

White Pine County Golf Advisory Board
Regular Meeting Minutes

DATE: January 23, 2019

TIME: 5:15 p.m.

PLACE: White Pine County Golf Shop

PLEASE NOTE: The White Pine County Golf Advisory Board may address agenda items out of sequence to accommodate persons appearing before the board or to aid in the efficiency and effectiveness of the meeting.

1. OPENING ACTIVITIES

Meeting called to order at 5:15 p.m.

Members present:

Julie Gonzales – White Pine Women’s Golf Association

Ralph McClintock – Member at large

Terrill Trask – White Pine Men’s Golf Association

Kevin Robison – Business

Marietta Henry – White Pine County Tour and Rec (5:29 p.m.)

Others present:

Randy Long

Bill Calderwood

2. PUBLIC COMMENT: None

3. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/FOR POSSIBLE ACTION OF THE WHITE PINE GOLF ADVISORY BOARD

- A. Welcome new board members and elect a Chairman and Vice Chairman for the 2019-20 season
Terrill Trask was welcomed to the board by Member Robison. He appreciates Terrill’s commitment to being on the board.
Member Gonzales motioned Member Robison to be chairman of the board. Member McClintock seconded the motion. No questions. Motion passed unanimously. Member Robison thanked the board for their confidence.
Member Robison motioned Member Gonzales to be vice chairman of the board. Member Trask seconded the motion. No questions. Motion passed unanimously.
- B. Review of Financials for White Pine County Golf Course
Bill Calderwood handed out copies of the current financials.
Member Robison drew our attention to the \$31,196.68 from the Tour and Rec (Outdoor Recreation line item). He reminded us there must be receipts for all items bought for reimbursement.
Bill Calderwood pointed out the \$8000 for line item listed as Tour and Rec Funding has paid for 9

clocks and the deep tining from last season. 6 of the clocks have been installed.

C. Report/Request from Golf Pro Randy Long

Randy reported the deep tining would be done on Monday May 20th (after the Ely Am and before the Rotary tournament). Randy reminded the board and Bill of the problems in front of 14 green to make sure we don't hit the lines again. Bill said the lines have been moved but Randy said that we still need to stop the deep tining short of the green. Member Robison asked if we would have materials on board to complete the project and Randy indicated we would. Randy asked the board whether Friday or Saturday before July 4th would be good for the Red White and Blue Scramble. Feedback from the board said Friday would probably be better but both days could be used.

Randy reminded the board of the upcoming workshop on Monday January 28th at noon or 6 o'clock for the monies received from Tour and Rec. The workshop is for entities who have received grant monies. It will explain what is expected for use of the monies (how to report and how long we can use the monies). The Tour and Rec have 3 different grant areas: Aid to Organization (this helps us add monies to events), Capital Improvements (sanding and seeding, etc), & Outdoor Recreation Facilities.

Carts have been put away (under shelter) and they did not receive service because we received them so late in the year. He asked the board to help police the carts when they are going in places like the rough, where they should not be. Randy indicated that with the size of the fleet a ProAm is now a possibility. The only problem is that we would have to compete with area golf courses. Randy did receive an email from George Chachas expressing his concern that monies are used for prize funds (the Tour and Rec monies). However Randy explained that is how golf courses are able to attract out-of-town golfers by using "added monies" in their tournaments. He asked for help from anyone to respond to George to explain how these added monies help us to attract the out-of-town golfers for tournaments. He said that Kyle Horwath probably has a better idea of how much money an out of town person might spend on hotel/motel, food and gas for two days.

Lastly, Randy indicated that he just received the check from the SME Mine tournament held last June so we will see more funds added to our budget. He said there was a change in contact person of the vendor so that was the reason for the delay. He was paid for the tournament but not for the meal. There will be an added \$1004 to our financials.

D. Report/Request from Golf Course Maintenance - Bill Calderwood

Bill indicated there is not much more to add as the carts have already been discussed. There are three more clocks to install. The only setback we have had at the course is the drippers for the trees are frozen so he has had a water truck out to water the new trees. Randy asked if there was a stage 2 of the tree grant and Bill said he would check. Randy said the trees were a terrific addition to this course.

