

WHITEWATER COMMISSION QUARTERLY MEETING
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OCTOBER 28, 2009
MINUTES

The quarterly meeting of the Whitewater Commission was held on Wednesday, October 28, 2009, at Building 74, first floor conference room, Charleston, West Virginia. The following individuals were in attendance:

WHITEWATER COMMISSION MEMEBERS

Lt. Col. Jerry Jenkins, Law Enforcement (Presiding)
Betty Carver, WV Division of Tourism
Jeff Proctor, Class VI
Rick Johnson, River Expeditions
Don Striker, National Park Service
Don Beyer, Private Boater Rep

DIVISION OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Jennifer Weinrich, Law Enforcement (Recording Secretary)

OTHERS

Mark Lewis, WVPRO

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Lt. Col Jenkins at approximately 1:30 PM. Lt. Col. Jenkins welcomed everyone attending and passed around the sign in sheet.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jeff Proctor made a **MOTION** to approve the minutes of the June 24, 2009, meeting as submitted. The motion was seconded by Rick Johnson. The motion passed as submitted.

LAC AND INJURY REPORTS STATUS UPDATES

Jennifer Weinrich informed the commission that as of this date all accident reports that were submitted prior to the availability of the online reporting have been entered into a database. Also, 3,257 Trip Leader reports have been inputted into a similar database including all of 2004 and through the month of July of 2005. We are currently at a standstill until a temporary hire is available.

Jeff Proctor made the motion to finish up the inputting of data from the 2005 Trip Leader reports but not the 2006 Trip Leader reports provided that it is not mandated by the audit report. Rick Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

WHITEWATER USER NUMBERS

Jennifer Weinrich passed out the numbers that have been ran through September 30, 2009, for all companies that have submitted numbers on all rivers as well as a comparison to the same data from 2008.

Jeff Proctor started a discussion regarding the intent of the law and rule regarding payments. Should leniency be granted to companies that have submitted their numbers and payments but have not been received by Law Enforcement; consistency is key.

TRIP LEADER REPORTS

Jeff Proctor produced a spreadsheet regarding the data that is submitted on the trip leader reports versus the numbers that were submitted to Law Enforcement for user fees. Some numbers are being over-reported while others are being underreported.

Jeff Proctor asked if companies could review their practices regarding the input of Trip Leader Reports as these numbers reflect the crowding scores. Jeff Proctor motioned that Jennifer Weinrich submit an e-mail to the outfitters with the link to the Whitewater Reports online and for companies to review their practices and attentiveness in submitting their numbers. The motion was seconded by Rick Johnson. The motion passed.

OTHER BUSINESS

Trout stocking was successful; 12,000 pounds were stocked in the Gauley River as there was only \$10,000 available in the Trout Stocking fund.

Rick Johnson wanted to thank the DNR for their assistance in stopping the individual who was "pirating" trips down the river using other outfitters equipment.

Gauley River fatalities. The commission discussed the deaths that have occurred this season and is in the process to work with the Park Service, WVPRO and the Medical Examiner to see how we can better inform and train the outfitters to prevent further incidents on the river. Mark Lewis has passed around information regarding the laryngeal spasm to the outfitters.

NEXT MEETING DATE AND PLACE

The next meeting will be held on December 16, 2009, at the DNR Headquarters (Bldg 74). Once the time is established, the commission members will be notified.

MEETING ADJOURNED

A **MOTION** was made to adjourn the meeting by Rick Johnson and seconded by Jeff Proctor. The meeting ended at approximately 3:00 PM.