

**WHITEWATER COMMISSION
QUARTERLY MEETING
MARCH 20, 2008
MINUTES**

The quarterly meeting of the Whitewater Commission was held on Thursday, March 20, 2008, at Hawk's Nest in Ansted, West Virginia. The following individuals were in attendance:

WHITEWATER COMMISSION MEMBERS

Frank Jezioro, Director, Division of Natural Resources (Presiding)
Don Beyer, Charleston
Jonathan Danz, Lansing
Jeff Proctor, Lansing
Betty Cutlip, Division of Tourism, representing and voting in proxy for Betty Carver

DIVISION OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Lt. Col. Jerry Jenkins, Law Enforcement, Charleston
Lt. Larry Case, Law Enforcement, Beckley
Cpl. Wayne Young, Law Enforcement, Elkins
Stephanie Albertini, Law Enforcement, Charleston (Recording Secretary)

PUBLIC

Brian Campbell, Rivermen
Eric Pores, WVPRO
Gary Hartley, NPS, New River Gorge NR
Alan Jennings, North American River Runners
Jerry Cook, ACE Whitewater

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Director Jezioro at approximately 10:07 AM. The director welcomed everyone attending and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jeff Proctor made a **MOTION** to approve the minutes of the December 19, 2007 meeting as submitted. The motion was seconded by Jonathan Danz. The motion passed as submitted.

OUTFITTER PAPERWORK

Jonathan Danz presented the Commission with new paperwork for whitewater outfitters. They included Commercial Whitewater Trip Leader Sheet – 6 Runs (Attachment A), Commercial Whitewater Gauley Trip Leader Sheet Summersville Dam to Mason's Branch (Attachment B), Commercial Whitewater Guide Continuation (Additional Rivers) Sheet (Attachment C), Commercial Whitewater Gauley Guide Sheet – 40 Runs Summersville Dam to Mason's Branch (Attachment D), Grandfather Sheet (Attachment E) and Commercial Whitewater Guide Trainee Sheet – 15 Runs (Attachment F). The plan is to accept the paperwork with the provision that there

will be a place for put-ins and take-outs to be documented. We do not need a Commission vote to make the changes to the form. The changes will be made and circulated. A **MOTION** was made by Jonathan that the Commission adopt the new forms with the stipulation that they make the places for the put-in and take-outs and that we have DNR Council review the forms. The motion was seconded by Jeff Proctor. Motion approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Eric Pores said that they are working toward a West Virginia Day, Whitewater Industry reunion, 40th anniversary of commercial outfitting. The idea is to send an invitation to past directors, park superintendents and anybody who has been involved with the industry over the years. There will be a photo opportunity at Fayette Station followed by a reception, the location of the reception is to be announced. They hope to put together the reunion with the Commission and DNR participation. The time of year will be on or around West Virginia Day of June 20th. Also, an historical documentary will be put together by Eric Polfrey. He will be asking outfitters for photos, historical documents, film, etc... to add to the documentary. The documentary will be shown on the evening of the reception.

Park Service said that the road at Cunard is open and will get traffic through, but there will still be some problems. Also, it was proposed back in 2001 that there be tours on the catwalk under the New River Gorge Bridge and use the Park Service to work with private industry and, possibly, the State, to partner for this tourist attraction.

OTHER BUSINESS

Jerry talked to NPS Superintendent, Don Stryker, and for the Commission's information, the DNR is going to partner with NPS to do some joint patrols on the New River section. Jerry also mentioned the Legislative session and would like to thank Eric, Jeff and their lobbyist for the legislation on the Gauley River. That legislation did pass and will be signed. The fee will probably be changed around mid-April.

Jeff Proctor is staying in contact with Chip Short regarding the accident reports. They hope to have something ready by the next Commission meeting.

NEXT MEETING DATE AND PLACE

The next meeting will be in the New River area on or around West Virginia Day. The National Park Service conference rooms are available. Stephanie is to check with Betty Carver and the Tourism Commission to find out when they are planning their meeting. Maybe make the next Whitewater Commission Meeting more of an event. The meeting will be decided and the information will be distributed to the Commission members.

ADJOURN THE MEETING

Jonathan made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Jeff. The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:30 AM.