

## Mecosta County Park Commission Commission Meeting

The March 19, 2024, 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:** Mr. Farrow, Mr. Griffith, Mr. Hatkowski, Mr. Lambrix, Ms. Miller, Mr. Stanek, Mrs. Strong and Mr. Vogel. **Member Absent:** Mrs. Bradstrom and Mr. Johnson. **Others Present:** Jeff Abel - Superintendent, Taylor Jutila - Operations Director, Jose Santiago - Operation Manager, Mary Hansen - HR Manager and Kathy Maclean - Administrative Clerk.

### Approval of Agenda

Hearing no objections the agenda stands approved as presented.

### Approval of Minutes

Mr. Hatkowski motioned, seconded by Mr. Vogel, to approve the minutes of the February 20, 2024, Park Commission, February 26<sup>th</sup> Save the Ponds, March 12<sup>th</sup> Masterplan Committee and March 12<sup>th</sup> Save the Ponds Meetings. Motion carried.

**Public Comment:** None.

### Reports and Updates

#### Superintendent's Updates

The Superintendent updated the Commission on 20 current and completed projects, including:

**Servers for Park System** are moving forward, staff logins are being created and will be followed by the establishing of a mapped drive on each computer desktop.

**Eiffel Tower** has been relocated to its new location outside of the locked gates.

**Trust Fund Grant Resolution** for the re-submission of the School Section Bathhouse/Playground renovation was approved unanimously by the County Board of Commissioners.

**Cancellation of Old Credit Card Processor** has been completed as we now are moving forward with the new processor that is integrated in the new reservation system.

**Food Vendors for Brower** at least 4 different vendors have shown an interest in providing services at Brower Park. We are working on an agreement with last year's vendor before responding to the others regarding availability.

**MG Stump** remnants have been removed.

**Camis Reservation Software** meetings are continuing weekly as we ready the system for the parks' openings.

**EGLE Pre Application Meeting** has been requested with the intent of reviewing the deep-water boat launch at Brower while the water levels are still at their lowest levels. Consumers started re-filling the Hardy Pond today.

**Year to Date Park Report** was reviewed, noting revenue is lagging behind last year some, but is likely reflective of the delayed start in accepting reservations.

**Dragon Trail** updated map was reviewed, noting Operator's Village Park has been added, Segments 1 and 2 are fully open and Segment 7 remains under construction. One builder has remained working on site as weather has permitted this winter.

**Buckhorn Creek Dam Removal Update** Tree removals from the project area will take place next week at a cost of \$8,000. Consumers power lines will be raised with associated costs billed to the project. There is no updated status regarding the bridge design.

**Incident/Accident Reports** None.

**School Section Lake Campground Expansion Update** Dump station area is being prepped and ready for concrete installation. Many septic risers had to be re-located as they were too close to water supply lines. Recommendation was made to cover the framing between the electrical supply panels as a safety precaution.

**Brower Park Water Access** ramp has been poured, fishing platform is complete, launch dock and ADA kayak launch are on-site and ready for installation when water levels permit. Sidewalks are currently being framed. The vault toilet building arrived today.

## **Committee Actions**

### **Save the Ponds**

The Ponds and Hatchery Building are being evaluated by separate committees. The Hatchery renovations will be directed through the Masterplan Committee with the ponds and runway restoration focus through the Save the Ponds community group who will be seeking donations, grants, and private sector support.

### **Personnel**

The HR Manager reported that we have 30-33 returning staff that are completing their physicals and re-hire paperwork while interviewing continues for the remaining open positions.

## **Financial**

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

**Approval of Bills** - Mr. Lambrix motioned, seconded by Mr. Griffith, to approve payment of the bills in the amounts of \$40,422.66, \$176,501.12, \$28,576.31, \$487,132.50 and \$5,668.47.

Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

**Public Comment:** Mark Hamler brought some School Section Lake safety concerns to the attention of the Commission.

**Other Business: Next Monthly Commission Meeting** is scheduled for 5 PM, Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at the Mecosta County Services Building.

**Adjourned:** 5:40 PM