
BENTON COUNTY NATURAL AREAS & PARKS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

**January 14, 2026
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**

**Avery Parks Building
360 SW Avery Ave**

Committee Members Present: Phil Hays, John Turner, Elizabeth Spatafora, David Smith, Bryce Downey, and Ben Watts.

Committee Members Absent: Dave Conca, Carol Walsh, Alexis Maxwell.

County Staff Present: Jesse Ott, Department Director and Leanna Buck Recorder.

I. BUSINESS

A. Approval of November Meeting Minutes (5min)

Phil moved to approve the minutes as submitted. John seconded, motion carried and minutes were approved unanimously.

B. McBee Campground Project - Jesse/Adam (15min)

Jesse talked about the gravel work that is being done at McBee and advised that it's well under way. The second bridge is now armored and lifted a bit to help with the water that possibly could flow over it. Adam has been out at McBee during this time to supervise the work being done and to help with any issues that may arise. Adam is also working with an OSU class for interpretation signage for the park. The long picnic table will be saved. Moving it to Monroe City Park was suggested.

C. JFW Boardwalk Options - Jesse (15min)

David advised that he met with Jesse and Elizabeth regarding the next steps of the boardwalk and the possibility of making something happen for it this year. David volunteered to put together the specifications and put all the materials together to work towards getting a start on the boardwalk project by this fall. David then asked the Board to give an affirmation to move forward on this approach. The board agreed.

D. Adair Park Discussion - Jesse (10min)

Jesse talked about the current master plan that is in place for Adair Park. He talked about parking lot repairs, updating the tennis court, refurbishing the current shelters, and a possible small shelter near the disc golf course.

The department is going to talk to the local school about helping with refurbishing the dugouts as well. There was also some thoughts on installing bike parking as well. For 2026 there will be continued improvements to the shelters as we are able due to the budget being cut and not having funds to do more.

E. Disc Golf Discussion - Bryce (15min)

This will be postponed until next month's meeting. 30 minutes.

F. North Albany Park Discussion - Jesse (10min)

Jesse talked about North Albany projects inline with the current master plan. The department has successfully managed to complete the vast majority of the plan. The last thing left is the playground equipment and boat.

G. Dashboard Discussion - David (10min)

David discussed a review of the committee regarding the review of the comprehensive plan. John shared that on the dashboard, a goal would be to have all of the comprehensive documents on the website so that it would be accessible to both the park board and the department. He then talked about the set of tasks that he came up with for the department to work through. [John will work with Jesse on getting the Dashboard rough draft together for presentation at next month's meeting.](#)

H. Other Park Project Updates - Jesse (5min)

Park Tour Date Discussion for the February Agenda.

Jesse shared that the Concessionaire at Adair Clubhouse is having a hard time on the event space rentals of the clubhouse. She may have to make the tough choice to walk away from residing there. The department doesn't have the money or staffing to run this building either. Jesse asked the Board to start thinking about the possibility of having to divest of the building if the renter is not able to stay there.

III. MEETING ADJOURNMENT ~ 7:54pm

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