fund account cash position as of Jan. 22, 2020 is \$9,530.18. The DMRA's Johnson County Bank account cash position as of Jan. 30, 2020 is \$237,252.78. T. Davis announced that he had just invoiced Bluesource for the third forest carbon credit sale in the amount of \$67,746.00. **F. Arnold motioned that the Board invest existing forest carbon revenue in two 24-month CDs, \$100,000 and \$50,000 respectively. C. Hawkins seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. D. Reese motioned to approve the financial report. C. Hawkins seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

#### V. Executive Director's Report

T. Davis reviewed year-to-date user pass sales revenue and significant parking lot space issues. T. Davis then introduced Mr. Dillon Cornett, the DMRA's part-time staffer who has been assisting the project via an external grant (Workforce Integration & Opportunity Act). Mr. Cornett presented to the Board about a recent mountain tour with representatives from the Northeast Tennessee Regional Economic Partnership (NeTREP). The NeTREP staff viewed various parts of the property and gave DMRA staff recommendations around staffing, training, marketing, signage, increasing volunteer participation, *etc.* Discussion ensued about the need to contact the Workforce administrator and encourage them to continue assigning part-time temporary staff to Doe Mountain. This program is an excellent way to introduce and train local youth in the outdoor recreation field.

T. Davis next informed the Board that three companion House and Senate bills have been filed in the current Legislative session in response to the DMRA's 2019 Sunset Hearing and subsequent requests by the DMRA Board to Senator Lundberg and Representative Hill, asking for their assistance to fix three operational issues.

Finally, discussion ensued about the need for a Spring event on the mountain to honor former Chairman Willie Hammons, invite Legislators and key partners, have a ribbon cutting for the fire tower, *etc.* G. Lynch motioned that the next regularly scheduled Board meeting be shifted from April 7<sup>th</sup> to a May date in order to maximize pretty weather odds. **R. Stout motioned that the Executive Committee devise a plan for the next meeting, to include an event with the media and Legislators, and inform the full Board later of the dates and plans with preference for May 1-2 and May 15-16. G. Lynch seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

#### VII. Individual Committee Reports:

- a. Natural Resources: No report.
- b. Master Planning: No report.
- c. Executive: G. Lynch reported on the progress of various policy task force development teams. Several new policies and/or procedures should be available for the Board to review in final draft form at its next full Board meeting.
- d. Marketing/Outreach & Business Development: T. Davis
- e. Roads & Trails: No report.

f. Hunting & Shooting Sports: No report.

VII. Other Business:

C. Hawkins mentioned a discussion at the Board's November 2019 meeting about the Mountain City Mayor's lack of participation in the Board meetings. The Board has a significant amount of Doe Mountain-related information that needs to be passed on to the City leadership so that the County/City/State partnership is maintained and grown. Attempts will be made to try and get a proxy Board meeting attendee from the Mayor's office.

G. Lynch noted a pending grant application that the DMRA will submit to the new Volkswagon/The Conservation Fund/TVA community grant program in the amount of \$50,000 to address various water quality improvements.

VIII. Set Next Meeting Date/Time/Place

The next meeting will be determined depending upon the May meeting plans as described above.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Vice Chairman Taylor at 2:10 pm. M. Farmer seconded.

Minutes Taken By:



Gabrielle K. Lynch  
DMRA Corresponding Secretary

***The mission of the Doe Mountain Recreation Authority is to transform Doe Mountain into a safe, fun, family-oriented, multi-use outdoor recreational destination that promotes local economic development while conserving and protecting its beauty, woods, water and wildlife.***