

## Mecosta County Park Commission Commission Meeting

The April 18, 2023, Commission Meeting of the Mecosta County Park Commission was called to order at the 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. Johnson, Mr. Lambrix, Ms. Miller, Mr. Stanek, Mrs. Strong and Mr. Vogel. **Member Absent:** None. **Others Present:** Jeff Abel - Superintendent, Mary Hansen - HR Manager, Mike Fenton - Operations 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. Bradstrom, to approve the minutes of the March 21<sup>st</sup> Park Commission and April 3<sup>rd</sup> Special Commission meetings. Motion carried.

**Public Comment:** None.

### Reports and Updates

#### Superintendent's Updates

The Superintendent updated the Commission on 22 current and completed projects, including:  
**Brower Park Trust Fund Grant** EGLE currently has the project out for public notice and public comment.

**WPVRA** the well permit application and \$350 fee have been submitted to the District Health Department 10.

**Playground Equipment Meetings** have been taking place with multiple playground companies; options should soon be made available to the Masterplan Committee.

**Brower Park Boat Launch** Prein and Newhof have met onsite and will be utilizing recent low level water depth measurements to determine the scope of a potential dredging project.

**Merrill-Gorrel Electric Pedestal** after nearly a year of supply line delays the damaged electric pedestal has been installed.

**School Section Storm** clean-up has been ongoing as many limbs and a few trees have come down in the ice storms. Merrill-Gorrel has also suffered some damage that will be cleaned up in the next few weeks.

**Brower WiFi**, our IT provider has requested we trench and hard wire the tower to the park office in order to maintain service.

**Dragon Trail Construction** estimates for the 2023 build season have been established. The first option, that completes the Mecosta County portion of the trail, is estimated to cost \$200,000. An alternate trail option is to install a significant bridge that will cross the ravine at the M-20 bend entirely in Mecosta County and eliminate the need for Newaygo County to install many small bridges, this will increase the cost of construction to Mecosta County by up to \$60,000.  
Mr. Griffith motioned, seconded by Mr. Farrow, to request reimbursement of the actual 2023

Dragon Trail build from the County's Marijuana Tax Revenue. The first request is to not exceed the actual cost of completing all of the trail and ravine crossings that are within Mecosta County at an estimated \$200,000. The second reimbursement request is for the actual cost of an alternate trail option at the M-20 Bend and is estimated at \$60,000. The third reimbursement requested is for the \$28,000 overages incurred during the 2022 construction season. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

**Year to Date Revenue Report** reviewed. 2023 revenue is trending above 2022 in both vehicle and non-vehicle revenue.

## Correspondence

**Chippewa Hills School** has requested access to School Section Lake for their elementary students' summer camp program. Mr. Lambrix motioned, seconded by Mr. Griffith, to provide park access for up to 5 vehicles. Motion carried with unanimous roll call vote.

## Committee Actions

### Finance

**School Section Lake Park Expansion** bids came in significantly more costly than anticipated. Reduction of scope was discussed; the Committee recommends sending the project back to the Masterplan Committee.

**Generator Installation Bids** Mr. Hatkowski motioned, seconded by Mr. Vogel, to accept the Bid Proposal from M. Schneider Electric for \$105,532. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

**Toilet Paper** Mr. Farrow motioned, seconded by Mr. Vogel, to accept the quote from Sysco at \$50 per case plus delivery. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

**RV Pumping** Mrs. Bradstrom motioned, seconded by Mr. Johnson, to accept the bid from Routley's Inc. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

**Porta Potty Bids** Mr. Lambrix motioned, seconded by Mrs. Bradstrom, to accept the bid from Randy's Plumbing & Portables. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

**Wood Vendor Bids** The Commission will accept up to 3 wood vendors per park on a first come, first served basis. Terry Darling has been accepted as the first vendor for all parks.

**Reservation System Provider** 3 vendors and quotes were discussed. Mr. Farrow motioned, seconded by Mr. Vogel, to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and move forward with Camis. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

### Personnel

**Seasonal Staff Update** Currently, 3 seasonal positions remain open; interviews are on-going, and our first training session will be this Friday.

**Operations Director Position Update** An Operations Director has been hired, Taylor will start next week.

### Building & Grounds

**Paris Ponds-Construction Evaluation/Estimate** the condition of the raceway walls were reviewed and discussed as was the estimate for the urgent restoration. Mr. Hatkowski motioned, seconded by Mr. Lambrix to request funding from the County's Marijuana tax revenue for the total estimated \$155,255 plus a contingency of \$20,000 (\$175,255 total). 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** - Mr. Griffith motioned, seconded by Mr. Lambrix to approve payment of the bills in the amounts of \$35,638.33, \$26,949.11 and \$15,330.98. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

**Public Comment:** Mr. Knox recommended we remove the pines and soft wood trees from the Merrill-Gorrel Campground.

## **Other Business**

**Next Monthly Commission Meeting** is scheduled for 5 PM, May 16, 2023, at the Mecosta County Services Building.

**EGLE permit** Mr. Griffith motioned, seconded by Mr. Farrow, that we commit up to \$1,000 to move forward with the EGLE permit application to restore the Paris Ponds raceway walls. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

**Adjourned:** 6:42 PM