



October 5, 2021 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. Eastern time on Tuesday, October 5, 2021 at the Johnson County Welcome Center, Mountain City, TN.

I. Chairman Reese called the meeting to order at 1:08 p.m.

Board Members Present:

Frank Arnold	Jerry Jordan
Gabby Lynch	Dan Reese
Ron Ramsey	Dave Jones
Kristy Herman	Anthony Duncan
Tim Sain	

Board Members Absent: Jerry Grindstaff, Gerald Parish (new proxy for TDEC Commissioner Salyers), Ray Stout, Mike Taylor

DMRA Staff and Guests Present:

Lynn Hicks
Dennis Shekinah
Gloria Griffith
Angie Stout

II. Approval of August 3, 2021 Minutes - **K. Herman motioned to approve the Board meeting minutes from the August 3, 2021 Board meeting. F. Arnold seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

III. Public Comment Period

There were no public comments. S. Lindsey shared results from a paper survey (attached) that members of the public participated in at this morning's community feedback meeting.

IV. Financial Report – Treasurer Frank Arnold reported. As of Sept. 30, 2021, the DMRA's cash position in its Johnson County Bank checking account is \$632,918. The DMRA's cash balance in its Johnson County Bank savings account is \$401,038. The DMRA's cash position in its Johnson County agency fund account is \$123,219. \$750,000 of the DMRA's forest carbon revenue is now invested into a 3-year investment portfolio with Edward Jones Financial Group. **T. Sain**

motioned to approve the Financial Report. K. Herman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

V. Executive Director's Report – L. Shawn Lindsey

- a. SWOT Analysis – Board members and guests conducted a charette-style exercise to choose their top Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats of the Doe Mountain project.
- b. Goal-setting – S. Lindsey led the full Board through a discussion of 16, 3 to 5-year goals developed at the Executive Committee's August 2021 brainstorming session. **T. Sain motioned to approve the Executive Director's pursuit and alignment of staff and resources around the set of proposed goals. F. Arnold seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**
- c. RTP Phase 2 Budget Amendment Proposals/3-year Lease on Cat D1 Dozer. **D. Reese motioned to approve the RTP Phase 2 budget amendment as presented by S. Lindsey and Bob Richards and also to submit the budget amendment to Anne Marshall, director of TDEC/RES. G. Lynch seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**
- d. Legislative Proposal for Rules and Regulations Proposed Changes. **R. Ramsey motioned to approve the pursual of two legislative changes to the DMRA in the FY22 legislative session: 1) that the DMRA have the authority to level civil penalties of \$100 or less for Rules violations, and 2) that the DMRA have sole discretion to establish/change user fees. G. Lynch seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**
- e. Approval of Budget for Patrol Rangers, Parttime Off-duty Officer, and Staff and Organizational Changes. **K. Herman motioned to approve the recruitment and hiring of part-time patrol rangers and off-duty law enforcement officer and full-time construction supervisor and trail technician. F. Arnold seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.** Discussion ensued about a new proposed position called "store/sales and events manager"; a decision on that position was tabled until a mid-year budget review could be conducted by the Board.
- f. Approval of Phased Reopening of the Morefield Trailhead with Management Plan. **K. Herman motioned to approve the reopening of the Morefield Branch/Gentry trailhead pursuant to a management plan that ensures cooperation with neighboring landowners and/or businesses and is acceptable to TDEC/RES. F. Arnold seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**
- g. Acceptance of Easement and Reopening of Alternative Connection with Pioneer Shopping Center. **T. Sain motioned to approve the DMRA's acceptance of an access easement across a road located on property owned by DMRA neighbor, Joe Herman, for the purpose of connecting Doe Mountain guests to the Pioneer Village shopping center and town businesses. A. Duncan seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**
- h. Approval of Events, Festivals, Programs. This topic was tabled until a future Board meeting.
- i. Update of Mountain Dew Sponsorship and Other Grants.
- j. Vehicles/Equipment. S. Lindsey noted that DMRA staff are using their personal vehicles for job-related activities, which could create safety/liability issues. **G. Lynch motioned to approve \$10,000 for the purchase of two, used pick-up trucks (or similar-style vehicle) at auction for DMRA staff use and a trailer for hauling OHVs and other equipment. D. Reese seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

VI. Other Business

- a. Board Action – RTP Phase 2 Grant Reimbursement Request Certification for Bob’s Trails, Trees & Gardens. **G. Lynch motioned to approve RTP Phase 2 grant reimbursement request certification for Bob’s Trails, Trees & Gardens with the State of Tennessee’s Grant Management System. D. Reese seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**
- b. Board Member Terms and Officer Updates. G. Lynch spoke of Chairman Dan Reese’s retirement from the DMRA Board after this meeting and thanked the Chairman for his several years of service to the DMRA, during which he took great initiative to help with many important issues, including management planning and financial investments. The DMRA will purchase a commemorative rocking chair for the Adventure Center’s front porch in Dan’s honor. Also leaving the Board is TDEC’s Anne Marshall, who has a new position within TDEC. The TDEC Commissioner’s new proxy will be Gerald Parish, already well-known to the DMRA through his management of the RTP grants. A front porch rocking chair will also be purchased to commemorate Anne for her helpful service to the DMRA. G. Lynch also announced her resignation from the DMRA Board Secretary position after the Board’s December 2021 meeting.
- c. Motus Wildlife Tracking System Opportunity. **K. Herman motioned to approve the DMRA’s participation in the Motus network of aerial wildlife tracking towers, which will involve installing an antenna on Doe Mountain (the antenna will be supplied and installed by The Nature Conservancy). G. Lynch seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**
- d. Shawn Lindsey- Employee Agreement. G. Lynch noted that the Executive Committee is negotiating a formal employee agreement with S. Lindsey that will be provided to the Board for approval in the coming weeks.
- e. Drug-free Workplace Requirements. As a State entity and recipient of government grant funds, the DMRA must adhere to drug-free workplace requirements. The DMRA has not drug-tested its staff to date. K. Herman offered to speak with two local companies that provide the service so that a staff drug-testing program occurs a minimum of 1-2 times per year.

VIII. Set Next Meeting Date/Time/Place

Tuesday, December 7, 2021 at 1 pm Eastern, location to be determined.

IX. Adjournment

D. Reese motioned to adjourn the meeting. J. Jordan seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Reese at 3:54 pm.

Respectfully Submitted 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.