



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Director of Facilities Earns National Aquatic Certification

Mt. Pleasant, MI November 18th, 2015 – Barry Histed, Director of Facilities was recently certified as an Aquatic Facility Operator (AFO) by the National Certification Board (NCB) and National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA).

To become AFO-certified, individuals must pass a nationally-administered examination, which tests knowledge in the following areas: mechanical concepts involved in the functioning of a swimming pool; familiarity with all systems, equipment and peripherals that are required to contain, circulate and filter, and heat and treat swimming pool water; ability to perform preventative maintenance and basic repairs; competence in all areas of water chemistry pertaining to pools; and, knowledge of risk management practices.

In 2014 Barry joined the Soaring Eagle Waterpark & Hotel team as the Director of Facilities, bringing with him 30 years of managerial experience in the trade and an exceptional knowledge of all the Saginaw Chippewa Tribes' Facilities.

Before Barry began working for Saginaw Chippewa Tribal entities he also spent time in the United States Air Force where he worked with many different trades including carpentry, electrical, HVAC, ironwork, masonry, millwright, pipefitter, plumbing, and sheet metal.

Barry also has extensive training in the aspect of chillers, boilers, air handlers, training on Limbach- Sage, Johnston Controls control building management systems and Trane system to include the programming of Dx-1 and MX 1 controls.

Barry received the Aquatics Facility Operator certification in an effort to provide quality service to our hotel and waterpark guests. In addition, our Pool Operations team consists of other highly qualified pool operators. Nick Poolaw, Pool Operator and his Pool Technicians John McCarthy and Gene Rhinehart are Certified Pool Operators by the National Pool Foundation.

The AFO examination is administered by NRPA, the Aquatic Facility Operator Certification Committee (AFOC) and the NCB. AFO Certifications are valid for a period of five years.

About the National Recreation and Park Association

The National Recreation and Park Association is a national, not-for-profit organization dedicated to advancing park, recreation and conservation efforts that enhance quality of life for all people. Through its network of 20,000 recreation and park professionals and citizens, NRPA encourages the promotion of healthy lifestyles, recreation initiatives, and conservation of natural and cultural resources. For more information, visit www.nrpa.org. For digital access to NRPA's flagship publication, *Parks & Recreation*, visit www.parksandrec-magazine.org.