

RECREATION AND CONSERVATION FUNDING BOARD SUMMARIZED MEETING AGENDA AND ACTIONS, AUGUST 20, 2010

Agenda Items without Formal Action

Item	Board Request for Follow-up (<i>Due Date in Italics</i>)
Acquisition Policy Updates and Potential Changes	Staff should proceed with the work as planned, and bring decisions to the board in October. (<i>October</i>)

Agenda Items with Formal Action

Item	Formal Action	Board Request for Follow-up (<i>Due Date in Italics</i>)																				
Consent Calendar	Approved Approved minutes from June 2010 meeting																					
Operating and Capital Budget Requests for 2011-13	<p>Approved</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approves the 2011-13 Budget requests as follows: <table style="margin-left: 20px; border: none;"> <tr> <td>○ Boating Activities Program</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>○ Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$100,000,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>○ Youth Athletic Facilities</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>○ Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$5,025,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>○ Boating Facilities Program</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$9,590,400</td> </tr> <tr> <td>○ Boating Infrastructure Grant Program (BIG)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$2,200,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>○ Firearm and Archery Range Recreation</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$264,600</td> </tr> <tr> <td>○ Land and Water Conservation Fund</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$4,000,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>○ Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$9,031,400</td> </tr> <tr> <td>○ Recreational Trails Program</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$5,000,000</td> </tr> </table> • Authorizes the director to modify and/or update the amounts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ as new revenue forecasts become available, or ○ to comply with Office of Financial Management budget instructions or directives, or ○ to meet the budget needs of the affiliated boards and councils, and ○ to provide for scheduled rent, services, personnel increment dates, labor contract costs, and other operations costs. • Authorizes the Director to apply for outside funding sources to supplement the capital budget • Authorizes the Director to submit any necessary reappropriation requests 	○ Boating Activities Program	\$0	○ Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program	\$100,000,000	○ Youth Athletic Facilities	\$0	○ Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account	\$5,025,000	○ Boating Facilities Program	\$9,590,400	○ Boating Infrastructure Grant Program (BIG)	\$2,200,000	○ Firearm and Archery Range Recreation	\$264,600	○ Land and Water Conservation Fund	\$4,000,000	○ Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities	\$9,031,400	○ Recreational Trails Program	\$5,000,000	
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RECREATION AND CONSERVATION FUNDING BOARD SUMMARY MINUTES

Date: August 20, 2010

Place: Room 172, Natural Resources Building, Olympia, WA
Some board members via conference call

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Members Present:

Bill Chapman, Chair	Mercer Island	Stephen Saunders	Designee, Department of Natural Resources
Jeff Parsons	Leavenworth	Steve Hahn	Designee, State Parks and Recreation
Harriet Spanel	Bellingham	Dave Brittell	Designee, Department of Fish and Wildlife
Karen Daubert	Seattle		

It is intended that this summary be used with the notebook provided in advance of the meeting. A recording is retained by RCO as the formal record of meeting.

Friday, August 20, 2010

Opening and Management Report

Chair Bill Chapman called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. Staff called roll, and a quorum was determined.

- The Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) reviewed Resolution #2010-12, Consent Calendar. The consent calendar included only the June 2010 meeting minutes.

Resolution 2010-12 moved by: Parsons and seconded by: Daubert
Resolution APPROVED

Board Decisions

Item 2: Operating and Capital Budget Requests for 2011-13

RCO Policy Director Steve McLellan provided an overview of the budget shortfalls in the current and upcoming biennia. He noted that the operating budget shortfalls would contribute to a tight capital budget. He then explained the new budget process that the governor will use and shared information about the previous requests and appropriations for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP), Boating Activities Program (BAP), and Youth Athletic Facilities (YAF) program.

Board Discussion

The board agreed not to request funding for BAP or YAF. Their discussion focused on the level of funding to request for WWRP.

Chair Chapman and Members Spanel, Daubert, and Parsons shared the following observations:

- The applications received by the RCO exceed the funding available, even at the \$100 million level.
- It is important to ask for \$100 million because the need as evidenced by applications exceeds that level. The board has an obligation to make the Legislature aware of that need, and let them decide how to allocate the budget.
- A \$100 million request is about two percent of the anticipated \$4 billion capital budget.
- The board does not have the information to compare its capital-funding request to those that will be made by other agencies such as K-12.
- The funds help meet needs now and in the future; the opportunities that sponsors have now may not exist in the future.
- Parks may be the only recreation option for many people during difficult economic times.

Member Brittell commented that the need may be understated. He noted that the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) submitted fewer projects than they would like to propose due to furloughs and staffing reductions, and suggested that the same may be true for other sponsors. He expressed concern that the board not undercut the efforts of WWRP supporters.

Members Hahn and Saunders stated that they had held discussions within their individual agencies, and suggested that a \$70 million request would be more fiscally appropriate and respective of the economic situation. Member Saunders noted that both the benefits and the financial obligation were long-term.

The board discussion also contained the following key points:

- Members noted the competing values of being fiscally conservative and advocating for the purpose and mission of WWRP. Members also noted that taking advantage of good market conditions was fiscally prudent.
- Members noted that development projects create local jobs. In response to questions, section manager Marguerite Austin stated that 24% of the WWRP applications include some type of development, and that they represent about \$44 million of the requests. She explained that staff is continuing to interpret the data from the "jobs created" metric, which was added this year.

In response to a question from Member Daubert, Leslie noted that the two comments that RCO had received indicated concern with adding a time limit for developing property that was acquired and asking for landowner acknowledgment. Member Hahn stated that 3 years for the future development of a park was a tight timeline and that 4 years would be more in line with the budget biennial cycle. Member Saunders concurred, noting that four years would also have greater alignment with permitting timelines.

Chair Chapman recalled that Member Saunders had expressed concern in June about using yellow book standards for appraisals. Director Cottingham noted that the issue was whether there were enough appraisers who were certified to yellow book standards. Member Saunders responded that the issue was no longer as significant, and that half of the DNR appraisers are now yellow-book certified. Director Cottingham noted that the requirement may still be a concern for land trusts.

Member Saunders suggested that the policy clearly define legal access.

Meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Approved by:

Bill Chapman, Chair

Date