MINUTES OF THE

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

OF

MEDINA COUNTY PARK DISTRICT

January 20, 2021

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Chairman de Luna called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m. via Zoom Webinar Conference.

B. Roll Call

1. Roll call showed Chairman de Luna, Commissioner Davis, and Commissioner Neate present. Also in attendance were Director Eppink, Planning & Operations Manager Smith, Business Manager Chaney, and Legal Counsel Holland.

II. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

A. Resolution #21-001

1. Commissioner Davis offered a motion nominating Commissioner Neate to serve as board chair for 2021. Commissioner Neate expanded the motion to also nominate Commissioner Davis to serve as vice chair for 2021. Commissioner de Luna seconded; the motion unanimously carried.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. December 17, 2020

1. Chairman Neate offered a motion approving the minutes of the December 17, 2020 meeting as presented. Commissioner de Luna seconded; the motion unanimously carried.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A. No members of the public were present. Director Eppink reported that he had received a communication from the Ohio Horseman's Council that he was prepared to discuss under the "Director's Report" portion of the meeting.

V. FINANCIAL REPORTS

A. Cash Balance Statement

1. The December 2020 cash balance statement was presented for the board's perusal.

B. Cash Flow Statement

1. The December 2020 cash flow statement was presented for the board's review.

C. Quarterly Report #4

1. October, November, December 2020
   a. Quarterly Expense Report #4 for October, November, and December 2020 was presented to the board.

D. Quarterly Credit Card Report #4

1. October, November, December 2020
   a. Quarterly Credit Card Report #4, 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 #21-002, December 2020
      a. Chairman de Luna offered a motion approving Resolution #21-002, payment of the December 2020 vouchers, as presented. Commissioner Davis seconded; the motion unanimously carried.
      b. Discussion was held regarding the county auditor's accounting software

VI. DIRECTOR/STAFF REPORTS

A. Director's Updates
   1. COVID-19 Updates
      a. Director Eppink reported that the nature centers remain closed due to the pandemic as well as in-person business at Headquarters.
      b. Staff members are required to wear masks in common indoor spaces and when riding in vehicles with others, and no in-person group meetings should be held.
   2. Ohio Horseman's Council
      a. Director Eppink reported that, in 2020, the Ohio Horseman's Council (OHC) had asked about additional bridle trails at Allardale in addition to sending a letter proposing a partnership between OHC and the park district. A Zoom meeting was held a week ago to discuss ideas with two OHC members. Director Eppink shared the group's ideas with staff and is thinking of park district sites that may accommodate this type of use.
   3. Park Planner Bondi
      a. Director Eppink reported that congratulations are in order for Park Planner Bondi who recently passed the final exam needed to become a certified landscape architect. She is the first MCPD employee to benefit from our tuition and exam-fee reimbursement program.

B. Monthly Report
   1. December 2020
      a. Director Eppink provided the December monthly report for the board's perusal.

C. Departmental Activities
   1. December 2020
      a. Director Eppink provided the December departmental activity report for the board's review.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Ratification of 2021 Budget with Actual Cash Carryover Figures
   1. Chairman Neate offered a motion ratifying approval of the 2021 Budget as presented with final cash carryover figures. Commissioner Davis seconded; the motion unanimously carried.

B. Lease with Chippewa Yacht Club
   1. Commissioner de Luna offered a motion ratifying approval of the 20-year lease with the Chippewa Yacht Club (CYC) for continued use of a park district-owned +/-three-acre parcel of land that includes the clubhouse and other improvements suitable for use of the property as a recreational yacht club contingent upon approval by the Medina County Probate Court though the document will not be recorded with the Medina County Recorder's Office. Commissioners requested the inclusion of language clarifying each party's responsibility for gate and hazard tree maintenance. Commissioner Davis seconded; the motion unanimously carried.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Proposed 2021 Board Meeting Dates
   1. Commissioner Davis offered a motion approving the proposed 2021 board meeting dates after changing the September date to Thursday, September 17, with the February - May meetings being held via Zoom Webinar Conference and the locations of the remaining meetings to be determined at a later date. Commissioner de Luna seconded; the motion unanimously carried.

B. Contract with ODNR for H2Ohio Funding
   1. Commissioner de Luna offered a motion ratifying the H2Ohio funding agreement with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources for ODNR's payment of up to $1.52 million on behalf of the park district to benefit Chippewa Lake, including the restoration of a 118-acre parcel on the east side of the Chippewa inlet immediately south of SR 162; restoration of more than 20 acres of wetlands coupled with invasive species management and the removal of approximately 25,000 square yards of poorly maintained impervious surface on the former Chippewa Lake Amusement Park site; and the creation of an educational wetland coupled with public access and information panels describing the benefits of restoration on a 7.5-acre parcel of land along the outlet located at the confluence of Lake and Kennard roads. Chairman Neate seconded; the motion unanimously carried.

