

**Pine Mountain Trail Conference  
February 21, 2008 Board Meeting Minutes  
Elkhorn City Public Library**

Present: Shad J. Baker, Merrill Flanary, Jeremy Williams, Kenny Mullins, Paul Hopkins, Kyle Napier, Dee Roberts, Alex Thor, Carey Tichenor, Melany Taylor, Duane Miksch, B.L. Williams, Linda Masters, Anita Spears, William Gibson, and Ron Bush.

**Introductions**

Shad welcomed everyone and introductions were made.

**Minutes**

Minutes from the last meeting were reviewed and Paul Hopkins made a motion to approve the minutes, Kenny Mullins seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report**

Roy could not attend the meeting but sent a copy of the report. Kenny Mullins made a motion to accept the report, Merrill Flanary seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Old Business**

No old business

**New Business**

Shad reported that Dave "Buzz" Adams had recently passed away. Buzz had built the shelters and the kiosk panels for the PMTC. **Shad asked Jeremy to send a card of condolence to his wife Carla.**

**Executive**

By-law Revisions

The following was submitted for by-law revision:

Terms of office for Board of Directors

- Three (3) year term limits
- Staggered rotation
- Term limits (four terms and then rotate off for at least one term)

Election date

- At annual meeting in February of each year.

**Merrill Flanary made the motion to accept the above by-law revisions, seconded by Jeremy Williams. Motion passed unanimously.**

#### Removal of Board of Director members/officers

- Failure to attend/participate
  - Without notice by email, or letter to officer
  - More than two (2) meetings in a row
  - More than two (2) meetings in a calendar year
- Acting in bad faith
  - Contrary to Mission Statement of the PMTC
- Repeated Conflict of Interest
  - Financial
  - Other

**Concerning the portion of “failure to attend/participate” a motion was made by Paul to accept the following this was seconded by Merrill and passed unanimously:**

- *Failure to attend/participate*
  - *Without notice by email, phone, or letter to officer*
  - *More than two (2) meetings in a row. Board member or officer would be able to show cause why they should not be terminated by the board.*
  - *More than two (2) meetings in a calendar year. Board member or officer would be able to show cause why they should not be terminated by the board.*

Discussion took place concerning the “acting in bad faith” portion. **Melany Taylor, Legal Council with KY Parks said she would develop verbiage to the “failure to attend/participate”, “acting in bad faith”, and “conflict of interest” portions of the by-law revisions. Paul made a motion to authorize Melany Taylor to pursue this wording for by-law revision. It was seconded by Anita Spears and passed unanimously.**

#### Southeastern Foot Trails Conference

Shad discussed the upcoming meeting and he will give a report at the next PMTC meeting.

#### Fundraiser

Merril reported that Chuck Somers had given permission for us to use any of his photos to use for a book or calendar. Merrill suggested that we publish a calendar instead of a book. Shad suggested that we look at a partnership with another group. Merrill said she would talk with the PMTC treasure, Roy Crawford, about what we can afford. Merrill and Paul will also research pricing information on calendars and books. Carey suggested that we might want to be careful on pursuing a calendar due to the time constraints and being stuck with remaining calendars.

## Great Eastern Trail

Shad said that Dennis Crowley, former PMTC board member, was on the GET board of directors. The GET is currently working on their logo.

## Lands

### USFS

Ron Bush gave an update on the planning of prescribed burns along Pine Mountain in the Jefferson National Forest. These burns would total about 7000 acres and will be a multi year process. He said that fire had become a priority for the USFS and these prescribed burns would help to “reduce fuels.” He also said that these would be done by “hand line.” A scoping letter will be out within a month and there is a 30 day appeal period. He stated that these burns would also improve wildlife habitat in the area as well. **Shad said he would check with the USFS on getting the scoping notice by email.**

## Land Acquisition Update - Kentucky Department of Parks and Vaughn & Melton

Carey gave an update on a meeting that took place concerning the MOU with KY Parks and the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (KDFWR). He stated that during the meeting, Dr. Jon Gassett with KDFWR didn't feel they are capable of maintaining two (2) trails along with the Little Shepherd Trail. Dr. Gassett stated that a seasonal trail be used. Carey informed KDFWR that Parks has an MOU with the PMTC and that the PMTC uses volunteers to build the trail. Carey told KDFWR that the PMTC is afraid they will lose their volunteer base due to horses using a trail.

