

## **MINUTES OF THE PARKS, TRAILS AND OUTDOOR RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING**

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 2024**

The meeting was called to order at 3 pm by Kurt Raymond, committee chair. Present at the meeting were Mr. Raymond, Dennis Medina, Lisa Foss, Ken Wilburt, Russ Durrer and Steve Chaney. Board liaison Patrick Moore, Lynn Moore (audience) and staff -Larry Lynch.

The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed and approved by the committee.

Lynch updated the committee on several trail maintenance projects including the completion of the re-surfacing project on portions of the North Pagosa Blvd trail and the Lake Forest Circle Trails. Additionally, the completion of the crack-fill and seal coat work on the Vista Blvd trail and the northerly portion of the North Pagosa Trail. Lynch also updated the committee on the greenbelt thinning projects in 2024 including the large 40-acre tract near Hatcher where the water tank is located; a large meandering greenbelt in Twin creek and a greenbelt in Lake Forest where close to 100 trees are going to be removed.

The committee agreed that a field trip would be a good idea in the next few weeks to take a look at some of the greenbelt thinning work, some of the greenbelts may have potential for future trails or parks and the committee wanted to be familiar with these properties.

The committee discussed long range capital improvements. Lynch updated the group on the long-range plan including the plans to implement new trail projects on North Pagosa Blvd and Park Avenue in 2027 and 2028. Additionally, the North Pagosa to US 160 connector is listed as a project in 2026. However, it is understood that these items will be up for discussion by the Board as will other projects like a proposed gymnasium which might change things. Kurt expressed that he is in support of things like multi-purpose ball fields and possible gymnasium but also expressed that he is concerned that important trail projects could be pushed down the road.

Lynch informed the committee of a recent development at gate 4, on Coronado Cir. A popular National Forest access location for owners over the past many years, the county has posted some no parking signs along the road in that location apparently due to some neighbor complaints about people parked on the road. The committee discussed the matter, including the possibility of looking into additional parking areas where National Forest access could occur.

Kurt moved on to 2013 7-Year master Plan update and expressed his desire to continue moving forward with an update of the plan for late 2024 and for committee members to be thinking about this as we move into the fall.

The committee agreed to meet the following week for a field trip to take a look at some of the larger greenbelt thinning operations where potential future park or trail development could occur and to look at the National Forest access situations.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 pm.