Parks and Lands Board Meeting Minutes

Date: May 26, 2026

Call to Order

Chair Bob Wiederrick called the meeting to order at 4:31 PM.

Attendance

Committee Members Present: Bob Wiederrick, Dave Fluetsch, Penny Thayer, Lamar Waters, Janet Barton
Staff Present: Amy Bain, Lisa Horowitz, Mayor Martha Burke
Public Present: Members of the Sawtooth Rangers, Members of the Uhrig Family

Approval of Previous Minutes

Motion: Lamar moved to approve the April 2026 meeting minutes.
Second: Penny
Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

Old Business – Re-naming the Arena

Curtis Uhrig spoke of his father, Ted's, long history of involvement with the Rodeo in Hailey, which began when he was still in high school. He talked about the involvement of his father, mother, and the entire family over the many years, and why his family wanted to honor his father by naming the arena after him. Some of the other family members told the board what their family's involvement had meant to them growing up.

Mayor Burke apologized to the board for missing the proper protocol and process in bringing this to the board and city council. She then spoke in favor of the re-naming due to Ted's huge involvement in starting the 4th of July Rodeo to Hailey. She also let the board know that City Council members were in favor of the name change.

Members of the Sawtooth Rangers said they were all in favor of the name change and thought it would be a great way to honor Ted and his family.

Bob Wiederrick pointed out that because the arena was funded with a bond that the public should have an extended time to give their input on something that was paid for by taxes. Bob asked if anyone knew how much the bond was for originally. Lisa Horowitz looked it up, and let the board know it was $3.5 million, and that it was for the entire Werthheimer park complex.

Penny Thayer said the Uhrig's are a well-known family who have put a lot into the Rodeo and isn't necessarily against the idea but is very concerned about following the proper process. She is also concerned about changing the name from Werthheimer after it was adopted by council in 2012. Lisa told the board that meetings like this is part of that process, and that the public has the option to weigh in on these topics during meetings such as this and City Council meetings. Lisa also mentioned that the public has interest, referring to the bond, at every park that has been named after someone; such as Hop Porter, Heagle, McKercher, and Keefer parks.

Dave Fluetsch brought up the fact that the name would be Ted Uhrig Rodeo Arena, when in fact, it is supposed to be a multi-use venue.

One of the Uhrig family members mentioned that if you google "hailey rodeo", it brings up the Hailey Rodeo Arena. So it is already referenced that way everywhere else. She also said that there is some historical information of such in the Chamber of Commerce building.

Janet Barton suggested a memorial sign with history at the arena instead of renaming the entire venue. Penny agreed, restating that it is a multi-use venue.

Mayor Burke said that Werthheimer Park multi-use venue consists of the skatepark, Campion Ice, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Arena.

Lamar Waters said he approves of the suggested name change and thinks it would be an honor to name it the Ted Uhrig Rodeo Arena.

Penny had found a previous renaming policy that the Parks and Lands Board had adopted in 2007, but it looks like it had been dropped over the years. She made a motion to put that policy back in place. Janet seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Penny also made a motion to forward this matter to the Arts and Historical Commission to solicit their input and additional chance for public comment. Janet seconded the motion. In favor were Dave and Bob. Lamar held his vote with note that naming parks and venues is part of Hailey's history.

Curtis said they would like to have the name sign on the South exterior of the stands.

Other discussions

The board discussed wanting to get more information at future meetings of how the parks budget works and how projects each year are determined; what the purpose of the board is; more information on the processes and how public input is sought out; and pushing the park adopters' program.

Adjournment

Chair Bob Wiederrick adjourned the meeting at 6:50 PM.