

## **Mecosta County Park Commission Commission Meeting**

The March 15, 2022, 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. O'Neil.

### **Roll Call**

**Members Present:** Mrs. Bradstrom, Mr. Farrow, Mr. Griffith, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Lambrix, Ms. Miller, Mr. O'Neil, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Stratton and Mr. Vogel. **Members Absent:** None. **Others Present:** Jeff Abel - Superintendent, Erin Bean - Operations Manager, Mary Hansen - Assistant Operation Manager and Kathy Maclean - Administrative Clerk.

### **Approval of Agenda**

Mrs. Bradstrom motioned, seconded by Mr. Vogel to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Vogel motioned, seconded by Mr. Stanek to approve the minutes of the February 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Committee, February 15<sup>th</sup> Park Commission and the March 9<sup>th</sup> Masterplan Committee meetings. Motion carried.

### **Public Hearing (5:05 PM)**

The Chairman of the Mecosta County Park Commission, Eric O'Neil, opened the Public Hearing for the Davis Bridge Trust Fund Grant at 5:05 PM.

R. Lagow's email outlining parking concerns was shared.

There was no additional public input.

Mr. Stratton motioned, seconded by Mr. Johnson to close the Public Hearing at 5:10 PM and the Commission Meeting resumed.

**Public Comment:** None.

### **Reports and Updates**

#### **Superintendent's Updates**

The Superintendent updated the Commission on 13 current and completed projects, including:  
**MParks Conference** was attended this year by the Superintendent. The conference was beneficial as it provided, not only, networking opportunities, but also, educational sessions on hiring, brand marketing, team management and coaching, contract writing, mountain biking and MDNR Trust Fund.

**MOISD Job Fair** was attended by the Operations and Assistant Operations Manager.

**Woodsheds** have been delivered to School Section, Brower and Paris Parks.

**Rules & Regulation** amendments have been approved by the County Board of Commissioners; once the signed notification has been received and published, we will be able to move forward with enforcement.

**Job Postings** have been placed on Facebook and Work Camper sites.

**Picnic Tables** are scheduled to arrive tomorrow morning.

**YTD - Park Revenue Report** the combined park camping revenue and combined park vehicle revenue categories remain ahead of 2021.

**Dragon Trail Updates** - The Superintendent reviewed cost estimates and bids received to complete 3 remaining portions of the Dragon Trail, which would leave only a small portion between Newaygo State Park and Big Prairie Townships, Operators Park remaining to be constructed. Mecosta County's remaining build areas were bid at a total cost of \$186,817 and are anticipated to remain below \$250,000 in total costs, inclusive of contingency and project manager fees. Newaygo County's build areas for this phase were bid at \$479,785. The County of Newaygo - Finance Committee is evaluating an option to approve the full contractor bid for these areas, contingent on a commitment from Mecosta County to reimburse the total costs incurred toward building the remaining portions within our county. Additional grant funds may come available to offset some or all remaining financial obligations.

## **Committee Actions**

### **Masterplan**

**Davis Bridge Trust Fund Grant Proposal** Mr. Griffith motioned, seconded by Mr. Stanek to recommend to the Mecosta County Board of Commissioners review and approval of the required resolution of support toward the MDNR Trust Fund grant application for the Davis Bridge Park shoreline stabilization and park improvement project at an estimated cost of \$827,350. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

**Generator Installation Project** was reviewed by the Finance Committee of the Mecosta County Board of Commissioners, and they have chosen to take no action on the current proposal as it has been deemed too excessive/expensive. An amended plan may be submitted for review and possible funding assistance. The Committee recommends a meeting be scheduled with the electrical engineer and key county and park personnel to discuss the scope of a new proposal.

### **Rules & Regulations**

**Ticketing Process** and violation notice were reviewed and discussed.

### **Personnel**

**2022 Seasonal Staff Update** was provided by the Operation Manager. Twenty-Two of the seasonal staff invited back from last year have indicated their desire to return. Additional interviews have been scheduled for this week; with a total of 48 positions to be filled. Work Camper interviewees have continued to indicate their desire for full hook-up sites segregated from the main camp areas.

## **Financial**

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

**Approval of Bills** - Mr. Stanek motioned, seconded by Mr. Lambrix to approve the bills in the amounts of \$4,880.27, \$50,083.43 and \$4,998.50. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

**Public Comment:** Mr. Knox inquired to what extent fuel costs might impact operations this year.

**Other Business:** None.

**Next Commission Meeting** is scheduled for 5 PM, April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at the Mecosta County Services Building.

**Adjourned:** 6:00 PM