E. Report/Request from White Pine County Official – Shane Bybee is our liaison but was not in attendance.

F. Report/Request from Board Members

Terrill – none

Ralph – none

Julie – none

Marietta – Member Henry indicated that Aid to Organization was coming up pretty quickly.

Kevin - his issue would be handled by item J.

G. Report/Request for maintenance schedule for deep tining of the greens

This was already discussed in Randy's report. Bill asked if Randy would get a cost estimate for the deep tining on May 20th so he could have a PO ready to go for the event.

- H. Report/Request for golf course maintenance supplies of sand, seed and fertilizer
Bill indicated there was plenty of fertilizer. Randy indicated we have plenty of seed as last season the company had sent a double order in the shipment. Member McClintock just wanted to be sure that we had enough sand when the deep tining is done as we ran out of sand last year. At last year's September meeting it was decided that we should wait on sand until this year so it would not be sitting over the winter. Randy said we have more sand in reserve than we did last year at this time but we still needed a truck and a pup of sand delivered for this year. Member McClintock asked if we were doing any more bunkers this year. Randy Long indicated it would depend on the budget because we have a \$19,000+ shortfall (because of loss of room tax monies).

*Note: Agenda Item "L. Discussion of Budget" was addressed out of sequence before discussing the item I. The board felt that it needed more information on the budget in order to decide whether a rate increase should be considered.

- I. Rate increase for the 2019-20 golf season
It was discussed that if we wanted to increase fees, we have to put it before the commission with enough time for Randy to get it out to the members in his mailing. We have not had an increase in 3 years, our product is better, and we have new carts. Randy suggested that we have a residential rate and a non-resident rate. Member Robison suggested not increasing the fees for a cart shed. Points brought up during discussion included our fees are still lower than other places (even if we increase fees), you can still play golf at any time during the day without a tee time needed, we offer a variety of card punches for people to consider as a way to play, and we would not hurt our play with the increase because other items are lower (like drinks). If we decide to have a non-resident fee, it would enable Randy to track out-of-town play much easier. Currently Randy has to highlight out of town players and when it gets really busy, he might miss some. The out-of-town play are important numbers to the Tour and Rec. Member Trask liked the idea of having a non-resident fee in order to track the numbers and it would make it easier for Randy to track out of town golf numbers.

Here are the suggested fees for 2019-20:

Resident (18 holes + cart) - \$40 (\$28 green fee + \$12 cart)
Non-Resident (18 holes + cart) - \$45 (\$33 green fee + \$12 cart)
Resident (9 holes) - \$15
Non-Resident (9 holes) - \$20
Tournament Rate (18 holes) - \$25

Season Pass Holders

Senior – \$525
Adult – \$600
Couple – \$750
Senior Couple – \$700
Family – \$800
Junior – \$160
Young Adult – \$275

Note – Randy will adjust the monthly fees and punch cards before we turn this into the

commission. Junior fees (not the season passes) were kept the same so we can grow the game.

There was a motion by Member McClintock and a second by Member Gonzales to approve going forward with the recommendation to increase the golf fees to go before the commission. No questions. Motion passed unanimously.

J. Update on signage grant

The signs from the grant are here (the grant Member Henry and Caroline McIntosh worked on). We now need to have them installed with rock around them (for the sign on the highway), and solar lights to show them off. Former board member Kjorstad did some research on the solar lights but we still need to do some more research to make sure we have the right wattage for the square footage of sign. At an earlier meeting Randy suggested the highway sign be raised. The sign maker (Elevation Signworks) suggested Stultz's Stick and Nails to do this work. Bill Calderwood said we would not need a bid to install these signs. We need to make sure they are installed in early spring.

K. Capital Purchases

We talked about this item in an earlier discussion about mowers. Randy will get prices for us to consider. There were no further questions on mowers. Member Robison then asked if there were any other capital purchases to consider for the 2019-20 budget. Randy reminded us of all the due dates from Tour and Rec grants: Aid to Organization due March 8th, Capital Improvement due June 7th, and Outdoor Recreation due June 7th. Randy will take care of the presentations for these grants (April 18th and June 20th respectively). He said we have some time to figure out what we need. Member Robison suggested we would have a better idea of what we need when we find out the pricing of a fairway unit vs the pull behind. If we go with a pull behind then maybe we budget for a tractor in the forward fiscal budget.

