

Arcadia Lake Commission
July 10, 2025

1. **Meeting called to order** by Rocky McElvany at 4:00 p.m. at the MAC, Parks and Recreation Administration, 2733 Marilyn Williams Drive, Edmond, Oklahoma. The agenda for this meeting was posted in the City First Administration Building on July 7, 2025, at 1:03 p.m. Commissioners present: Rocky McElvany, KC Williams, Catherine Sharp, and Jennifer Fields. Lake staff present: Nicole Offutt. Visit Edmond staff present: Jennifer Thornton. Parks and Recreation staff present: Brad Raney, Frank Hale, and Cheryl Tettleton.
Absent: Derek Kern
2. **Consideration of Approval of Meeting Minutes for May 8, 2025.** Jennifer Fields motioned to approve the minutes; KC Williams seconded the motion. **Motion carried as follows:**
AYES: Rocky McElvany, KC Williams, Catherine Sharp, and Jennifer Fields
NAYS: None
3. **Discussion and Consideration to Select an Arcadia Lake Commission Member to Serve as Liaison and a Voting Member of the Visit Edmond Tourism Advisory Board.** Presented by Cheryl Tettleton. Jennifer Fields has held this position since November 2022 and was up for renewal in June. The tourism board is removing term limits for the lake liaison, and this commission needs to determine if they want to select someone new or have Jennifer continue in the position. Jennifer volunteered and KC Williams nominated her to continue serving as liaison; Catherine Sharp seconded the motion. **Motion carried as follows:**
AYES: Rocky McElvany, KC Williams, Catherine Sharp, and Jennifer Fields
NAYS: None
4. **Updates and Discussion of Arcadia Lake Activity Reports and Projects.** Provided by Brad Raney, Frank Hale, and Nicole Offutt.
 - **Trails** – ODOT is bidding out the Northwest Connector trail (Rt. 66 to Spring Creek) in August/September. Spring Creek to Carl Rehman is under design. The Creek Bend Trail is built on/adjacent to the sewer intersect line which is waiting on the eminent domain process to play out for one property.
 - **Master Plan Projects** – Frank and Nicole met with CXT to look at locations and define design needs for the prefab restroom replacements to establish the final price. The price will include everything except hooking into the utility mains or things like tree trimming to accommodate delivery/installation equipment. From order to finished product is about 6 months. This vendor is on the government Sourcewell list, so that will streamline the purchasing process, eliminating the need for bids. The Corps, HUD, and the tribes will need to weigh in on the new units and disposal of the old ones. The new units are roughly the size of the old ones, so that should streamline part of the approval process. The price on the prefab units is considerably less than the quote received for the custom-designed units considered originally. Lake Thunderbird uses these prefab units.
 - **Deep Fork Trash** – Kick-off for the trash intercept feasibility study will be next week with Freese and Nichols and representatives from Oklahoma City present.**Other updates:**
 - Flooding and cleanup have been on repeat for a few months.

- Revenue numbers are down about \$200K for FY25, mostly due to the rain. All but about two weekends have been rainy this season. Day use and boating is down, but campers generally continue to use the park.
- The road at Bobcat was washed out and a 48-inch tin horn collapsed. Repairs have been completed, and the area is back open.
- Flood waters caused the police and maintenance dock to break loose.
- Stairs down to the gangway at the courtesy dock in Central State are damaged from washout.
- The Corps controls the release of flood water. The priorities of lake use are flood control, then drinking water for the city, and finally, recreation.
- Nick and his crew are doing a great job at keeping up with trash. Both new trash trucks are up and running well.
- Financial numbers in the CampLife software are not reporting the deer hunt revenue properly. They are working to get this corrected. The report shows \$14,900, but the actual number is about \$22,000.
- OSU is doing a tick study this summer, looking at the viruses they are carrying. Another group is doing a study on the zebra mussels.
- Nicole connected with ODWC's Fisheries Division while they were conducting a program at the lake. They have a bunch of small fish habitats they can donate, which will probably be placed in the lake during the winter or spring. Lake staff still plan to get some larger habitats. Rocky would like to participate with the placement project.

5. Citizen Comments. Taylor Wilson was interested in learning the percentage of lake users that were Edmond residents vs. non-residents. Nicole provided that about 80% of campers and day-use visitors were non-residents, with campers being travelers passing through and day use from surrounding communities. Annual pass holders were about 50/50. Most Edmond users are fisherman and trail users. Boating residents tend to use the lake on weekdays and go to their lake houses at larger lakes on the weekends. Jennifer Thornton said that the tourism department has new software that can help track where visitors come from using location data from cell phones. She suggested she could provide monthly data reports in the future. KC said he sees construction workers from area projects are often among the fishermen at the lake.

Jennifer Thornton informed the group that the Route 66 centennial anniversary is in 2026. April 30 is when 66 was assigned to the "Mother Road" and November 11 will mark the actual anniversary. There will be events throughout the year in celebration of the anniversary. Jennifer Fields will bring event calendars for everyone when they are ready, probably in the fall.

6. Comments from the Arcadia Lake Commission Chair and Members.

- Rocky commended the quality of the seasonal staff this season.
- Rick Smith was introduced as the new liaison from the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. He provided some personal background information. He serves with AMBUCS and mentioned that Nicole spoke to them recently and Brad would be speaking to them next week. Before he retired, he was in municipal finance, working on things like bond issues. He served on Edmond's GO Bond task force last year. The bond didn't pass, and he says the city still needs to look at finding new, diversified revenue sources.
- KC participated in the interview process for the new ranger position. Fifty-nine people applied, the field was narrowed to six, with one accepting another job, leaving five for interviews. Brad, Nicole, and KC were impressed with the quality of the applicants and their variety of backgrounds. The top two choices will come out to the lake for time with

Nick DeYoe and Nick Garrett - one applicant tomorrow and one on Tuesday. The ranger will report to the lake, not the police. They will start with one full-time person and will possibly add a couple of seasonal rangers as the program grows. Their job is to be a visible presence, interacting with visitors and educating them. It is planned that they will have ticketing ability. The position is modeled after the Corps rangers, who are non-weapon carrying, but do have ticketing ability, and who provide a lot of conservation education.

7. **Adjournment:** KC Williams motioned for adjournment at 4:49 p.m.; Jennifer Fields seconded the motion. **Motion carried as follows:**

AYES: Rocky McElvany, KC Williams, Catherine Sharp, and Jennifer Fields

NAYS: None



Chairperson, Rocky McElvany (or)
Vice Chairman, K.C. Williams