C. Design Services Contract for H2Ohio Restoration Site
   1. Chairman Neate offered a motion approving the selection of Envirotech Consultants, Inc., with fees not to exceed $49,999.99 as included in the park district's list of qualified consults for projects with design service fees under $50,000, to provide design services for the restoration of a 118-acre parcel on the east side of the Chippewa inlet immediately south of SR 162 as defined in the park district's H2Ohio's funding award agreement with ODNR. Commissioner Davis second; the motion unanimously carried.

D. Lease with the Village of Gloria Glens
   1. Commissioner Davis offered a motion authorizing the director to enter into a ten-year lease with the Village of Gloria Glens to continue to provide an approximate 1.5-acre community access area to Chippewa Lake for the benefit of the village residents, subject to approval by the Medina County Probate Court though the document will not be recorded with the Medina County Recorder's Office. Commissioner de Luna seconded; the motion unanimously carried.

E. Clean Ohio Trail Fund Application: Lake Medina Greenway

1. Chairman Neate offered a motion for approval of the following resolution.

Proposed Resolution #21-003

Lake Medina Greenway

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio, through the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, administers financial assistance for public recreation purposes through Recreational Trails Program (RTP) and/or the Clean Ohio Trails Fund (COTF) and;

WHEREAS, Medina County Park District desires financial assistance under the Recreational Trails Program and/or the Clean Ohio Trails Fund.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Medina County Park District Board of Commissioners as follows:

1. *That the board of commissioners approves filing an application for Recreational Trails Program and/or Clean Ohio Trails Fund financial assistance.*
2. *That Director Nathan D. Eppink is hereby authorized and directed to execute and file an application with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and to provide all information and documentation required to become eligible for possible funding assistance.*
3. *That the Medina County Park District Board of Commissioners does agree to obligate the funds required to satisfactorily complete the proposed project and become eligible for reimbursement under the terms and conditions of the Recreational Trails Program and/or the Clean Ohio Trail Fund program.*

Commissioner de Luna seconded; the motion unanimously carried.

F. Recreational Trails Program Application: Chippewa Inlet Trail

1. Commissioner de Luna offered a motion for approval of the following resolution.

Proposed Resolution #21-004

Chippewa Inlet Trail

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio, through the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, administers financial assistance for public recreation purposes through Recreational Trails Program (RTP) and/or the Clean Ohio Trails Fund (COTF) and;

WHEREAS, Medina County Park District desires financial assistance under the Recreational Trails Program and/or the Clean Ohio Trails Fund.

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1. *That the board of commissioners approves filing an application for Recreational Trails Program and/or Clean Ohio Trails Fund financial assistance.*
2. *That Director Nathan D. Eppink is hereby authorized and directed to execute and file an application with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and to provide all information and documentation required to become eligible for possible funding assistance.*

3. *That the Medina County Park District Board of Commissioners does agree to obligate the funds required to satisfactorily complete the proposed project and become eligible for reimbursement under the terms and conditions of the Recreational Trails Program and/or the Clean Ohio Trail Fund program.*
   Commissioner Davis seconded; the motion unanimously carried.

G. Legacy Homes Easement
   1. Commissioner de Luna offered a motion authorizing the director to enter into an easement with Legacy Homes to allow the construction of a residential crossing of the Chippewa Rail Trail for pedestrians and golf carts south of SR 162 and for the park district to build a small parking lot and connector trail on Legacy Homes' property north of SR 162 to serve trail users. The agreement is subject to approval by the Medina County Probate Court though the document will not be recorded with the Medina County Recorder's Office. Commissioner Davis seconded; the motion unanimously carried.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Chairman Neate offered a motion that the board move into executive session at 10:11 a.m. for the discussion of land acquisition and employee compensation. Commissioner Davis seconded; the motion unanimously carried.
   1. The public portion of the Zoom meeting ended at this time. A second public Zoom session was scheduled at the conclusion of the executive session discussions.

B. Chairman de Luna, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner Neate, Director Eppink, Planning & Operations Manager Smith, Legal Counsel Holland, and Business Manager Chaney were present as the second public Zoom session began at 10:49 a.m.
   1. Commissioner Davis offered a motion that the board move into regular session. Commissioner de Luna seconded; the motion unanimously carried.

C. Commissioner de Luna offered a motion authorizing the director to purchase approximately 1.39 acres of land in Lafayette Township for $30,000 from park district fund 3403-7800-50790 with closing costs to be split between buyer and seller. Chairman Neate seconded; the motion unanimously carried.

X. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

A. Chairman Neate commented that a great board package was presented containing a lot of information regarding many exciting opportunities for the park district.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

A. There being no further business for discussion, Chairman Neate declared the meeting adjourned at 10:50 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 49.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MEDINA COUNTY PARK DISTRICT

NATHAN D. EPPINK, DIRECTOR

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