L. Discussion of budget

Bill Calderwood gave the board a copy of 2019 worksheet for an update on where the budget currently stands. From last year, we put money in the budget (under Repair and Maintenance) to purchase 4 tires for the tractor and possibly a pull behind mower. In Operating Supplies, we contemplated using organic material but never did, so that money is still in the budget. Under Repair and Maintenance, we had money in the budget for timeclocks but the grant Randy applied for and received, paid for the clocks. Lastly, the \$15,000 we had budgeted to purchase 4 to 5 more carts to update the fleet and lower maintenance costs ended up only costing \$1,500 because it was offset by Highland Golf's purchase all of our older golf carts plus the carts we had stored in the red barn.

Bill Calderwood then asked the board if we wanted to roll the dice with the current mowers we are using, purchase a pull behind mower versus purchase a fairway unit, or budget for something else. We all know the current fairway mower (1988 reel mower), if it goes down, has no replacement parts. Member McClintock reiterated the need to be prepared to purchase a mower. Member Robison has not heard back from the Wynn Group on information about their mowers. Bill asked the board again if we wanted to purchase a mower by the end of the fiscal year. Member Robison then asked if there are any good used mowers available. Randy said he receives trade magazines with ads for different companies selling equipment and ads for online sales. It is cheaper to purchase a used mower in good condition. We need equipment that will mow fairways. If we went with a hydraulic mower with lower hours, the cost would be \$25,000

- 30,000 (compared to \$50,000 brand new). Randy talked about demo models that might be a little lower. Randy can call around and ask. There is an excess of equipment available because 200+ golf courses were closed last year. If we go with a gang unit (a pull behind), we would need a tractor to pull it on holes 5, 7 and 12 with steep hills. Our current blue Rhino does not have the capability to pull it. Member Robison asked that we investigate all of our options and talk about it at our next meeting. Our priority is the mower. Randy will look for prices.

Member McClintock asked if reels can be sharpened with budget money. He suggested we find a way to regularly sharpen the reels on all of the equipment. Randy said he has connections with Mel at Toana Vista but he doesn't want to burn those bridges by asking for sharpening too often. Bill said there is \$10,000 in equipment repair that could pay for sharpening (we didn't use much in this area because our new carts did not need service as we received them late in the season). Bill asked Randy if he knew of a contact that we could use on a regular basis to sharpen our reels so that Randy doesn't have to burn any of his bridges. Randy said he would look into finding a place to sharpen equipment. Member Robison suggested buying a grinding board for Mel if he would consider grinding/sharpening at regular intervals. Bill suggested we ask Toana Vista for a price for sharpening as it just needs to be done on a regular basis and be part of our budget. Getting the product there would be the biggest hurdle, not necessarily the sharpening. Randy said he will contact Toana Vista for a price and if they won't do it, he will contact a place in Idaho Falls.

By the next meeting, we will have prices on the mowers and prices on the grinding (sharpening) to discuss. Member Trask asked for clarification on the pull behind mower. Randy indicated that a pull behind mower covers more area and it is cheaper than the other cutting units. However, we do not have anything to pull it.

4. Approval of the minutes for the September 17, 2018 meeting

Member McClintock motioned to approve the minutes of the September 17th meeting. Member Gonzales seconded the motion. No questions asked. Passed unanimously with Member Trask abstaining.

5. Public Comment – None

6. RECOMMENDATIONS OR ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS – Capital purchases for the 2018-19 year and approval of a tentative budget for 2019-20 year are the only items we need on the agenda so we can meet the budget worksheets due date of February 8th.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – February 4, 2019 @ 4:30 p.m. at White Pine County Golf Shop

8. ADJOURNMENT – Member Gonzales motioned to adjourn. Member McClintock seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned @ 6:34 pm.