

RESOLUTION NO. 3899

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR LAND & WATER CONSERVATION FUND ASSISTANCE.

WHEREAS, the City of Miles City is interested in acquiring or developing outdoor recreational facilities on the following described project for the enjoyment of the citizenry of Miles City and the State of Montana:

Project Title: Connors Stadium Renovation Project
Total Estimated Cost: \$83,205.00
Brief Description of Project: Removal of existing roof canopy and construction of new press box and rehang safety net behind home plate to protect the spectators at Connors Stadium and new portable aluminum grandstands for Tedesco Field.

AND WHEREAS, Land & Water Conservation Fund financial assistance is required for the acquisition or development of said outdoor recreational facilities.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MILES CITY, MONTANA AS FOLLOWS:

1. That the above described project is authorized and approved by the City Council.
2. That the City of Miles City shall make application to Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks to seek 2011 Land & Water Conservation Fund financial assistance from the National Park Service in the amount of 50% of the actual cost of the project on behalf of said Connors Stadium Renovation Project.
3. That the City of Miles City will accept the terms and conditions set forth in the Land & Water Conservation Fund Grants in Aid Manual and the official agreement between the applicant and Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, both of which will be part of the project agreement for any grant awarded.
4. That the City of Miles City is in complete accord with the attached proposal and that it will carry out the acquisition and/or development in the manner described in the proposal and any plans and specifications attached thereto unless prior approval for any change has been received from Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks.
5. That, at the time of application, it has committed to fund the entire project (the sponsor must make full payment on all project expenses before being reimbursed for up to 50 percent of allowable costs), and will initiate work within 90 days following federal approval (weather permitting).
6. That the project will be operated and maintained in perpetuity at the expense of said City of Miles City for public outdoor recreation use.

7. That the City of Miles City will maintain adequate financial records on the proposed project to substantiate claims for cost sharing.
8. That open public participation was encouraged throughout the planning phases of the project.

**SAID RESOLUTION FINALLY PASSED AND ADOPTED BY A DULY
CONSTITUTED QUORUM OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MILES CITY,
MONTANA, THIS 12TH DAY OF APRIL, 2016.**



JOHN HOLLOWELL, Mayor

ATTEST:



Lorrie Pearce, City Clerk

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OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION

CITY OF MILES CITY, MONTANA

April 12, 2016

To: Mayor Hollowell
City Council Members
Kate Hampton, Community Preservation Coordinator

The Land and Water Conservation Fund grant through Fish Wildlife and Parks opens every other year and provides funding for public recreation areas. We are proposing a grant application for the FWP LWCF 2016-2017 grant cycle that will provide funding to remove the existing and unsafe roof superstructure, including the press box, and construct a new, freestanding press box above the existing concrete grand stands in Connors Stadium the purchase of two portable aluminum grand stands for the Tedesco Field in the Denton Complex. The schedule for this project is fall of 2016 immediately following the end of baseball season, with completion of construction by November 2016 as weather allows.

As you know we began the effort to make improvements to Connors Stadium in the Denton Sports Complex over a year ago and in the fall of 2014. At that time the LWCF Grant was limited to a \$75,000 ceiling and due to constraints on the City budget we were unable to provide matching funds for the LWCF and other grants to complete the proposed \$285,000 project.

Instead, we focused our efforts on raising funds in anticipation of the next LWCF grant cycle and others for which the grant qualified. The City also allocated \$10,000 for this project in FY 2015-2016. To date we have raised \$18,577 in donations from the public. In addition, Mr. Mike Gross, General Manager of Mid-Rivers Communications approached Scott and I to discuss making a donation to the Denton Field Renovation Project. Through negotiations, the Mid-Rivers Corporation has generously offered to contribute \$20,000 toward the project on the basis that the two major baseball fields, Connors and Tedesco each receive \$10,000 of that donation. The contribution will entitle Mid-Rivers, with your approval, the right of perpetual advertising on the Press Box at Connors stadium. The original donation policy granted a five year advertising agreement at \$10,000.

With the City's allocation, the funds raised through donations from the public and the Mid-Rivers contribution, we just met the 1:1 grant match required to fund this project. The Mid-Rivers Contribution of \$20,000, when leveraged within the LWCF grant gives the City \$40,000 in total spending leverage to enhance the two baseball fields.

The project we are proposing this year is for a reduced scope that will comply with the LWCF grant requirements to provide a safe and functional recreation area for our community and be in keeping with the city budget allocation for the project and funds raised to date for the match. As importantly, the scope of the project we are proposing will keep us on track toward restoring the historic and architectural integrity of our WPA "wooden" baseball park.



OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION

CITY OF MILES CITY, MONTANA

As our original proposal also included locating the press box under the new roof canopy to reduce wind shear and lightning exposure, the only change we are proposing is to omit new construction of the roof canopy at this time. The design for the new press box will be engineered to accommodate the placement of a permanent roof structure at a later date. The end result will be in keeping with the scale of facility as originally proposed.

We are unable to provide architectural renderings at this time as a portion of the LWCF grant will be used for appropriate architectural and engineering necessary to produce construction plans and drawings. The current Press Box was added to the facility many years after the original construction of the stadium and is located on top of the existing roof canopy. This placement actually distracts from its historic and structural integrity and contributes to wind load and lightening exposure.

The new press box will be centered on home plate and located in the back of the grandstands behind the spectators. Unlike the existing structure, which is constructed of inexpensive composite bead board and trim, the new press box will be conventional wood-framed with sound-insulated walls with metal panel finish. The structure will be 8' deep x 24' wide built on top of the existing concrete risers and will have two separate rooms for the media. This design is intended to eliminate need for the dangerous cat walk on top of the roof canopy as shown in the existing design.

The roof canopy which will be built in subsequent years will be very similar to the original in size, pitch and aesthetic, and will be approximately 1-2' higher as necessary to enclose the press box while preserving the seating capacity and viewing area for spectators in the stadium. The end result, which is the same as our earlier proposal, is intended to return the original historic design of the stadium while updating the structural aspect of the building to a modern (safe) standard as dictated by current code.

This solution eliminates the liability issues related to an unsafe roof structure that does not meet current building codes and protects the public from injury due to a collapse during a high wind event, while providing a safe, functional facility field for our community and the surrounding area.

Regards,

Connie Muggli, Director