



Board of County Commissioners Agenda Request

3A
Agenda Item #

Requested Meeting Date: December 12, 2023

Title of Item: Camping Rate Increase for 2024

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> REGULAR AGENDA <input type="checkbox"/> CONSENT AGENDA <input type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION ONLY	Action Requested: <input type="checkbox"/> Approve/Deny Motion <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopt Resolution (attach draft) <i>*provide copy of hearing notice that was published</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Direction Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Item <input type="checkbox"/> Hold Public Hearing*
Submitted by: Dennis (DJ) Thompson		Department: Land
Presenter (Name and Title): Dennis (DJ) Thompson, Land Commissioner		Estimated Time Needed: 10 Minutes
Summary of Issue: <p>In February of 2021, a campground rates survey was done to get a sense of how Aitkin County managed campground rates compared to other places. Rates were taken from the following facilities: Army Corps of Engineers, National Forests, State Parks, State Forests, and a handful of City and Private campgrounds in the area. Aitkin County's camping rates were some of the lowest on the list. The Natural Resources Advisory Committee (NRAC), at that time, decided not to recommend an increase, but to revisit rates again in a couple years.</p> <p>This summer, another rates survey was completed. After comparing current rates at other facilities, the NRAC passed a motion to recommend that the County Board of Commissioners increase the camping rates at County campgrounds. Rates at Aitkin and Berglund would go from \$20/night to \$30/night. Snake River and Jacobson would go from \$15/night to \$20/night, and the camper cabins at the Jacobson campground would go from \$30/night to \$45/night.</p> <p>At the October 10, 2023 County Board Meeting, maintenance costs for the 2022 season were presented. I now have maintenance costs for the 2023 season compiled.</p> <p>Currently, the campgrounds are not paying for themselves. This increase would lessen the gap.</p>		
Alternatives, Options, Effects on Others/Comments: Leave camping rates the same.		
Recommended Action/Motion: Adopt a resolution to increase the camping rates as of January 1, 2024 to \$30/night for Aitkin and Berglund, \$20/night for Jacobson and Snake River, and \$45/night for the Jacobson Camper Cabins.		
Financial Impact: Is there a cost associated with this request? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No What is the total cost, with tax and shipping? \$ Is this budgeted? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Please Explain:		

Legally binding agreements must have County Attorney approval prior to submission.

CERTIFIED COPY OF RESOLUTION OF COUNTY BOARD OF AITKIN COUNTY, MINNESOTA

ADOPTED December 12, 2023

By Commissioner: xxx

20231212-xxx

2024 Camping Rates Increase

WHEREAS, the Aitkin County Land Department maintains and manages four campgrounds: Aitkin, Berglund, Jacobson, and Snake River.

WHEREAS, yearly maintenance costs including utilities, garbage pick-up, mowing, and septic tank pumping continue to increase.

WHEREAS, current maintenance costs are far exceeding revenue.

WHEREAS, a survey of camping rates from other facilities indicates Aitkin's current rates are below the average.

WHEREAS, this increase has been recommended by the Natural Resources Advisory Committee.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that as of January 1, 2024, the rate for camping at the Aitkin and Berglund campground will be \$30/night. Camping at Jacobson and Snake River campground will be \$20/night and camping in the Camper Cabins at Jacobson will be \$45/night.

Commissioner xxx moved the adoption of the resolution and it was declared adopted upon the following vote

FIVE MEMBERS PRESENT

All Members Voting xxx

**STATE OF MINNESOTA}
COUNTY OF AITKIN}**

I, Jessica Seibert, County Administrator, Aitkin County, Minnesota do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing with the original resolution filed in the Administration Office of Aitkin County in Aitkin, Minnesota as stated in the minutes of the proceedings of said Board on the 12th day of December 2023, and that the same is a true and correct copy of the whole thereof.

Witness my hand and seal this 12th day of December 2023

Jessica Seibert – County Administrator

2023 Campground Expense Summary

Campground	Current Rate/Night	Proposed Rate/Night
Aitkin	\$ 20.00	\$ 30.00
Berglund	\$ 20.00	\$ 30.00
Snake River	\$ 15.00	\$ 20.00
Jacobson	\$ 15.00	\$ 20.00
Jacobson CCs	\$ 30.00	\$ 45.00

Campground	2023 Actual Revenue	2024 Projected with Proposed New Rates
Aitkin	\$ 19,018.62	\$ 28,530.00
Berglund	\$ 8,962.24	\$ 13,440.00
Snake River	\$ 4,280.50	\$ 5,700.00
Jacobson	\$ 4,113.95	\$ 5,490.00
Jacobson CCs	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 2,250.00
Totals =	\$ 37,875.31	\$ 55,410.00

2023 Yearly Totals	
Garbage	\$ 5,853.26
Sewer	\$ 5,750.00
Utilities	\$ 4,147.83
Mowing	\$ 11,868.00
License MDH	\$ 670.00
Reservation Software	\$ 2,185.45
Road Work	\$ 840.00
Parks Tech. Hours	\$ 25,000.00
	\$ 56,314.54

Does not include office admin time taking reservation and processing refunds

Campground	2023 Yearly Costs
Aitkin	\$ 15,754.97
Berglund	\$ 16,459.78
Snake River	\$ 12,982.92
Jacobson	\$ 11,116.86

Assumes Parks Technician spends time equally between campgrounds