



Morrow County Parks Committee Meeting Agenda

Date: Tuesday December 9, 2025

Time: 1:00pm -3:00pm

Location: **Bartholomew Lower Floor Conference Room**

110 N. Court St. Heppner, OR 97836

Meeting Called By: Mike Gorman, Chairman

Agenda

1. Call to Order - Pledge of Allegiance

- Welcome and Introductions
- Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes (September 9, 2025)

2. Reports

- Anson Wright Updates – Greg Close
- Cutsforth Updates – Greg Close
- OHV Updates – Greg Close

3. New Business Items

- TLT Tax– Vince
- OHV ATV Access On County Roads to Other Parks – Vince
- Capital Improvements – Lodge at OHV ideas - Vince

4. Updates

- Parks Master Plan – Vince Guerrero
- 2025 Youth Elk Hunt Update – Greg Close
- Logos – Tie Breaker – Raymi Cain
- ResNexus credit card processor – Greg Close
- Creating future special events at all park locations – Vince Guerrero
 - Bike/off road vehicle rides with or without dinner
 - Movie Nights
 - Youth Camps



7. Announcements

- Dark Skies – Vince Guerrero
- Mudslinger Gravel Bike Event – Vince Guerrero

8. Public Comment

- Open Forum

9. Next Meeting Date

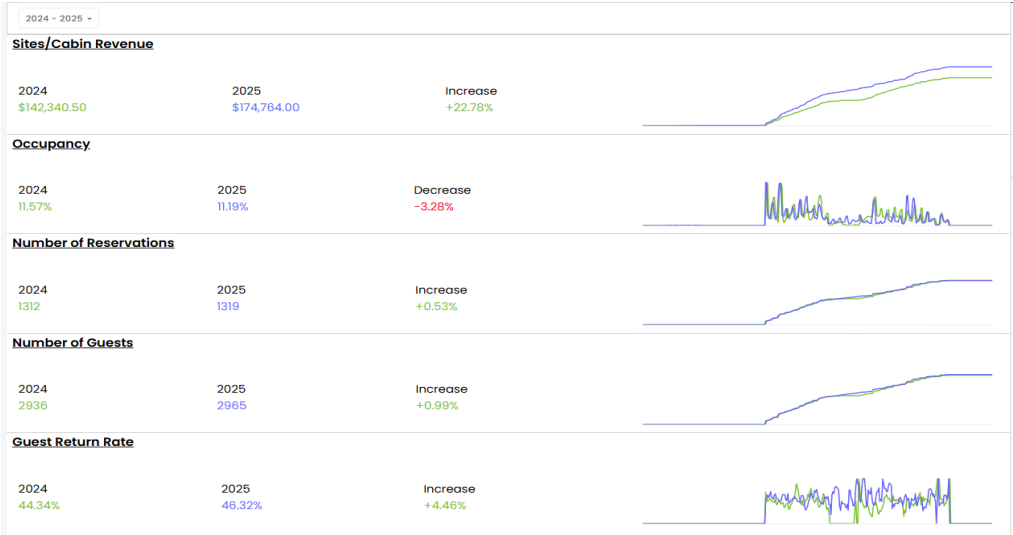
- March 10, 2026 (pending decision of additional meetings being added or not)

