

Mecosta County Park Commission Commission Meeting

The January 18, 2022, Commission Meeting of the Mecosta County Park Commission was called to order at Mecosta County Services Building at 5:00 PM by the Parks Superintendent, Mr. Abel.

Roll Call

Members Present: Mrs. Bradstrom, Mr. Farrow, Mr. Griffith, Mr. Johnson, Ms. Miller, Mr. O'Neil, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Stratton and Mr. Vogel. **Members Absent:** Mr. Lambrix. **Others Present:** Jeff Abel - Superintendent, Erin Bean - Operations Manager, Mary Hansen - Assistant Operations Manager and Kathy Maclean - Administrative Clerk.

Approval of Agenda

Hearing no objections, the agenda stands approved as presented.

Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Bradstrom motioned, seconded by Mr. Griffith to approve the minutes of the December 14th Park Commission meeting. Motion carried.

Elections

Chairman, Vice-Chair, Secretary - The Superintendent opened the floor to 2022 Officer nominations. Mr. Stratton motioned, seconded by Mr. Vogel to nominate Mr. O'Neil for Chairman, Mr. Griffith for Vice Chairman and Ms. Miller for Secretary, and to close nominations. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote. The Superintendent turned the meeting over to Mr. O'Neil, Chairman.

Rules of Order - Mr. Stratton motioned, seconded by Mr. Stanek to follow Robert's Rules of Order with an amendment to permit the Chairman to act as a voting member of the Commission. Motion carried.

2022 Committees Assignments - The Chairman requests the Commissioners submit their committee appointment preferences. Appointments will be determined prior to the next Commission meeting.

2022 Meeting Dates - Mrs. Bradstrom motioned, seconded by Mr. Stratton to accept the meeting date schedule as presented. Motion carried.

Public Comment: None.

Reports and Updates

Superintendent's Updates

The Superintendent updated the Commission on 10 current and completed projects, including:

MDOT - Dragon Trail Crossings the Road Commission has made some progress toward gaining MDOT approval; some action items are still outstanding.

Buckhorn Creek Dam 1-2 dam board continue to be removed every 1-2 weeks to bring the water level down in preparation for the dam removal. Engineer bid review is scheduled for January 25th.

Online Reservations for the Family Group Camp (FGC), Pavilion and Monthly reservations for Paris, Merrill-Gorrel and School Section was opened on January 3rd. The peak season for

the FGC, from late June to early September, sold out in less than 1 minute. Eight guests have booked a total of 11 months of monthly reservation at School Section.

White Plow Truck the \$9,000 payment has been received.

Dragon Trail Updates - Mecosta Township has received a \$138,000 payment from the DNR Trust Grant. We anticipate receiving a \$100,000 payment to offset the funds that MCPC loaned Mecosta Township. An updated Dragon map has been created and is being made available on various partner sites. The new trail width snowmobile is due anytime.

Incident/Accident Report - 1 report, storm damage to electric pedestals at Merrill-Gorrel.

Correspondence

Hardy Pond Consumers Energy has notified us that the auxiliary spillway project is still in the design and engineering phase, but in preparation of the project some site clearing on the southwest side of 36th street will be completed between January 17th and April 1st.

White Pine Valley Recreation Area (WPVRA) Mecosta County's request for a release of the reverter clause for a 120 acre parcel of the WPVRA has been reviewed and denied by the State of Michigan's Department of Natural Resources.

Committee Actions

Masterplan

Paris Hatchery Building Proposal Update from Prein & Newhof has been reviewed and accepted as it fell within the prior determined parameters.

Finance

Generator Installation Project proposal for the purchase of generators to be reviewed by the Finance Committee. Recommendation to be provided at the next Commission meeting.

Purchase of Picnic Tables quotes reviewed. Mr. Stanek motioned, seconded by Mr. Vogel to move forward with the purchase of 50 picnic tables from Jamestown, once ADA compliance has been confirmed. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

Rules & Regulations

Status Update A current draft document has been completed, any additional changes will be offered with the insight from the Sheriff and Prosecuting Attorney.

Personnel

2022 Staffing Outlook is anticipated to be more challenging than last season. The Commission supports providing the Superintendent the authority to veer from prevailing methods to pursue the work camper applicant.

Building & Grounds

Goose Nest and Round Up Permits are due to be applied for at Brower. The Superintendent recommends we continue this process.

Paris Storage Barn is in need of repair. An initial Facebook post requesting interested licensed and insured builders to submit their recommendations has not returned much interest. Mr. Stanek has volunteered to work with the Parks Maintenance team to determine if an inhouse solution might exist.

Financial

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

Approval of Bills - Mr. Stanek motioned, seconded by Mr. Stratton to approve the bills in the amounts of \$43,289.63, \$23,247.06 and \$9,647.19. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

Public Comment: None.

Other Business:

Resolution - Mr. Hatkowski

WHEREAS: **Mr. Richard Hatkowski** has faithfully served the Mecosta County Park Commission for a total of 1 year. **Mr. Richard Hatkowski** has served on several Mecosta County Park Commission sub-committees.

WHEREAS: **Mr. Richard Hatkowski** has, during his appointment with this Commission, given freely and unselfishly of his time, experience, and varied expertise, which have contributed significantly to the development, improvement and continued operations of the Mecosta County Parks, now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Mecosta County Park Commission and Superintendent of said Commission does hereby express sincere gratitude for the faithful and dedicated contributions which **Mr. Richard Hatkowski** has made and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That this resolution be made a permanent part of the proceedings of this commission and that a true copy be given to **Mr. Richard Hatkowski** as a record of his exemplary service.

Motion carried Unanimously.

Next Commission Meeting is scheduled for 5 PM, February 15, 2022, at the Mecosta County Services Bldg.

Adjourned: 6:30PM