

# **4<sup>th</sup> Quarterly Whitewater Commission Meeting Minutes**

## **December 13, 2016**

**Location:** DNR HQ's 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room – 324 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, South Charleston, WV 25303

**Chaired:** DNR LE Jerry B. Jenkins, Colonel, for Director Robert Fala

### **In Attendance:**

Commissioners: Brian Campbell (AOTG); Tim Barton (Alpine); Matt Knott (River Riders by phone); Chris Ellis (private river user); Don Beyer (private river user)

Others: Jerry Jenkins (WVDNR); Heather Kessel (WVDNR); David Trader (WVDNR); Will Miller (WV Tourism); Ed Wooten (Harman's Luxury Log Cabins); Duane Michael (NPS); Roger Wilson (AOTG)

### **Call to Order**

The Whitewater Commission meeting of December 13, 2016 was called to order at 1:02 p.m. by Colonel Jerry B. Jenkins. Introductions were made. Attendance sheet provided for attendees to sign.

### **Approval of September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Minutes**

Brian Campbell made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016 meeting. Motion seconded by Chris Ellis. The motion carried.

### **Budget**

Matt Knott (by phone) advised that there was \$48,000 in income since July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016. \$41,000 in general user fees and \$6,700 in Gauley user fees. Spent \$12,000 on DNR personnel/benefits and \$2,275 on Gauley Trout stocking. Total expenses were \$14,186, leaving \$123,000 in the bank account.

### **Discuss LAC – Accident Review Meeting**

Brian Campbell explained that at the morning LAC meeting there was discussion of past river usage studies, river changes and issues. He explained that in 1992 legislation was passed that required the Whitewater Commission conduct a three-year study of carrying capacity and other safety related issues on the five rivers – New, Gauley, Shenandoah, Tygart & Cheat. The Commission went through a bidding process and chose WVU, Andy Whisman, to conduct the study. The study took approximately 2 years and led to creating a rational allocation methodology.

There was discussion of the necessary data points to have on the injury data reports that WVOT will build. Discussed that there is current work being done on getting the reports created and available to help with annual reports and other statistics. Brian Campbell explains that the goal is to use the reports and data to do summary reports annually.

Brian Campbell made a motion to request WVOT to update and create injury data reports to pull the existing data, cost not to exceed \$5,000. Motion seconded by Tim Barton. The motion carried.

## **Whitewater Injury Study**

Brian Campbell made a motion to reach out to A. Attarian, previous entity that wrote the last Whitewater Injury Study, requesting him to write another injury study for 2011 – 2016 with the cost not to exceed \$7,500. Motion seconded by Chris Ellis. Motion carried.

Chris Ellis asked if we could express an interest in comparing our numbers to other outdoor activity injuries.

## **Other Business**

There was discussion of Whitewater Commission appointments. Brian Campbell stressed the staggering of members should continue. Colonel Jenkins advised that a list was sent several months ago, but no response from the Governor's office to date. He advised that DNR are checking on the appointments regularly and with the new Administration he expects to hear something soon.

Will Miller with tourism discussed international guests and he's noticing that they are very receptive to bring in business to WV. He advised that some partners are very interested in sharing their international guests and markets with anyone interested.

## **Next Meeting**

The 1<sup>st</sup> 2017 Quarterly Whitewater Commission meeting to be held at River Riders in Harpers Ferry, WV on Tuesday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 1:00 p.m.

## **Adjournment**

Tim Barton motioned to adjourn the September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016 4<sup>th</sup> Quarterly Whitewater Commission meeting. Brian Campbell seconded the motion. The motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 1:40 p.m.