10. Adjournment



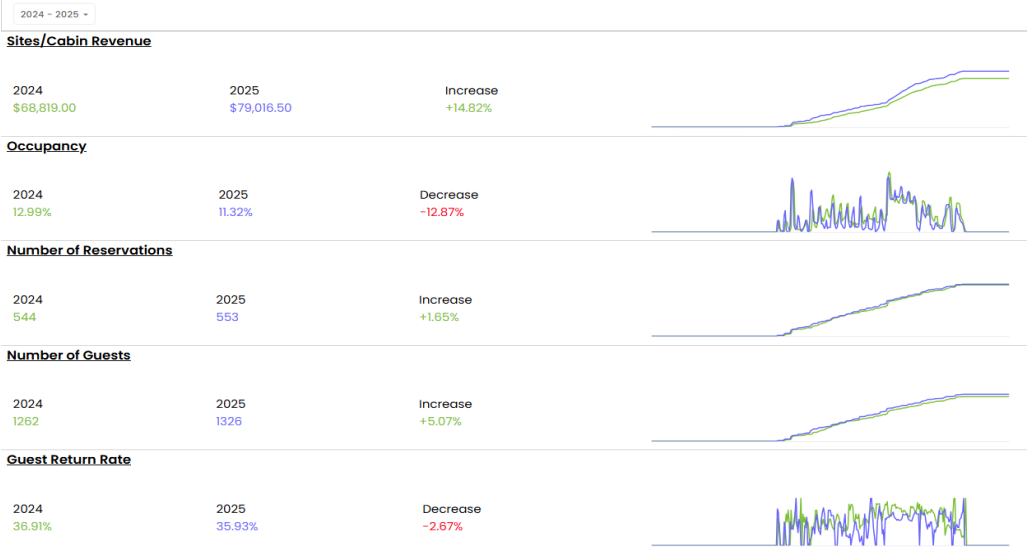
OHV

2025 Revenue
\$174,764.00
+22.78% ▲ Increase over 2024



Cutsforth

2025 Revenue
\$79,016.50
+14.82% ▲ Increase over 2024





Anson Wright

2025 Revenue

\$28,266.00

+46.65% ▲ Increase over 2024

2024 - 2025 -

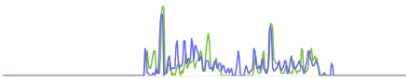
Sites/Cabin Revenue

2024	2025	Increase
\$19,275.00	\$28,266.00	+46.65%



Occupancy

2024	2025	Increase
4.03%	4.66%	+15.63%



Number of Reservations

2024	2025	Increase
225	249	+10.67%



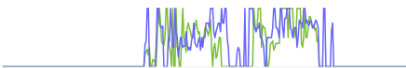
Number of Guests

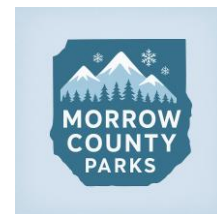
2024	2025	Increase
462	522	+12.99%



Guest Return Rate

2024	2025	Increase
36.56%	42.16%	+15.31%





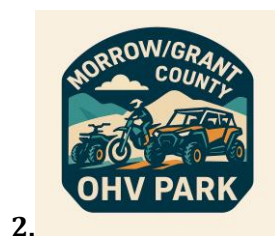
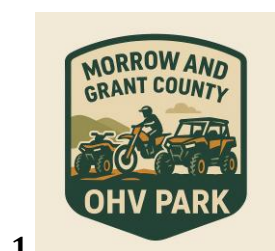
Morrow County Parks Logo's



Anson Wright Logo's



OHV Park Logo's



Cutsforth Park Logo - Winner



Morrow County Parks Committee

Meeting Minutes – September 9, 2025

1:00pm-3:00pm

Committee Members and Staff Present:

George Shimmer, Mike Gorman, Dean Robinson, Vince Guerrero, Greg Close, Jeff Wenholz, Clint Shoemake, Tamra Mabbott, Tim Wright, Kirsti Cason, Raymi Cain

1. Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

- Meeting was called to order by Chairman Mike Gorman.
- The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- Introductions made

2. Approval of Minutes

- Motion was made and seconded to approve March 11, 2025, minutes.

3. Reports – Park Updates

Anson Wright Park

- Reservations, occupancy, and revenues increased compared to 2024.
- Park Host Liz Morris was recognized for excellent work.
- Major upgrades completed:
 - 650 ft of 2", and 600 ft of 1" poly pvc frost-free hydrants installed
 - 700 ft underground power line with Columbia Basin Electric installed
- Ground maintenance improved with the purchase of a second mower.

Cutsforth Park

- Reservations and revenues are up; occupancy and return guests slightly lower but expected to rise in peak season (hunting season).
- Camp Host Don Ashcroft commended for maintenance and cleanliness.
- Strong donations, particularly from hunters.
- Plans underway for a new cabin at site P-31; rock available for leveling, construction plans pending.

