

**MINUTES OF THE  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
OF  
MEDINA COUNTY PARK DISTRICT**

**July 17, 2019**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

A. Chairwoman Davis called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. at Medina County Park District Headquarters, 6364 Deerview Lane, Medina, Ohio.

B. Roll Call

1. Roll call showed Chairwoman Davis, Commissioner de Luna, and Commissioner Neate present. Also in attendance were Director Eppink, Operations Manager Perry, Communications Coordinator Gladden, Business Manager Chaney, Legal Counsel Holland, and Guests Mark Krosse, Sandra Cotman, and Jill Trampush of Chippewa Lake and Boris Slogar and Dave Kopchak of Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. June 19, 2019

1. Commissioner de Luna offered a motion approving the minutes of the June 19, 2019 meeting as presented. Chairwoman Davis seconded; the motion unanimously carried.

**III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

A. Guest Mark Krosse of Chippewa Lake

1. Mr. Krosse reported that the Save the Lake committee will be submitting applications for two grants that could award up to \$4,500 in funds to the group.
2. Mr. Krosse reported that representatives of the Save the Lake group met with Representative Steve Hambley, along with Senator Larry Obhoff, agreed to host a public meeting to discuss the budget, time, and focus of the state's inland lake management program.
3. Mr. Krosse reported that he and Director Eppink attended a Medina County Commissioners' meeting regarding Save the Lake's proposed resolution encouraging Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District (MWCD) to expand its jurisdiction to include Chippewa Lake and the outlet area. He stated that he and MWCD's Boris Slogar will be meeting soon to discuss possible assistance and options for improving water management.
4. Mr. Krosse reported that he provided Director Eppink with a revised version of the resolution requesting expansion of MWCD's jurisdiction for the park board's consideration.

**IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- A. Chairwoman Davis offered a motion that the board move into executive session for the discussion of land acquisition. Commissioner Neate seconded; the motion unanimously carried. The director, board, legal counsel, and business manager

moved to the conference room to conduct the executive session discussion.

1. Guests Sandra Cotman and Jill Trampush of Chippewa Lake left the meeting at this time.
- B. Following executive session discussion, the director, board, legal counsel, and business manager returned to the meeting room. Chairwoman Davis offered a motion that the board move into regular session. Commissioner de Luna seconded; the motion unanimously carried.
  1. Park Planner Bondi arrived at this time.
- C. The following motions were made as result of executive session discussions.
  1. Commissioner Neate offered a motion authorizing the director to purchase 51.25 acres of land on Lake Road in Lafayette Township for \$468,884, with \$328,219 of the funds being paid by a grant from the Clean Ohio Fund, and the balance of \$140,665 being paid from park district fund 3403-7800-0790 and further authorizing the director to execute all necessary documents to complete the transaction. Commissioner de Luna seconded; the motion unanimously carried.
  2. Commissioner Neate offered a motion authorizing the director to purchase one acre of vacant land on Sleepy Hollow Road in Brunswick Hills Township for \$35,000 plus closing costs from park district fund 3403-7800-0790 and further authorizing the director to execute all necessary documents to complete the transaction. Chairwoman Davis seconded; the motion unanimously carried.
  3. Commissioner Neate offered a motion authorizing the director to purchase 13.46 acres of vacant land on Beachler Road in Granger Township for \$150,000, with closing costs split between the park district and the seller, from park district fund 3403-7800-0790 and further authorizing the director to execute all necessary documents to complete the transaction. The purchase is to be contingent on the successful transfer of 150 acres of wetlands from the Stream & Wetlands Foundation to Medina County Park District. The Stream & Wetlands Foundation will grant the park district \$25,000 to offset the purchase price of the vacant parcel in exchange for an easement on the stream that bisects the two properties. Commissioner de Luna seconded; the motion unanimously carried.
  4. Commissioner de Luna offered a motion authorizing the director to submit a grant application to the Clean Ohio Fund for the acquisition of approximately 73.59 acres of land in Granger Township – 59.71 acres of which will become the State Road Nature Preserve, and 13.88 acres of which will be added to Allardale Park – and further authorizing the director to execute all necessary documents to complete the application process. Chairwoman Davis seconded; the motion unanimously carried.
  5. Commissioner de Luna offered a motion authorizing the director to submit a grant application to the Clean Ohio Fund for the acquisition of approximately 95.73 acres of land in Sharon Township to become the Wolf Creek Greenway and further authorizing the director to execute all necessary documents to complete the application process. Commissioner Neate seconded; the motion unanimously carried.

## **Board Minutes**

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### **V. FINANCIAL REPORTS**

#### **A. Cash Balance Statement**

1. The June 2019 cash balance statement was presented for the board's perusal.

#### **B. Cash Flow Statement**

1. The June 2019 cash flow statement was presented for the board's review.

#### **C. Quarterly Expense Report #2**

1. Quarterly Expense Report #2 for April, May, and June 2019 was presented to the board.

#### **D. Quarterly Credit Card Report #2**

1. Quarterly Credit Card Report #2, listing the types of credit cards issued on behalf of the park district, the employee positions holding those cards, and the card limits was presented to the board.

#### **E. Approval of Vouchers**

1. Resolution #19-013 – June 2019
  - a. Chairwoman Davis offered a motion approving Resolution #19-013, payment of the June 2019 vouchers, as presented. Commissioner Neate seconded; the motion unanimously carried.

#### **F. 2020 Tax Budget**

1. Chairwoman Davis offered a motion approving the 2020 Tax Budget as presented. Commissioner Neate seconded; the motion unanimously carried.

#### **G. Ratification of Appropriation Transfer**

1. Commissioner Neate offered a motion ratifying the July 2, 2019 appropriation transfer within fund 3401 as presented. Commissioner de Luna seconded; the motion unanimously carried.

