

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

**HENDERSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

MEETING DATE: February 5, 2024
SUBJECT: Park Property Ordinance Exemption
PRESENTER: Amy Brantley, Assistant County Manager
ATTACHMENTS: No

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

The County has received a request from the Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club to hold their summer “Field Day” at Jackson Park June 21-23, 2024. Field Day is described as an activity that “combines public service, emergency preparedness, community outreach, and technical skills all in a single event. Field Day has been an annual event since 1933, and remains the most popular event in ham radio.” During this event FCC-licensed amateur radio operators simulate emergency conditions and operate portable communications equipment using solar, battery and/or generator with temporary antennas for 24 hours straight.

Conducting the event from June 21st through the 23rd would involve use of park property overnight. To allow for this event, the Board is requested to grant a one-time exemption to Article 1, Chapter 19-4 of the Henderson County Code which prohibits camping or sleeping overnight in any area of the park, or setting up tents for temporary shelter. This exemption, if granted, would cover the date and time specified on the application, and outlined above.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

The Board is requested to grant an exemption to Article 1, Chapter 19-4 of the Henderson County Code, allowing for the use of Jackson Park overnight by the Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club June 21-23, 2024.

SUGGESTED MOTION:

I move that the Board grant an exemption to Article 1, Chapter 19-4 of the Henderson County Code, allowing for the use of Jackson Park overnight by the Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club June 21-23, 2024.