

## Mecosta County Park Commission Commission Meeting

The November 14, 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. Hatkowski, Mr. Lambrix, Ms. Miller, Mr. Stanek, Mrs. Strong and Mr. Vogel. **Member Absent:** Mr. Griffith and Mr. Johnson. **Others Present:** Jeff Abel - Superintendent, Taylor Jutila - Operations Manager, Mary Hansen - HR Manager and Kathy Maclean - Administrative Clerk.

### Approval of Agenda

Hearing no objections, the agenda stood approved as present.

### Approval of Minutes

Mr. Vogel motioned, seconded by Mrs. Strong, to approve the minutes of the October 17<sup>th</sup> Commission meeting and November 1<sup>st</sup> Masterplan meeting. Motion carried.

**Public Comment:** None.

### Reports and Updates

#### Superintendent's Updates

The Superintendent updated the Commission on 19 current and completed projects, including:

**Generator Start-up Certifications** have been completed and reimbursement of \$100,000 of the project cost received from the County.

**Camis Conversion** we anticipate having a version to test in December. By early January we expect to roll out the program to campground guests so they may establish their accounts.

**Regional Recreation Permit** sales thru the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter totaled 294 permits, Newaygo County sold 120, Mecosta County sold 174.

**Brower Electric Project** supplies have begun to arrive for the Fall 2024/Spring 2025 improvement. Invoices are also expected to start arriving.

**Spark Scores** from the second round of submissions were Paris Hatchery, 82 and School Section Lake project, 80.

**School Section Grills** at 3 of the 4 pavilions were replaced from grills we had in stock.

**Brower Shallow Launch Improvement Grant** construction is expected to begin November 30<sup>th</sup>; some of the work will be completed while the water is drawn down and other construction once the water has been brought back-up.

**Buckhorn Creek Dam** boards have been completely removed and the creek is virtually a free-flowing stream.

**MG Stumps** map has been created; Cooks will be grinding down 20+ stumps.

**Dragon Trail's** ADA bridge has been installed in section 1; the east side of the river is now continuous. Another bridge, west of the river, in section 7 has been set, Section 7 remains closed.

**Incident/Accident Reports** 1 incidents discussed.

## Committee Actions

### Masterplan

**School Section Lake-Expansion Project** has begun. The loggers have been in the park for about a week.

**School Section Re-numbering of Campsites** map reviewed, discussed and supported by the Commission.

**MDARD Grant Opportunity** Mrs. Bradstrom motioned, seconded by Mrs. Strong, to move forward with a grant application for the Paris Hatchery runway repairs, if it is deemed feasible by our local Economic Director. Motion carried.

**Paris Park Eiffel Tower Location** discussion included current and off-season visibility, liability that may be incurred by the move, security and notice precautions. The Commissioners reviewed and advised relocating the tower to the recommended location.

### Finance

**Review/Approval of Budget Adjustments** Mr. Lambrix motioned, seconded by Mr. Vogel, to approve the budget adjustments as presented. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

### Financial

**Financial Report - Revenue & Expenses, Cash Spreadsheet, Year-to-Year** - Reports were reviewed noting 2023 sales revenue has exceeded \$2 million for the first time. Also noted was the 2024 payroll budget exceeds \$1 million.

**Approval of Bills** - Mrs. Bradstrom motioned, seconded by Mr. Vogel, to approve payment of the bills in the amounts of \$111,361.00, \$17,126.97 and \$15,290.94. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

**Public Comment:** David Cotton with the SSLPOA, shared the Associations decision to discourage wake boats from use on School Section Lake in an effort to protect the lake bottom and shoreline from erosion damage.

### Other Business:

**2024 Park Commission Meeting Schedule** recommendation was reviewed and approved.

**Next Monthly Commission Meeting** is scheduled for 5 PM, Tuesday, December 12, at the Mecosta County Services Building.

**Adjourned:** 5:45 PM