

The monthly meeting of the Washington County Park Authority was held Monday, May 18, 2026, at 6:38 pm at the Washington County Gov't Center.

Present: Rick Call, Steven Statzer (Chairman), Ben Casteel, Lisa Wilson, Claude Worrell, Rusty Belcher, Jennifer Blankenship,

Absent: Michael Wright

Park Authority Meeting Agenda – May 18, 2026
6:30 PM, Washington County Government Center

1. Public Comment: Claude suggested several campers appreciated the open house event on May 2nd. Steven and the board shared their gratitude with Kat for coordinating and making it happen.
2. Washington County Park Authority Manager Report:
 - a. There are some issues with infrastructure with the park due to the age of the park.
 - b. Kat has the booth mostly staffed and with the new reservation system set up is able to view financial outlook. She intends to spend more time on social media campaign as a result. She suggested looking into town meetings and local gatherings to try to get the word about the park out.
 - c. Jennifer mentioned the Washington County Chamber of Commerce as a potential.
 - d. Kat is looking at applying for a \$50k grant with Wellspring for new playground equipment.
 - e. Discussion ensued examining the progress of the gate changes and changing needs for it.
3. Recreation Department Report: (none, position vacant)
4. Submitting and approval of the April Minutes (attached): Rick made a motion to approve the minutes, Lisa seconded. All in favor, motion carries (7-0-0)
5. Approval to pay the April Bills and Approval of the April Financial Report: Ben made a motion to approve paying the April bills and approve the financial report. Rusty seconded. All in favor, motion carries (7-0-0)
6. Old Business:
 - a. **Open House Discussion**
 - i. Not the best weather, but all in all a great event. Everyone loved the VHCC old time string band. Jennifer mentioned having an open jam at the park as an ongoing event. Ben described the sound

system that he and his father donated a few years ago and suggested that he would help show Kat how to operate it for these types of musical events. Park campers were happy that board members were present and expressed a need for more interaction with the Board. Some upcoming events could include Independence Day, Classic Car Show.

b. Gate Update

- i. A company will be moving the building back from Sholes to the Park to proceed with the gate dismantling process. Kat is hoping to come up with a game plan to dismantle the gate in a way that does not destroy it in case they can be utilized in the future.

c. Payment Reservation System Update

- i. The new system is up and functioning and seems like it will be much better. The booth ladies are happy with the new system which is very important. Kat is running Facebook ads and has started an Instagram and is working on a Tiktok account too.

d. Staffing

- i. Almost completely staffed, awaiting 1 background check. Booth attendant is still open. Two people were interested in camp host position. Claude asked how many open sites we currently have.

7. New Business:

- i. **Septic Drain issues** – there will need to be a delay on waitlist / assigning new campsites due to the fact that some pipes will need to be replaced. A civil engineer has been contacted to come to draw up a plan. Some campers may need to be temporarily relocated.
- ii. **Coupon Code** – Kat would like to run a promotion of a 20% discount for temporary camping during the reservation lull between Memorial Day Weekend and Independence Day. Jennifer made a motion to approve a coupon code giving a 20% discount for that period. Rusty seconded, all in favor motion carries (7-0-0)
- iii. **New Meeting Format** – Meetings will need to be recorded and captioned beginning in July. Meeting location will shift to the Board Room.

- iv. **VAcorp** – insurance policy is up for renewal. Rates will increase due to adding a vehicle and Steven suggested adding cybersecurity insurance. Jennifer made a motion to approve the insurance agreement for the next fiscal year. Ben seconded, all in favor motion carries (7-0-0).
- v. **Committee** – Ben suggested that the board examine forming committees as a way to connect to constituents and / or complete some business between regular meetings.

8. Board Member Action Items:

- A. Ben Casteel – Work on flower tree;
- B. Rick Call -
- C. Jennifer Blankenship –
- D. Steven Statzer –
- E. Claude Worrell-
- F. Lisa Wilson-
- G. Rusty Belcher-

Next meeting will be held June 15 at Washington County Government Center at 6:30 PM.

Claude made a motion to adjourn at 8:10 PM, Lisa seconded, all in favor (7-0-0)

Sincerely,

Steven Statzer, Chairman
BLC