

**BOISE CITY RIDGE TO RIVERS FY23 THIRD QUARTER PARTNERSHIP MEETING**  
**BOISE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT**  
**TUESDAY, MAY 2, 2023**  
**8:30 A.M.**

Partners Present: Lisa Duplessie and Doug Holloway (Boise Parks and Recreation); Dave Draheim (Bureau of Land Management); Adriene Holcomb (US Forest Service); (Scott Koberg (Ada County); Ann Moser and Brad Lowe (Idaho Department of Fish and Game); J.W. Cleveland (US Forest Service); David Gordon (Ridge to Rivers); Joey Eckles (Clerk).

Others Present: None

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**MEETING SUMMARY NOTES:**

**A. FY 2023 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Budget and Work Plan Review**

D. Gordon received an overwhelming volunteer interest in the spring. Turned down three volunteer inquiries a week. Could expand if there was a full-time volunteer coordinator on staff.

**B. Spring Trail Update**

Ridge to Rivers (R2R) had a delayed start to the spring maintenance due to the weather. Most maintenance that took place had been with the adopt-a-trail groups. R2R crews were busy preparing the Hawkins Trails for the opening dedication event.

**C. Hawkins Reserve Opening**

The Hawkins Trail Reserve opening dedication event would be on May 4, 2023 at 3:30 p.m. Staff received a lot of comments and excitement for the opening. D. Holloway informed members the Wicks Family made a \$10k donation toward the Hawkins Trail project; a memorial plaque was placed in honor of the donation of the family.

**D. Accessible Trails Update**

The accessible Grove Trail Loop construction will begin on May 17 by the contractor with a completion date of late June. D. Gordon met with Jeremy Maxand, who was active in the accessible community and he provided great input on this project and additional foothills project. Accessible parking pad at two trailheads.

**E. 2023 Staffing Update**

R2R experienced difficulties filling vacant seasonal positions. D. Gordon hadn't faced this difficulty hiring new seasonal staff before. Typically hires four 8-month full-time staff per year and this year the numbers are much lower (1 8-month full-time employee, 1 summer seasonal employee and one 24-hour/week employee).

All agencies present experienced the same hiring hurdles and were having to get creative with recruitment.

**F. Oregon Trail Reserve Interpretive Signage Effect**

There was a hold-up on the new signage. Staff had discussions with the local tribes on new verbiage and were hopeful the work would be completed in late July.

**G. Spring Trail Maintenance Contract**

There were two weeks left on the foothills maintenance contract. D. Gordon hoped it would be an annual partnership for the contract.

**H. Coyote Attacks on Dogs in Foothills**

There was an uptick in coyote sightings and attacks on dogs on the trails. R2R planned to increase signage for education/outreach.

**I. Visit Boise Races**

L. Duplessie met with Visit Boise, regarding Xterra trail race for 500 people (Fall 2024). Sought partner input because race would cross into jurisdictions and proposed participant number was much higher than the 200 currently allowed. Partners to explore a unified application/permitting process for a multi-jurisdiction race. Races allowed via Ridge to Rivers Special Use Guidelines. Xterra could be possible at larger participant numbers if it utilized Foothills roads as opposed to trails.

**J. R2R Partner Updates**

**Idaho Department of Fish and Game**

B. Lowe informed partners that gravel was placed on Highland Valley Road. Road needed to be compacted in some spots. An outhouse coming sometime in May at the Archery Range. Sought input for closing user-created trails.

**Bureau of Land Management**

BLM looked for a different way to authorize trail use; a possible ROW agreement for assigned organizations to do maintenance. This would allow split jurisdictions to operate smoother and would expedite the process.

**Ada County Parks and Waterways**

S. Koberg informed the partners of the Parks and Waterways Masterplan and the interactive input features for community members. Hopeful of a completion date of spring 2024 for the masterplan. Looking at trail connections from the bike park. Hired two seasonal trail staff for \$16 per hour. They submitted a tentative budget increase of 20%; in that budget, \$50k would be allocated to R2R.

**US Forest Service**

J. Cleveland had a five-year agreement signed and approved. Allocated \$4k this year to R2R, and the additional funding was to be determined. Looked at ways to get a better estimate of how much additional funding there would be.

A. Holcomb informed partners that Brant Peterson was the new supervisor starting mid-May. New changes/transitions to take place with the new direction. Preparing for fire season already.

**V. IN THE MATTER OF ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business before the Partnership, the meeting adjourned.