DOE MOUNTAIN RECREATION AUTHORITY BOARD

Meeting Minutes: August 4, 2026, 1:20 p.m.

The Doe Mountain Recreation Authority (DMRA) Board of Directors met on August 4, 2026, at the Doe Mountain Adventure Center, Mountain City, TN 37683.

Board Members Present: Gabby Lynch, Mona Alderson, Kristy Herman, Jerry Jordan, Ray Stout, Frank Arnold, Jamie Meade, Jerry Grindstaff, and Jeff Prater.

Board Members Absent: Larry Potter, Dennis Tumlin, Lynn Tully, Anthony Duncan, Justine Cucchiara, and Jon Davenport

DMRA Staff Present: Executive Director Charles Ridlehuber and Board Liaison Brie Novack

One member of the public was present.

1. Jerry Grindstaff called the meeting to order at 1:20 p.m.

2. **Public Comment Period**: No comments from the public.

3. **Minutes of June 23, 2026 Meeting**

Gabby Lynch moved to approve the minutes of the June 23, 2026 Board meeting; Ray Stout seconded the motion; the motion passed by unanimous vote.

4. **Financial Report**

Treasurer Kristy Herman reported. The Financial Accounting as of July 31, 2026 is filed with the minutes. The account balance at Edward Jones was $2,001,091.12 and the Skyline National Bank balance was $118,591.85, for a total of $2,119,682.97. Mona Alderson moved to approve the financial report; Gabby Lynch seconded the motion; the motion passed by unanimous vote.

5. **DMRA Fee Change Rulemaking**

Mona Alderson briefed on the protocol for the rulemaking hearing on October 6, 2026.

6. **FY 26 Audit Proposal**

Brie Novack briefed on DMRA's need to retain a new auditor, as the MG Group has decided not to perform DMRA's annual audit. Staff solicited proposals from six firms. Two firms replied, with only one being a firm proposal. That proposal was from Elevation Accounting, a new company whose principal, Tara Fenner, previously performed our audit for MG Group. Jerry Jordon moved to accept the proposal from Elevation Accounting, Gabby Lynch seconded the motion, the motion passed by unanimous vote.

7. **Employee Benefits Options**

Mona Alderson briefed on the need to remove the administration of full-time employee pay and benefits from Johnson County. Having failed to obtain legislation to clarify participation in the Tennessee Consolidated Retirement Program, staff would like to pursue an avenue available for quasi-governmental and non-profit organizations. Mona Alderson moved that DMRA begin handling its own pay and benefits, when it is appropriate to transition, and apply to TCRS for direct coverage; Ray Stout seconded the motion; the motion passed by unanimous vote.

8. **Sportsman's Complex**

Charles Ridlehuber proposed officially naming the Shooting Sports complex the "Doe Mountain Sportsman's Complex." Frank Arnold moved to name the complex the "Doe Mountain Sportsman's Complex;" Jerry Grindstaff seconded the motion; the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Charles Ridlehuber reported that he would soon be putting out an RFP for the buildings for the Sportsman's Complex.

9. **Carbon Credit Program**

Gabby Lynch briefed on status of the carbon program and the need for compliance and future monitoring. She moved for DMRA to execute a services agreement with Terra Carbon to provide carbon program compliance activities in an amount not to exceed $68,000 and authorize the Executive Director to engage third party forestry and audit consultants, as required by carbon program verification; Kristy Herman seconded the motion; the motion passed by unanimous vote.

10. **FY 25/26 Annual Growth and Impact**

Brie Novack briefed on DMRA's substantial growth and impact over the last fiscal year. The report is filed with the minutes.

11. **Staff Updates:**

Brie Novack briefed on the status of the following:

- The ARC has approved the DMRA grant application for funding to build a bathhouse and 20 RV sites at Pedro Shoun and to fund one full-time position; DMRA is seeking additional funding for part of the required match.
- DMRA has received a majority of the requested FEMA Helene reimbursement.
- Novack has submitted the first quarter RTP request for reimbursement under the current grant.

12. **Next meeting:**

The next DMRA Board meeting will be October 6, 2026, at 1:00 p.m., at the Doe Mountain Adventure Center.

13. **Adjournment**

Jerry Jordan moved, with a second by Gabby Lynch, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed, and, there being no other business, Jerry Grindstaff adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted

Mona B. Alderson
Secretary, DMRA