

Mecosta County Park Commission Commission Meeting

The January 24, 2023, 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. Johnson, Mr. Lambrix, Ms. Miller, Mr. Stanek, Mrs. Strong and Mr. Vogel. **Member Absent:** Mr. Hatkowski. **Others Present:** Jeff Abel - Superintendent, Mary Hansen - Assistant Operation Manager and Kathy Maclean - Administrative Clerk.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Vogel motioned, seconded by Mrs. Strong to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Vogel motioned, seconded by Mr. Griffith to approve the minutes of the December 13, 2022, Park Commission meeting. Motion carried.

Election of Officers

Chairperson: Mr. Griffith nominated Mr. Stanek for re-appointment, supported by Mr. Vogel to re-appoint Mr. Stanek. Mr. Lambrix moved, seconded by Mrs. Bradstrom to close nominations for Chairperson and cast a unanimous ballot for Mr. Stanek. Motion carried.

Vice-Chairperson: Mr. Johnson nominated Mr. Griffith, supported by Mr. Vogel. Mrs. Bradstrom moved, seconded by Mr. Lambrix to close nominations for Vice-Chairperson and cast a unanimous ballot for Mr. Griffith. Motion carried.

Secretary: Mrs. Bradstrom nominated Ms. Miller, supported by Mr. Johnson. Mr. Vogel moved, seconded by Mr. Lambrix to close nominations for Secretary and cast a unanimous ballot for Ms. Miller. Motion carried.

Rules of Order: Mr. Griffith motioned, seconded by Mr. Johnson to follow Roberts Rules and to permit the Chairperson to vote. Motion carried.

2023 Committee Assignments: The Chairperson suggested Commissioners e-mail their committee assignment preferences to him.

Presentations

MDNR Parks/MRWA Ben Dietrich, DNR Parks; Marty Holtgren, Muskegon River Watershed Assembly; and Jim Bernier, Consultant presented an update on the Buckhorn Creek Dam Removal project. The preliminary timeline for the project is late 2023 or spring of 2024. A request was made to provide a funding contribution toward the finalization of project engineering. Mr. Griffith motioned, seconded by Mr. Johnson to approve a \$3,000 distribution of the previously approved \$8,000 in committed funds. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

Explore Michigan App. The developer, Addison Webb, previewed the functionality of the App., discussed the vision, and answered questions from the Commission members.

Public Comment: None.

Reports and Updates

Superintendent's Updates

The Superintendent updated the Commission on 17 current and completed projects, including:

Dragon Regional Pass has been made available with sales taking place. By January 17th, 33 Regional Permits were sold compared to 59 Mecosta County Permits.

Davis Bridge-DNR Trust Fund Grant did not receive funding approval. More than 64% of the funds granted went to land acquisitions instead of development this year.

Spark Grant information may be available next week regarding the Hatchery/Pond and School Section Bathhouse/Playground applications.

Generators shipped for Merrill-Gorrel and Paris Park; we have been invoiced \$42,000. Brower and School Section Lake's Generators are expected late spring.

Well Application at School Section is currently delayed as our engineers and District Health work through concerns of the campground expansion.

Reservations Opened for the Family Group Camp and in the first 2 minutes sold out June 19th to August 21st, at this time 9 weeks remain open in the season.

Goose Round-up has been cancelled statewide due to the continued concerns of Bird Flu.

Year to Date Revenue report shows total category revenue and account receivables are up from 2022 levels.

Dragon Trail building has continued north of Big Bend due to the mild winter we have been experiencing. The final 2022 construction bill has yet to be received.

Correspondence: Jordan M Marshall, Ph. D has shared his Merrill-Gorrel tree study, Forest Composition and Structural Changes after Emerald Ash Borer.

Committee Actions

Finance

Generator Installation Administration Contract has been updated to include increased fees due to additional design scope items. Mr. Lambrix motioned, seconded by Mr. Vogel to approve the additional \$6,500 fee and to refer the Construction Phase Support portion of the contract to Building & Grounds for further consideration. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

Personnel

Organizational Chart graphics revised to better show chain of command.

Job descriptions and Postings (Operations Director and Operations Manager) were reviewed and discussed.

Masterplan

DNR Trust Fund 2023 Mr. Griffith motioned, seconded by Mrs. Bradstrom to request that the County BOC approve a resolution of support to re-submit the Davis Bridge Water Access Improvement Grant application for the 2023 MDNR Trust Fund grant cycle as was previously submitted during the 2022 application period. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

Financial

Financial Report - Revenue & Expenses, Cash Spreadsheet, Year-to-Year - Reports were reviewed and discussed.

Approval of Bills - Mrs. Bradstrom motioned, seconded by Ms. Miller to approve payment of the bills in the amounts of \$6,570.83, \$13,114.66, \$14,826.16 and \$74,334.11. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

Public Comment: None.

Other Business

Next Commission Meeting is scheduled for 5 PM, Tuesday, February 21st at the Mecosta County Services Building.

Adjourned: 6:40 PM