

Mecosta County Park Commission Commission Meeting

The November 15, 2022, Commission Meeting of the Mecosta County Park Commission was called to order at Mecosta County Services Building at 5:00 PM by the Commission Chairman, Mr. Stanek.

Roll Call

Members Present: Mrs. Bradstrom, Mr. Farrow, Mr. Griffith, Mr. Hatkowski, Mr. Lambrix, Ms. Miller and Mr. Stanek. **Members Absent:** Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Strong and Mr. Vogel. **Others Present:** Jeff Abel - Superintendent, Mary Hansen - Assistant Operation Manager and Kathy Maclean - Administrative Clerk.

Approval of Agenda

Mrs. Bradstrom motioned, seconded by Mr. Farrow to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Hatkowski motioned, seconded by Mr. Farrow to approve the minutes of the October 18th Commission Meeting and the November 10th Masterplan meeting. Motion carried.

Public Comment: None.

Reports and Updates

Superintendent's Updates

The Superintendent updated the Commission on 18 current and completed projects, including:

TC Energy has notified us that we were not awarded grant funding for the Dragon Trail.

Dragon Trail Bridges tour completed with Mecosta County CVB Director to determine the 2 of 5 Mecosta County bridges they would like designated through their sponsorship.

Regional Recreation Pass agreement has been finalized with Newaygo County Parks and Recreation Commission.

Paris Middle Pond has been drained and the trout moved to the front pond in preparation of winter pond cleaning and maintenance.

Lift Pump Failures at Merrill-Gorrel. 2 Pumps and a control board have been replaced at a cost of \$4000.

Security Cameras have been installed at Brower and School Section Lake Parks.

School Section Tree Work was completed. 2 full days of tree removal, limb clearing and stump grinding took place within the park.

Brower Street Lights at boat launch, boat trailer parking areas and park office were repaired.

Dragon Trail Executive Board meeting has been scheduled for December. Trail building will continue until winter weather makes it impossible. Within the next week or 2 the switchbacks at Rosie's Ravine will be completed; making the trail continuous from Davis Bridge to just south of Newaygo State Park.

Correspondence

WPVRA update The Pasquantonios have provided updated user information and requested a few modifications/additions to the current trail system. The Chairman has requested the Superintendent draft a letter of approval.

MERS Payment The County BOC has approved an additional payment of \$13,387.50 to our MERS account from forfeiture dollars.

Committee Actions

Masterplan

Spark Grant - Paris Hatchery Building & Front Pond Mr. Griffith motioned, seconded by Mr. Lambrix to request a resolution from the County BOC to submit a Spark grant application for our first priority which includes \$800,000 for the renovations of the Hatchery Building and \$200,000 for the restoration of the front pond and raceway west of the White Pine Trail. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

School Section Campground Expansion Update Mr. Griffith motioned, seconded by Mrs. Bradstrom to request a resolution from the County BOC to submit a Spark grant application for our second priority which includes the replacement of the School Section Lake Beach Bathhouse and the adjacent beach playground system. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

Paris Park - Raceway Collapse pictures were reviewed and discussed. The Commission has deemed the situation an emergency needing immediate action.

Finance

Review/Approval Budget Adjustments were reviewed and discussed. Mrs. Bradstrom motioned, seconded by Mr. Hatkowski to accept the budget adjustments as presented. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

Mower Quotes were reviewed and discussed. Mrs. Bradstrom motioned, seconded by Mr. Lambrix to accept the Kohler, Gravely quote from State Street Hardware for \$9,450.50. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

Truck Fleet status was reviewed. Discussion included the high demand for trucks and limited availability; 4 bids were reviewed from MiDeal. Mrs. Bradstrom motioned, seconded by Mr. Griffith to continue with the orders of 2-2023 RAM 1500 4x4s at a cost of \$36,244 each and continue the search for an SUV. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

Personnel

Insurance Update Health Insurance premiums were reviewed. In 2023, the County employee portion has increased dramatically for the same plan coverage. Higher deductible plans are being offered to employees as an option due to the increase in costs of the current plan.

Financial

Financial Report - Revenue & Expenses, Cash Spreadsheet, Year-to-Year - Reports were reviewed and discussed. Ms. Miller motioned, seconded by Mr. Griffith to accept the financial reports as presented. Motion carried.

Approval of Bills - Mrs. Bradstrom motioned, seconded by Mr. Griffith to approve payment of the bills in the amounts of \$8,336.43, \$9,482.31, 21,890.03 and \$7,687.73. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

Public Comment: Mr. Knox asked if there is an update regarding the generators and was informed that we expect delivery in February and anticipate the installations to go out to bid shortly.

Other Business

Next Commission Meeting is scheduled for 5 PM, Tuesday, December 13th, at the Mecosta County Services Building.

Adjourned: 5:55 PM