

STATE OF TEXAS :
COUNTIES OF POTTER :
AND RANDALL :

On this the 11th day of October 2011, the Parks and Recreation Commission of Amarillo, Texas convened at 1:30 PM in regular session in Room 306, City Hall at 509 E. 7th Avenue, with the following members present:

ATTENDANCE

	PRESENT TODAY	NO. REGULAR MEETINGS HELD SINCE APPOINTMENT	NO. REGULAR MEETINGS ATTENDED SINCE APPOINTMENT	SPECIAL MEETINGS HELD	SPECIAL MEETINGS ATTENDED
Mr. Hal Leedy	Yes	42	29	0	0
Mr. Cameron Monroe	Yes	32	25	0	0
Mr. Clint Norton	Yes	23	20	0	0
Ms. Joyce Cunningham	Yes	42	40	0	0
Ms. Jackie Payne	No	42	33	0	0
Mr. Joe Michael	Yes	1	1	0	0
Ms. Renee McCown	No	1	0	0	0

and the following staff members:

Mr. Larry Offerdahl	Director of Parks & Recreation
Mr. Rod Tweet	Assistant Director of Parks & Recreation
Mr. Clint Stoddard	Park Superintendent
Ms. Sherylene Morris	Recording Secretary
Mr. Daniel Martinez	Former Park Commissioner
Mr. Brian Scott	Former Park Commissioner

Before officially opening the Park Commission meeting, Larry Offerdahl presented appreciation thank you plaques to former Park Commissioners Mr. Daniel Martinez and Mr. Brian Scott for their dedicated service on the Park Commission Board. Mr. Martinez and Mr. Scott both served on the Parks Commission for 2 terms.

There being a quorum established, the meeting was called to order by Chairman elect, Mr. Cameron Monroe, and the following business was conducted.

ITEM 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 13, 2011 MEETING

Ms. Joyce Cunningham made a MOTION to approve the September 13, 2011 minutes as amended. Mr. Clint Norton seconded the MOTION. MOTION passed by a vote of 5-0.

ITEM 2. MONTHLY REPORTS

The purchase of a new Christmas tree to replace the old Christmas tree put up every year on the west side of the Civic Center has been approved and will be purchased and installed in front of the Civic Center by December 1, 2011. The low bid for this tree was submitted by Temple Displays at \$32,516.

The replacement playground at Martin Road Park that was vandalized on August 26, 2011, will cost an estimated \$85,000. BuyBoard bid quote came in at around \$84,516. As of this date no one has been charged for the vandalism.

The Annual Pirates of the Canyon Balloon Festival is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, October 28 and 29, 2011 at John Stiff Park. A balloon glow is scheduled for Friday evening and balloon lift off is scheduled for early Saturday morning. An estimated 24 to 30 balloons are expected to participate in this event.

Golf revenues at Comanche Trails for the month of September were \$63,009.33 as compared to last year's revenue in September of \$42,252.29. Ross Roger's revenue for the month of September was \$79,733.65 as compared to last year's revenues of \$67,414.89.

Clint reported that maintenance crews have removed over approximately 300 trees in the parks this year due to the drought.

Maintenance crews have completely removed the graffiti off of the underpass at the Rails to Trails on 6th Ave and at the concrete abatement going to the overpass on 8th Ave.

Red Kangaroo "Mickey" was introduced at the zoo in the Wallaby Exhibit on September 27, 2011.

Zoo revenue for the month of September 2011 was \$11,787.92. Total revenue for FY 10-11 was \$210,369.26 as compared to last budget year at \$189,694.73.

ITEM 3. INTRODUCTION OF NEW PARK COMMISSIONER

Joe Michael Rivera, who is currently employed at Bell Helicopter, was introduced as one of our Park Commissioners. Renee McCown, who was unable to attend the Park Commission meeting, is the other new Park Commissioner.

ITEM 4. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

Nominations for Park Chairman and Vice Chairman were submitted. Hal Leedy made a MOTION to elect Cameron Monroe as Park Chairman. Joyce Cunningham seconded the MOTION. MOTION passed by a vote of 5-0.

Cameron Monroe made MOTION to nominate Clint Norton as Vice Chairman. Mike Rivera seconded the MOTION. MOTION passed by a vote of 5-0.

ITEM 5. UPDATE ON THE FY 11-12 PARKS & RECREATION APPROVED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Larry reported that the following capital improvement projects for the FY 11-12 include: Zoo Education Center, Rick Klein Athletic Complex Phase II Soccer Fields and 200 car parking lot; parks and playground improvements, new well at Comanche Trail Golf Complex, irrigation replacement and Hamlet Park improvements.

The Zoo Education Center is funded through grants, private donations and zoo admission revenue.

ITEM 6. REPORT ON THE REVISED PARK CREW WORK PLANS DUE TO THE SEVERE DROUGHT OF 2011

Clint Stoddard stated that the cost to repair the damage to the trees and grass in the parks from the drought is estimated to cost around \$1,000,000. Park Maintenance has developed a 3 year plan in order to repair the damage from the drought. A total of 700 trees out of an inventory of approximately 13,000 trees were lost in this year's drought. Normally 300 trees are removed and replaced each year in our parks. Next year all dead trees will be removed. An additional 150 trees combined with the 300 trees already scheduled will be planted each year until loss is covered. The heavily impacted areas are Thompson, Ellwood, John Stiff, and some at Memorial Parks.

In the parks, maintenance crews will be planting approximately 300 acres of turf over the next 3 years. Currently, crews are replacing the irrigation systems at Benton, Lawndale, Oakdale and River Road athletic fields. Bermuda grass will replace the rye grass next spring at Belmar, Sleepy Hollow, McDonald Lake, Benton, Lawndale, Oakdale and Mesa Verde Parks.

The first year, crews will be replacing and repairing sod at Public Buildings to include: Animal Control, new Public Health Department, in front of the Service Center and Central Library as well as over-seeding at City Hall, Civic Center, Globe News Performing Arts, 6th and Taylor and the Southwest Branch Library. Athletic fields include all of River Road fields, Southeast Park's #2 and #4 soccer fields, JSM soccer field #6 and Southeast Complex.

The second year plan includes replacing the irrigation systems at Hamlet and Sunrise Parks and over-seeding at Thompson, Sunrise, John Stiff and Medical Center Parks. Athletic fields that will be re-sodded include: Southeast Park #1 and #3, JSM soccer fields #7, #8, and #9.

The third year includes: replacing irrigation systems at Gene Howe and San Jacinto Parks, over-seeding at Windsor, Woodlands and Forrest Hills Parks, re-sodding Athletic fields at Southeast

Complex with Bermuda grass.

ITEM 7. REPORT ON THE ROSS ROGERS OLD COURSE RENOVATIONS PROJECT

Larry stated that progress continues to grow with the renovation of the Old Course despite drought conditions causing some delays with the start of the grassing phase. The estimated completion date for this project will be between October 28 and November 5, 2011.

ITEM 8. PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION COMMENTS

Clint Norton stated that Earth Day will be held on April 22, 2012. Xcel will team up with Amarillo's Parks & Recreation to host the National Green Select Day on April 21, 2012 at Thompson Park.

There being no further discussion, Mr. Cameron Monroe adjourned the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 2:24 PM.

Larry Offerdahl,
Director of Parks and Recreation