

**Bemidji State University**  
**Parking Committee/Advisory Board Meeting**  
**September 11, 2019**

**Location Date & Time:**

Meeting was held September 11, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. in the South Conference room in the Lower Hobson Memorial Union.

**Present:**

Stephanie Bard, Tom Beech, Travis Barnes, Kelsey Christofferson, Mike Smith, Casey McCarthy, Alissa Carlson & Aaron Ebbighausen.

**Absent:**

No Student Senate rep; No NTC rep.

Casey McCarthy noted that there was a quorum present and called the meeting to order.

**New Business:** Parking Appeal (1)

Appeal from Erika Bailey Johnson regarding parking citations #2019-0975 and #2019-1039. BSU2019-0975 was issued for Parked on Grass and BSU2019-1039 was issued for No Current Permit Displayed.

Stephanie Bard motioned to deny the appeal. Motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

Members discussed the appeal (see attached). Members did not feel any further action or changes were needed.

The meeting was adjourned.

Campus Security Supervisor Aaron Ebbighausen relayed the committee's motion and meeting discussion with Bailey Johnson.

**Next meeting:**

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled as follows:

Date: 09-25-2019

Time: 1:00 PM

Place: South Conference Room (HMU)

Respectfully submitted,  
Casey McCarthy  
Director Public Safety

## Statement of Appeal

9/4/2019

This is not as much a "Statement of Appeal" as it is a hope for understanding, complete and clear communication, and mutual respect. I do not expect my two parking tickets to be revoked. I accept that I am partially at fault. However, I am still very disappointed by the conversations I have had with Public Safety regarding two parking tickets I received in the past week and feel that there is a better way forward. Thus, this letter to all of you.

I have been at BSU for 15 years now and my parking permit record was pointed out to me today by Casey McCarthy, Director of Public Safety. After I got off the phone with him I am feeling like the brunt of jokes and that there is little understanding or respect for the unique situation I am in. I have purchased a parking permit every year that I have been at BSU. I want to support the University and this community that I belong to.

My husband and I purchased an electric car nearly five years ago to see how they worked in our cold, northern climate and support a more sustainable transportation option. It gets me to home and back, and I have enjoyed driving it. An electric vehicles does come with its drawbacks, however. When I have to travel long distances, I have to use my husband's car. This happens quite often, and I must remember to take my parking permit out and put it in his car, and vice versa, all while he leaves for work about an hour before I do and we both are coming home at odd times in the evenings with school functions and sporting events. It is extremely difficult to remember to switch the permit. This is where most of my tickets have come from. I honestly don't have a solution for this. I usually just park on the street if I remember that I don't have the permit. I put both of our cars in the parking permitting system when I register for a permit, and that doesn't seem to matter when it comes to ticketing. At any rate, I HAVE to drive different cars in to work. How many others at BSU have to do this?

My ticket yesterday was for "no visible permit". I had purchased my permit two weeks prior and had stuck it up behind my rear-view mirror. I did not notice that last year's permit was still there and blocking the new one. Why can this not be a warning? At least for the first week of the semester? It took me two seconds to remove last year's permit. It was a very frustrating way to end the day. I see that there is a section for "Warning" on the tickets. I asked Casey today if we give warnings and he said "no". Why not?

My ticket last week was for "parking on the grass" and this one is the most frustrating to me. I arrived to work last Thursday only to find that the electric vehicle parking space was taken (by another electric vehicle). This is usually a non-issue as I know and communicate with all the other electric vehicle owners to share the charging station. We know when and how to plug in each other's cars. The problem was that no other parking spaces were open next to the charger. There is only one dedicated space and there are three of us that are paying extra every semester to use that charger. I decided to park in the grass area right next to the charger. I did not think it would be an issue, as there was no other option next to the charger. Since I am paying extra for that space, do I not have a right to have access? What are my options? Contact the car owner and hope they can come out and move their car? What if they are in meetings? Spend half of my day checking to see if a car moves out of a spot next to the charger? Some days I come in to work and am on very low charge. I need to plug in or I would not be able to make it home.

Electric vehicles will become more common and a new understanding of process and violations will need to take place.

Again, I am not asking for my tickets to be rescinded. I accept that I am partially at fault. I am asking for your assistance in creating a positive campus culture and to help figure out a way to make these tough situations better.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments. I would be happy to come and discuss any of this in person.

