

Mecosta County Park Commission Commission Meeting

The June 16, 2021 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. Stratton.

Roll Call

Members Present: Mrs. Bradstrom, Mr. Griffith, Mr. Hatkowski, Mr. Johnson, Ms. Miller, Mr. O'Neil, Mr. Roels, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Stratton and Mr. Vogel. **Members Absent:** None. **Others Present:** Jeff Abel - Superintendent and Kathy Maclean - Administrative Clerk.

Approval of Agenda

Hearing no objection, the agenda stood approved as presented.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Vogel motioned, seconded by Mr. Griffith to approve the minutes of the May 15th Park Commission meeting as presented. Motion carried.

Public Comment: None.

Reports and Updates

Superintendent's Updates

The Superintendent updated the Commission on 7 current and completed projects, including:

Goose Roundup at Brower Park has been scheduled for June 16th as there have been up to 35 geese spotted recently in the park.

Boater Safety at School Section Lake was a full class.

Radio Interview with Y-102 was completed on June 10th to promote our Community Open House. This was the first of 4 monthly radio interviews that will be a part of the radio station's Summer of Fun campaign.

Fisheries Survey We have been communicating with the DNR Fisheries regarding the creation of a survey for anyone fishing on School Section Lake. This will be an asset to the fisheries department in making future lake decisions.

Meet & Greets dates TBD.

YTD Park Revenue report shows that camping revenue is up more than 60% over last year and vehicle revenue is up almost 70%.

Dragon Trail Updates Trail builders will resume trail building after July 4th, the fundraiser has completed an online trail users survey and Consumers Energy has requested to host a Dragon Trail Celebration Ceremony in Brower Park, at a future date.

Incident/Accident Reports - 3 reports reviewed and discussed.

Correspondence

Conservation District Fall Tree Sales The Commissioners approved opening the Hatchery Parking Lot gate October 1st for fall seedling sale.

WPVRA-Pasquantonio The Commissioners reviewed and discussed the letter from the Pasquantonio.

Committee Actions

Masterplan

Brower 2022 Seasonal Camper Lottery Consumers Energy has recommended the Hardy Pond campgrounds delay their lotteries until September 25th so as to have more information regarding the potential pond drawdown. The Commissioners accepted the recommendation and agree to delay the Brower Lottery.

MOTA River Tubing Partnership In partnering with MOTA, transportation of additional passengers will be much more efficient and provide a better experience in getting from the park quickly onto the river. Paris Park will continue to handle the reservations and fee collection along with supplying and transporting equipment. MOTA will now provide transportation of groups with greater than eight people. Mr. Stanek motioned, seconded by Mr. Griffith to approve the partnering of Paris Park and MOTA for the sole purpose of transporting larger river adventure groups up the river. Motion carried.

Buckhorn Dam Removal Funding Update The MRWSA notified the Commission regarding the recent awarding of Grants from the DNR Fish Habitat Grant program and the USFWS Fish Passage program. The grants will potentially cover about 2/3s of the funding needs to remove the dam.

Finance

Brower park - Internet Contract Mr. Griffith motioned, seconded Mrs. Bradstrom to update the tower hardware and Point Broadband service in the park to 500 mbps; hardware installation cost \$2000 and a monthly service cost of \$700 for 36 months. The contract provides for an off-season rate of \$10 per month and future fiber optic services if and when they become available. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

Park Radio Order Mr. Stanek motioned, seconded by Mr. Vogel to accept the recommendation of the Committee and accept the quote from Chrouch Communications for 10 new portable radios and the installation of 2 mobile radios for \$3287. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

Administration Building Proposal No action was taken.

School Section Lake Campground Addition Proposal Mr. O'Neil motioned, seconded by Mr. Hatkowski to accept the Prein and Newhof proposal for engineering services to assess an expansion of School Section Lake by 50 new sites and to evaluate the existing wells and electric services at a cost of \$40,500. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

Personnel

On-Call Stipend Payments Mr. O'Neil motioned, seconded by Mrs. Bradstrom to provide for one maintenance employee to receive an on-call stipend of \$100 per week while the parks are open. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

Seasonal Staffing Update Staffing continues to be challenging; 2 positions are currently open.

Building & Grounds

WPVRA Update The County Commission's Building & Grounds will be meeting on-site to evaluate the property and building July 7th.

Financial

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

Budget Adjustments Mrs. Bradstrom motioned, seconded by Mr. Johnson to approve the budget adjustments as presented. Motion carried.

Approval of Bills - Mr. Stanek motioned, seconded by Mr. Johnson to approve the bills in the amounts of \$80,728.90 and \$49,748.60. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

Public Comment: None.

Other Business:

Next Commission Meeting is scheduled for 5 PM, July 20th at the County Services Building.

Adjournment: 6:30 PM