OHV Park

- Reservations, cabin use, and return guests up.
- Host Kathy Spears was recognized for service.

- Fundraising event scheduled October 4 for cancer research. Park is booked for event.
- Lightning strikes caused a small fire about 50 miles from park. First responders already on scene.
- New I.T. updates including router and cables.

Landing Lodge

- Business strong following opening.
- Improvements underway:
 - HVAC installation scheduled for September 16, 2025.
 - Kitchen upgrades (new gas grill/oven, electrical updates, LED lights)

4. New Business

Heritage Trail Project

- 25-year effort to connect Columbia River trail system. Draft plan ~60% complete; presenting to Planning Commission this month.
- Needs include trail connections, benches, shade, staging areas, and safety features.
- Updated maps are being created.
- Morrow County Parks are likely to assume long-term management responsibilities for much of the trail.

Development funding available through grants; maintenance funding remains uncertain.

- Public involvement events held in Boardman and Irrigon; continued feedback encouraged.
- Final plan anticipated late 2025, early 2026.

Parks Master Plan

- County pursuing grant application due October 1, 2025; additional opportunity in spring 2026.
- Plan will address:
 - Heritage Trail integration
 - Facility additions
 - OHV connectivity between Cutsforth and Anson Wright
 - Potential new park with river access (north end of county)
 - Larger venues, possible fuel sales, and small store options
- Planning Department to assist with mapping and code amendments.
- Consultant-led process to ensure strong public involvement and future grant eligibility.

Park Logos & Branding

- Options discussed for selecting park and system logos:

- Parks Committee to select final designs
- Ranking preferred designs and voting for favorites. One for Parks as a whole and then each park having their own.
- Distinction was made between flexible designs for social media and standardized designs for merchandise.
- Talk about getting another totem pole at Cutsforth. Working with tribes and local community.

Committee Meeting Frequency

- Current: semi-annual (March & September).
- Discussion: need for more frequent meetings with upcoming projects.
- Options: quarterly, three times per year, or semi-annual with special meetings.
- Staff preference: quarterly to stay on track.
- Will meet in December 2025 and then meet quarterly beginning in the 2026 year.

Transient Lodging Tax (TLT) Discussion

- Proposal: implement county TLT for campers, RVs, and tent stays.
- Structure: 70% must support tourism; 30% may fund other services.
- Considerations:
 - Current state lodging tax = **1.5%** (currently absorbed by county).
 - Potential county TLT = **2%**, for total **3.5% combined rate**.
 - Some cities (e.g., Boardman) already charge **5%**.
 - Discussion between using percentage vs. flat fee.
 - Showing TLT tax on receipts to show that county is being charged the TLT tax.
 - Collection could be administered by state or county.
- Committee agreements:
 - A presentation to be presented at the next Parks Committee meeting showing what the revenue would look like with the TLT tax included.

Updating Credit Card Processor

- Updating the current credit processor from CMS (third party) to the ResNexus credit card processor.
 - To include credit card machine and a cash drawer.
 - Making all revenue reports in one location.

5. Future Special Events

- Dark Skies – representative coming from Dark Skies to help with location at park and help with organization of event. Currently looking at the weekend of April 1, 2025.
 - Adding daytime events such as presentations and vendors
 - Getting word out with advertising
- Other event ideas

- Biking
- Concerts
- Youth camps
- Movie Nights

6. Announcements

- Youth Spike Elk Hunt November 8th-16th. Currently two applications are submitted.
- Ride Over cancer event at OHV park on October 4th @ 10:00. Park is almost full for event.
- Fishing Derby photos have been added on Facebook and website.
- Updates have been made to the County and Park website with changes of email address, mailing address and mail park number.
- New Facebook page has been created.
- Main OHV address has been changed to what the accessor has listed; 71000 NF-21 Heppner OR 97836.

Next meeting planned to be held Tuesday December 9, 2025 from 1:00pm-3:00pm