

MINUTES
RAVALLI COUNTY PARKS BOARD

December 10, 2025

-Call To Order at 10:00 A.M by President Gary Leese

-Pledge of Allegiance

-Members present: Bob Cron, Wally Deschene, Penney Howe, Matt Roth, Dan Huls, Kyle Barber, Jenny Howard, Gary Leese, John Ormiston

-Minutes & Treasurer's Report: Bob Cron made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Motion was seconded and passed. Bob Cron made a motion to accept the treasurer's report as presented. Motion was seconded and passed. Jana told the board that Space Age is paid through December 31, 2025.

-Public Comment: Jenecca Prevette (Victor Park District treasurer) thanked the park board for the funds for the tree that was planted in the park in Victor.

Old Business:

-Status Big Corral Park master plan - Bob Cron: Bob reported that he has spent some time putting together three alternatives for the park and that he is still working on the finalization of the plan. He is shooting for a February final presentation with maybe two open houses which he will need help with. He also reported that he is struggling with how to the notices to the papers. Jenny Howard also presented a check to the board for \$134 from the group of neighbors that were opposing the subdivision, to be used specifically for the Big Corral park.

-Big Corral Park Supporters - MOU, questionnaire or anything else for the Park Board : Penney reported about an email survey that she saw (which was being sent out) that she saw that had inaccurate information in it. Stevens park was not donated as one example of the errors in the survey. Paula Carney stated that she wants 4-5 community members on the sub-committee. Commissioner Huls reiterated that when the committee was formed it was comprised of 2 park board member and 6 citizens. Bob Cron made a motion to revise the numbers on the sub-committee to include 2 park board members, 4 citizens and the Park coordinator from the city of Hamilton. Motion was seconded and passed.

-Discuss and decide whether to transfer Waincrist Meadows Park to Darby: This is a one acre park established in 1976 as part of a subdivision, which Darby has been maintaining. It is a county park within the city limits. The question remains as to if the park can be donated to the city of Darby. John Ormiston made a motion that the park board recommend to the commissioners that they pursue

the donation of the Waincrist park in Darby after appropriate legal review. The motion was seconded. Commissioner Huls recused himself from the vote. The motion passed. Commissioner Huls said that he would take the matter to the commissioners

New Business:

Groff Family Park update – Bitterroot Land Trust – Melissa: Melissa gave the members of the board a frequently asked questions that the BLRT had developed for the public. She also reported that they have an on-going fundraising campaign going on for the future/ongoing maintenance of the park. They are preparing grant applications for the infrastructure. They have created a citizen oversight group who are watching the park area and are working with the Victor Park Board. Dan asked about parking spaces: 15-20. Matt Roth made a motion that the park board write two letters of support for BLRT to use with their grant applications. Motion was seconded and passed. Jenny Howard volunteered to write the letters.

Prepare for joint meeting with Ravalli County Commissioners December 11 at 10:30 AM. Proposed agenda items:

Recommendation on Space Age request for consideration on a prorated fee. What needs doing to ready facility for future use? Lock change? Insects? Changes Space Age made to the structure? Other? Bob read a letter from Space Age asking for relief from 6 month notice and paying the next quarter's bill per their contract. After discussion by the board about the building possibly being vacant and that the Space Age rent is the only sure funding the board has, Wally Deschene made a motion that we ask the BCC to have Space Age honor their contract of 6 months notice, while a new lessee is actively sought. If a new lessee is approved before the end of the 6 month period, that requirement will be terminated. Motion was seconded and passed. Gary said he would be the point man for the discussion with the BCC. Other discussion included: May 17, 2026 will be the end of the required notification time. The septic system is approved for no more than 10 workers. Kyle Barber and John Ormiston were appointed to do a walk through with Space Age upon their departure. Gary believes that paint and clean up around the door frames is needed.

Long term revenue source to support County parks. Was not discussed
Status of county property inventory. Commissioner Huls reported that the BCC are still working through the list.

Plan to fill the hole at Big Corral Park. It already has been done

Review County Park Master Plan. tabled to another meeting

Adjourn: Bob Cron made the motion to adjourn. Motion was seconded and carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:30.

Next meeting is January 14, 2026.

Respectfully submitted this 2nd day of January, 2026

Penney Howe

Secretary, Ravalli County Park Board