Carey suggested two (2) options to be looked at. Option 1) a MOU with KY Parks, KDFWR and the Pioneer Horse Club. This MOU would state that the Pioneer Horse Club to maintain the trail. They would only use the trail during the months of June, July, and August. Option 2) would be for the PMTC would utilize the Little Shepherd Trail.

Shad stated the PMTC wants a separate trail off the road. He also asked if the horse group violates the agreement listed in “option 1” what would the repercussions be, such as not maintaining the trail? Carey stated that with the written agreement the MOU would be revoked if violated.

Carey and Kyle both recommended that the PMTC use the Little Shepherd Trail

Dee made a motion that until such time is deemed appropriate to reconsider, the PMTC should be routed along the shoulder of the Little Shepherd Trail from US 119 through the Hensley-Pine Mountain Wildlife Management Area. This was seconded by Merrill and passed unanimously.

Shad said that Jodi McDonald with the Governor's Office of Local Development suggested that the PMTC needs to amend the RTP grant for funds to be used on any land along the PMT corridor.

#### Wilderness Road Section – Bell County

Carey stated there were no changes since the last meeting.

#### Pike County land

Carey state that he had no new information about the 700 acre tract in Pike County other than the land has been surveyed.

#### Rumley Branch

Keith Argow wants the PMTC to reroute the location of the trail though this area. Shad is looking into this.

### **Finance**

#### VA T-21 Grant Update

No update.

### **Trail Construction and Volunteers**

#### Weekend Getaway and Volunteer Vacations

Shad gave a list of dates and these will be posted on the website.

The Sierra Club and the University of Wisconsin-Madison have set dates for volunteer work.

#### PMTC Alumni Outing – Duane Miksch

Duane updated us on the outing at the Pine Mountain School in Harlan County. The dates are June 1 – June 7. The group will be working on the Parsons Tract or on the Wintergreen Trail at the Pine Mountain Settlement School.

#### Trail Construction

##### Cumberland Gap NHP to Pineville

Possibly naming it the Wilderness Road Section.

This section will require technical work especially near Rocky Face. Carey mentioned Don York with Parks and his group works on trail renovation and are willing to work on this area.

Shelter Update:

Kingdom Come State Park Shelter

Carey said that shelter plans have been submitted to KY Parks.

## **Membership, Marketing & Publicity**

Website

Shad updated us on this. The website looks good and Greg Abernathy has done a great job. The cost has been \$400 for what has been done and what will be done to the site.

Highland Sojourner

Shad said he needs one more article to complete the next edition.

Guided Hikes Schedule

Let Merrill know if you have one so she can get it on the schedule for 2008.

Shad said that an overnight hike would take place on February 22 & 23. at the Adena Springs Shelter.

PMTTC Display

Paul said he would like to set up a PMTC display at Hillbilly Days in Pikeville.

Signage

Carey said that the PMTC signage will need to be done by a private contractor instead of in house. **Carey suggested that we find someone local to make these signs and park will take care of the cost.** He also said they would need to be built to Park specs.

## **Election of Officers**

Shad said that he will not submit his name for president.

Carey made the motion to name Merrill president and this was seconded by Paul. This passed unanimously. Merrill then took charge of the meeting asking for candidates for the offices of vice president, secretary, and treasure. Jeremy made the motion that Shad be vice president to work with Merrill during the transition. This was seconded by Kenny and passed unanimously. Duane made the motion to place Jeremy as secretary and Roy Crawford as treasure. This was seconded by Shad and passed unanimously. The following are the officials for the PMTC in 2008:

President:	Merril Flanary
Vice President:	Shad Baker
Secretary:	Jeremy Williams
Treasure:	Roy Crawford

## **Other:**

Door prizes – Anita won a PMTC shirt

Next meeting will be Thursday, April 17 at 1:00 p.m. at the Letcher County Cooperative Extension Service in Whitesburg. A hike will begin at 10am. Check the website or Shad for information concerning the hike.

## **Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 4pm.