### **VI. DIRECTOR/STAFF REPORTS**

#### **A. Director's Report**

##### **1. Monthly Report**

- a. Director Eppink provided the June 2019 monthly report for the board's perusal.

##### **2. Black River Park**

- a. Director Eppink explained the differences among parks, nature preserves, and wildlife sanctuaries.
- b. Park Planner Bondi presented the proposed site plan for Black River Park. Director Eppink reported that he will share the plan with village of Lodi representatives yet this year.
- c. Park Planner Bondi presented the proposed site plan for Brunswick Lake. Director Eppink reported that the city of Brunswick received some grant funding that will enable it to assist in providing and planting trees at the site per a list established by MCPD.

##### **3. Director Updates**

- a. Director Eppink reported that the headquarters entrance renovation project will begin next week.

- b. Director Eppink reported that we experienced a series of mechanical and system issues at the Westfield Road house just after the new tenant moved in. We will be expending funds originally budgeted for replacement of the roof to, instead, purchase a new air conditioning system and replace the broken water well with a cistern.
- c. Director Eppink reported that every park district employee now has an active email address in an effort to improve district-wide staff communications.
- d. Director Eppink reported that he would like to post the budgeted planning manager position though we haven't yet determined the salary range. The park district should receive the results of the compensation study conducted by Belz & Associates by the end of the month.
- e. Director Eppink invited the board to attend the annual Uncorked Medina Wine Festival this coming weekend at Buffalo Creek Retreat.
- f. Director Eppink reported that the health department discovered a mosquito carrying West Nile Virus in a trap north of the Chippewa Inlet Trail parking lot. The health department will be treating the area with larvicide and has encouraged the villages to increase their spraying programs to twice weekly.
- g. Director Eppink reported that Park Planner Bondi has been accepted into the Leadership Medina County Emerging Leaders program.

**B. Departmental Activities**

- 1. Director Eppink provided the June 2019 Departmental Activity Report for the board's review.

**VII. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Ratification of Land Purchases**

- 1. Chairwoman Davis offered a motion ratifying the director's purchase of 8.29 acres of land from Greenhaven Development Co. located immediately west of the Chippewa Rail Trail at a cost of \$74,610 and 5.5 acres of land adjacent to the Wadsworth Road Preserve from James W. Hansen at a cost of \$55,000. Funds for these purchases came from 3403-7800-0790. Commissioner de Luna seconded; the motion unanimously carried.

**B. Save the Lake Resolution**

- 1. Chairwoman Davis reported that she and Director Eppink met with Mr. Krosse and Jill Heck to discuss Chippewa Lake issues, the Save the Lake committee's resolution regarding MWCD's jurisdiction, and plans for moving forward. She stated that MCPD supports flood control efforts in the area, and she and Director Eppink strongly feel it is important to assemble all interested parties together – village representatives, Medina County Commissioners, MCPD representatives, and MWCD representatives – to discuss flood control issues and develop a plan.
- 2. Commissioner de Luna asked about management of the steel plates at the outlet. Director Eppink explained that the park district has removed the plates in November and installed the plates each April since the park district acquired the lake in 2007 though there is no written requirement or instruction for the park district to do so. This spring, the Medina County Highway Engineer Department

assisted in the process and recently reinstalled the plates, but it is the park district's responsibility for the annual removal and installation of the plates. Discussion ensued including description of the massive steel plates, the complicated procedure for removal and installation, and possible options for upgrading to a more advanced type of "gate(s)."

3. Guest Boris Slogar of MWCD stated that MWCD and the Chippewa Subdistrict are interested in helping the park district improve fields north of the lake which would, in turn, assist in slowing the flow of water and controlling farm field runoff to the lake.
4. Mr. Krosse asked Mr. Slogar why he and MWCD oppose the expansion of its jurisdiction to include the lake and outlet. Mr. Slogar replied that MWCD does not provide active lake water level management services. He isn't sure there would be much gain in trying to manipulate the water levels throughout the year. Mr. Slogar suggested that the only definite solution to the flooding issue is to purchase the involved properties and remove the structures from the flood plain.

#### **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

##### **A. Tuition & Exam Fee Reimbursement Program**

1. Chairwoman Davis offered a motion approving implementation of a tuition and exam fee reimbursement program for staff as presented. Commissioner de Luna seconded; the motion unanimously carried.
  - a. Guest Mark Krosse left the meeting at this time.

##### **B. Land Trade – MCPD and Sharon Township**

1. Chairwoman Davis offered a motion approving a land swap between MCPD and Sharon Township, contingent upon probate court approval, in which the park district will acquire 29.2 acres of land in the flood plain in exchange for 16 acres the township will use for ballfields. OPWC and the local NRAC have already approved this trade. Commissioner Neate seconded; the motion unanimously carried.

#### **IX. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

- A. Commissioner Neate stated that he appreciates the continued collaboration with agencies and individuals on the Chippewa Lake water issues. He feels this is a good process and the best way to approach the situation.
- B. Director Eppink reminded the board that the August 21 board meeting will be held at Wolf Creek Environmental Center.

#### **X. ADJOURNMENT**

- A. There being no further business for discussion, Chairwoman Davis declared the meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

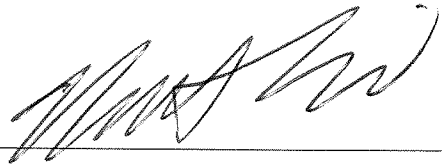
We, the undersigned, as Board of Commissioners of Medina County Park District, Medina, Ohio, do certify the above minutes are true and correct as recorded in the board of commissioners' journal, Volume 48.

  
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**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**MEDINA COUNTY PARK DISTRICT**

  
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**NATHAN D. EPPINK, DIRECTOR**

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