

**Oklahoma Scenic Rivers Commission
Special Business Meeting
March 31, 2010 5:30 p.m.
Armory Municipal Center, 100 North Water St., Tahlequah, OK 74464**

MINUTES

Agenda Items are listed in the order of action by Commissioners.

01. Meeting called to order.

Chairman Randall called the meeting to order.

02. Invocation.

Administrator Fite led the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

03. Welcome and Oath of Office to Michael A. Fuhr, new OSRC Commissioner appointed by Governor Brad Henry on February 23, 2010.

Chairman Randall administered the Oath of Office to newly appointed OSRC Commissioner Michael A. Fuhr.

04. Roll Call.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Michael Fuhr
John Larson
Riley Needham
Trey Peyton
Gene Quarles
Steve Randall
David Spears
Rick Stubblefield

MEMBERS ABSENT

Monte Bradford
Larry Clark
Randy Corp
Gerald Hilsher

05. Introduction of Guests and Visitors.

Scott Zumwalt, Sparrow Hawk Camp; Adam Roark, City of Siloam Springs; Robert Garcia; Brandon Girty, Welling Tubing Shack; Kathy Randall; Gina Levesque, Oklahoma Conservation Commission; Flossie Girty, Cherokee Nation; Stephanie Stephens, Cheryl Allen, OSRC Staff.

06. Rulemaking 2010: Oklahoma Administrative Code 630: Scenic Rivers Commission Chapter 15 Rules.

Administrator Fite read into the public record that the OSRC is conducting a public hearing tonight (March 31, 2010) for Title 630: Scenic Rivers Commission, Chapter 15, Protection of Natural Resources. Permanent Amendments to Chapter 15 – Protection of Natural Resources 630:15-1-14. Ice chest restrictions [AMENDED]. Mr. Fite said that there is no changes to the rule other than to correct an error that was inadvertently published in the Oklahoma Register. The language proposed is the same language that was adopted by the OSRC on March 17, 2009.

The only written comment to the OSRC regarding this rule was from Claudia Bartlett of Sapulpa, Oklahoma, on March 24th, 2010. Ms. Bartlett wrote: "...as a member of your public, I don't have a problem with the requirement to secure the ice chest to keep them from spilling their contents into the river..."

Commissioner Larson motioned to approve the amendment to 630:15-1-14. Commissioner Quarles seconded the motion.

The vote follows:

Bradford	-Absent-	Needham	-Aye-
Clark	-Absent-	Peyton	-Aye-
Corp	-Absent-	Quarles	-Aye-
Fuhr	-Aye-	Randall	-Aye-
Hilsher	-Absent-	Spears	-Aye-
Larson	-Aye-	Stubblefield	-Aye-

07. Administrator's Report related to current events about Oklahoma Scenic Rivers Commission and Oklahoma Scenic Rivers Act.

Administrator Fite told the Commission that the OSRC is not a constitutionally set agency of the State and is subject to Oklahoma Sunset Review Law. There has been discussion for consolidation of the OSRC several times in the 15 plus years. There have been past recommendations for the OSRC to be consolidated with the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department (OTRD) and Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ). There currently is a movement within the Legislature to consolidate the OSRC with OTRD and Oklahoma Conservation Commission (OCC). The language as it is currently written in HB 3173 would put the OSRC primarily under OTRD by taking over all of the physical assets, staff, and revenue derived from tourism. Any revenue from an environmental standpoint would be relinquished to OCC. The Bill came out of the Government Modernization Committee on February 22, 2010, and then rapidly passed through the House of Representatives. The Bill listed only the OSRC in its language but was cited by its author that other agencies were to be added to it. Administrator Fite said that Chairman Randall, Commissioner Bradford and he went to the capitol to visit with the Legislature.

Administrator Fite distributed to the Commission a draft proposal to amend HB 3173 at the request of Representative DeWitt and Representative Hickman to incorporate changes that focus on existing and possible revenue sources for the OSRC. Chairman Randall suggested that the Commissioners read the draft and make any comments or changes over the next two weeks and then have the Executive Committee review all suggestions and create a new draft to send to the Legislature. Administrator Fite suggested that the Commissioner’s review and submit changes within a week because of how fast the Legislature has been moving on this Bill. Commissioner Randall said that two weeks would be sufficient, especially because of the Easter holiday and not wanting to infringe upon it. Commissioner Larson said that he thought that there is a sense of urgency and that two weeks could be too long. Commissioner Stubblefield disagreed and said that since the title is struck on the Bill that it still has to go to the House and that there is still time to make suggestions to the Bill.

08. Discussion and distribution of F-2R and F-3R Oklahoma Ethics Commission “Statement of Financial Interests” Forms to OSRC Commissioners.

Administrator Fite distributed the F-2R and F-3R forms to the Commission and recommended that they fill out the F-2R if they have never filled one out. Forms are due no later than May 17, 2010.

09. Adjournment.

Commissioner Quarles motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Larson seconded the motion.

The vote follows:

Bradford	-Absent-	Needham	-Aye-
Clark	-Absent-	Peyton	-Aye-
Corp	-Absent-	Quarles	-Aye-
Fuhr	-Aye-	Randall	-Aye-
Hilsher	-Absent-	Spears	-Aye-
Larson	-Aye-	Stubblefield	-Aye-

Passed and approved this ____ day of _____, 2010.

Secretary/Treasurer

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this _____ day of _____, 2010.

Signature of notary officer
My Commission expires: December 11, 2013
Commission #01019412