

1st Quarterly Whitewater Commission Meeting Minutes

March 7, 2023

Location: WV DNR Headquarters – 324 4th Avenue, South Charleston, WV 25303

Chaired: Lt. Col. David Trader

In Attendance:

Commissioners: Chris Ellis (private river user via Zoom); Bobby Bower (Sandstone Jetboats via Zoom); Heather Johnson (River Expeditions via Zoom); Charles Sellars (NPS via Zoom); Chris Hayes (AWVR via Zoom); Ed Wooton (private river user via Zoom)

Others: Amy Lucas (WVDNR); Cpl. Whittington (WV DNR via Zoom); Rick Johnson (River Expeditions via Zoom); Frank Sellers (NPS via Zoom)

Call to Order

The Whitewater Commission meeting of March 7, 2023 was called to order at 1:02 p.m. by Lt. Col. David Trader. Introductions were made.

Approval of December 13, 2022 Minutes

Bobby Bower made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 13, 2022 meeting. Motion seconded by Chris Hayes. The motion carried.

Budget

Lt. Col. David Trader noted the budget that was included in the electronic packet sent to Commission members. No discussion was made. No motion needed.

Old Business

- Lt. Col. Trader asked if the Commission had a chance to look over the injury report prepared by Prof. Jinyang Deng, Ph.D. Chris Ellis would like for Prof. Deng to virtually present his findings at the next Commission meeting in June.
- Amy Lucas will contact Prof. Deng asking him to present his report to the Commission in June.

New Business

- Regarding the WePro emergency channel, Lt. Col. Trader suggested a three-part split of the yearly expense between NPS, DNR and the Whitewater Commission.
- Bobby Bower will ask Direct Communications to separate the yearly expense of \$964.00 into three equal amounts, which will be \$331.33.
- Charles Sellars stated that he could check into the funding for the NPS part, but Frank Sellers is in favor and has agreed that the NPS will pay their part, as it would take more time and effort to check into the study of figuring out the funding.
- Chris Ellis proposed for the Commission to pay the one-third split of \$331.33.
- Lt. Col. Trader stated that Bob Layne of the Tygart Watershed Experience has decided to terminate his business and Amy Lucas has received this in writing from him. No further discussion was needed.

- Lt. Col. Trader advised the Commission that the whitewater rule regarding the Tygart River is in the House Judiciary and may be on the March 8, 2023 agenda. Lt. Col. Trader states that he does not anticipate any issues on this.

Next Meeting Date and Place

The 2nd Quarterly Whitewater Commission Meeting will be held at WV DNR Headquarters via Zoom, 324 4th Avenue, South Charleston, WV 25303 on Tuesday, June 13, 2023, at 1:00 p.m.

Adjournment

The 1st Quarterly Whitewater Commission meeting adjourned at 1:19pm. Chris Ellis made a motion to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Ed Wooton.