

FOMNRR Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

December 5, 2018 – 10:00 AM

Lewis and Clark State Recreation Area, SD GF&P Conference Room, Yankton, SD

Chair Tim Cowman called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. Eleven BOD members were present either in person or on conference call. BOD attendees (including those voted into the BOD during the meeting) were: Rich Burns, Tim Cowman, Bob Foley, Susan Heggestad, Pat James, Dennis Menke, Don Nelson, Marshall Pritchard, Dave Swanson and Barbara Yelverton. Paul Lepisto participated via conference call. Rick Clark and Daniel Peterson attended as National Park Service representatives from the MNRR. Jake Manning from SD GFP participated as alternate for Shane Bertsch and Amber Fertig as a visitor from the SD Geological Survey.

Introductions – the meeting began with introductions of all attendees.

Approval of Agenda – The agenda, with the addition of an annual meeting review under Reports, was accepted unanimously.

Minutes – The last BOD meeting was an abbreviated meeting at the FOMNRR annual meeting in October 2018, so there are no previous minutes to approve.

MNRR Superintendent's Update – Rick Clark provided an update on recent MNRR activities.

- Several showings of the new MNRR park movie at various locations along the MNRR occurred in November in celebration of the 40th anniversary of the designation of the MNRR. Total attendance at all showings was 301.
- The five new short movies focusing on different aspects of the park unit will be posted on the MNRR web site soon.
- Possibilities for using the MNRR film for more outreach were discussed, including combining the film with a panel discussion of MNRR issues (similar to that at the recent Missouri River Institute Symposium at USD) as part of the Winter Speaker Series.
- Some discussion of landowner relationships, issues and communications occurred.
- The Goat Island Management Plan and coordination with SDGFP and NGPC is in process. Public release of the plan is expected in May or June of 2019.
- *James River Island*: Six landowners of the James River Island area are interested in selling their property to the National Park Service – MNRR. Efforts to potentially allow purchase of these properties have been initiated, but these efforts are currently in the very early stages. Superintendent Clark asked whether the FOMNRR would be interested in playing a role in fundraising efforts for this purpose, potentially in collaboration with the National Parks Foundation. A report on moving forward with fundraising for this purpose will be provided at the February 2019 BOD meeting.

Reports

- *FOMNRR Annual Meeting* – Tim Cowman provided a brief review of the annual meeting at Ponca State Park on 6 October, 2018.
 - 27 people attended the meeting and one new member joined at the meeting and several current members renewed membership at the meeting.
 - Consensus among the BOD was that summer seems to be a better time for the annual meeting, especially for participation in corollary outdoor events.
- *Financial* – Bob Foley provided the report. The current net assets, as of 30 November 2018, were \$12,994.05. An additional \$350 in membership dues has been received since 30 November. Of this amount, \$7,166.75 is earmarked for FOMNRR activities, so the available unencumbered balance is \$5,827.30.

- *Membership* – Dennis Menke provided the report. The “3rd Thursday” social events have been going well. The current plan is to begin to include outdoor outings (e.g., paddle events) along with these events next year starting in March or April.
- *Landowner Communications* – Barbara Yelverton and Pat James presented the report summarizing the recent activities of this committee. The recent meeting at the Yelverton Farmhouse on the South Dakota side of the 39-mile reach had 13 attendees, including two tribal representatives. Some potential next steps for this committee were discussed. No official action was taken.

Old Business

- *Winter Newsletter* – Daniel Peterson asked about the size of the newsletter and consensus was that 4 pages was sufficient for the winter newsletter. This will cut down on printing costs, while still allowing sufficient information transfer.

New Business

- *Election of additional Board Members* – The following members were nominated and unanimously elected to the BOD.
 - Marshall Pritchard – Ponca Tribe representative
 - Don Nelson – At-Large position
 - Rich Burns – At-Large position
- *Election of Executive Committee Officers for 2019*
 - Susan Heggstad (VCDC) was unanimously elected for the currently vacant Vice Chair position
 - A unanimous ballot passed for the following additional officers for 2019:
 - Chair: Tim Cowman
 - Treasurer: Bob Foley
 - Secretary: David Swanson
 - At-Large Officer: Paul Lepisto
- *Winter Speaker Series* - Dan Peterson suggested that efforts to tie in the film showing and panel discussions with landowner communication efforts would be a good idea. The BOD agreed.
- Request for reprint of FOMNRR brochures – Dan Peterson mentioned that we are running short of brochures, so we will need to reprint brochures soon. A motion to approve up to \$500 for a brochure reprint passed unanimously.
- *FOMNRR Trail Project Updates* – Tim Cowman provided the report.
 - Tim mentioned that the Frost Trail project next steps include placing signage at the trailheads and interpretive signage along the trail. The SDGFP position with oversight for Frost Game Production area has a new person in place and they are currently not supportive of signage and maintenance plans for the Frost Trail. Tim Cowman and Rick Clark will meet with them on Monday, December 10, to try to resolve these issues.
 - Tim Cowman is beginning to explore opportunities to develop a trail system with the USACE on the North Alabama Bend property. More to come later.

Announcements

- MRE Events: Paul Lepisto announced that the Missouri River Education Events are now scheduled. Volunteers are needed for all of these events.
 - MRE Festival: 2 May 2019
 - Missouri River Clean-up: 4 May 2019
 - Lake Yankton Outdoor Festival: 8 June 2019
- The Invasive Mussel Summit is scheduled for next Thursday, December 13, 2018.

- *Buddy Seiner of Fishing Buddy Studios* plans to do a kayaking/fishing adventure along the MNRR. This will feature both written stories and video. He is looking for local connections to help with the project.
- *Strategies for Funding* – Don Nelson mentioned the possibility of approaching the Ted Turner group for funding of FOMNRR activities. This will be an agenda item for the next BOD meeting in February.

Next meeting Date and Time – Tim Cowman will send out a Doodle Poll to set a date for the February meeting. Expect to see that soon.

The meeting adjourned at 12:31 pm.