# MINUTES OF THE

# BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

# OF

# MEDINA COUNTY PARK DISTRICT

## January 18, 2023

## I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Chairwoman Davis called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m. at Medina County Park District Headquarters, 6364 Deerview Lane, Medina, Ohio.

B. Roll Call

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

## II. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

A. Resolution #23-001

1. Chairwoman Davis offered a motion nominating Commissioner de Luna to serve as board chair for 2023 and Commissioner Neate to serve as vice chair for 2023. Commissioner Neate seconded; the motion unanimously carried.

## III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. December 14, 2022

1. Commissioner Davis offered a motion approving the minutes of the December 14, 2022 meeting as presented. Commissioner Neate seconded; the motion unanimously carried.

## IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A. No members of the public were present. Director Eppink presented an email he had received prior to the board meeting from Chippewa Lake resident Scott Mahring proposing that the village of Chippewa Lake donate Reece's Pond to the park district so the park district could dredge, haul material, increase flow, and maintain the pond to resolve the neighbors' flooding issues.

1. It was determined that there is no benefit to the park district to do so as the pond isn't a feature that all county residents could enjoy. Such endeavor would only benefit a few neighbors living nearby. The park district would be happy to offer its expertise to assist should the village choose to address Reece's Pond.
2. Director Eppink will respond accordingly to Mr. Mahring.

## V. FINANCIAL REPORTS

A. Cash Balance Statement

1. The December 2022 cash balance statement was presented for the board's perusal.

B. Cash Flow Statement

1. The December 2022 cash flow statement was presented for the board's review.

C. Quarterly Expense Report #4
   1. October, November, December 2022
      a. Quarterly Expense Report #4 for October, November, and December 2022 was presented to the board.

D. Quarterly Credit Card Report #4
   1. October, November, December 2022
      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 #23-002, November 2022 Revised Vouchers and Resolution #23-003, December 2022 Vouchers
      a. Chairman de Luna offered a motion approving Resolution #23-002 and #23-003, payment of the November and December 2022 vouchers, as presented. Commissioner Davis seconded; the motion unanimously carried.

## VI. DIRECTOR/STAFF REPORTS

A. Director's Updates
   1. OPRA Conference
      a. Director Eppink reminded the board of the OPRA awards dinner on Tuesday, January 31 at 6:30 p.m. at Kalahari. The park district won first place in the Health & Wellness Programs category for the Feeding Medina County collaboration at Hidden Hollow Camp.
   2. Student Mentors
      a. Director Eppink reported that the natural resource staff has spent time with two students individually–a high-school senior and a college freshman–to answer questions about careers in the natural resources field.
   3. Friends of Medina County Parks
      a. Director Eppink reported that he recently received notice of a pending gift from the estate of Mary Gienke that may be significant. There is no known relationship between Friends/MCPD and Ms. Gienke.
      b. Director Eppink reported that Dedee O'Neil, who donated the Rivendell property last year, is working with Development Coordinator Peacock to arrange a "friendraiser" at her home the afternoon of Sunday, May 7.
         1. Development Coordinator Peacock reported that the time of the event has yet to be determined; however, strategic invitations will be mailed as the "friendraiser" will be the kickoff of the FOTP capital fundraising campaign as well as an opportunity to share excitement in what is up and coming in the park district.
   4. Project Updates
      a. Planning and Operations Manager Smith reported that the abutments for the covered bridge at Granger Wetlands are being poured, the contractor is getting ready to put down seed and plant trees at Litchfield Wetlands, and that he received three RFQ statements for review in the selection process for the design build team for the Chippewa Lake H2Ohio project.

B. Monthly Report
   1. December 2022
      a. Director Eppink provided the December monthly report for the board's perusal.

C. Departmental Activities
   1. December 2022
      a. Director Eppink provided the December departmental activity report for the board's review.
      b. Chairman de Luna asked the director about a meeting he has scheduled with Lodi Mayor Rob Geissman. Director Eppink reported that he is meeting with Mayor Geissman at park headquarters on January 25 to discuss partnering with the village on a Clean Ohio project in exchange for a conservation easement on a portion of Lodi's Community Park.
      c. Director Eppink reported of a resident interested in making a $150,000 donation for a shelter at Chippewa Lake in exchange for family naming rights. Commissioner Neate suggested establishing written guidelines specifying naming rights for underwriting the cost of amenities such as shelters, structures, trails, etc. He said we should clearly spell out the guidelines allowing flexibility but removing expectations.

## VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. No Old Business was presented for discussion.

## VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Amendment (Extension) to Parking License with Cleveland Clinic
   1. Chairman de Luna offered a motion authorizing the director to execute an amendment with the Cleveland Clinic for a five-year extension of the lease for use of ten parking spaces for Brunswick Lake Park. Commissioner Neate seconded; the motion unanimously carried.

B. Parking License with County Commissioners
   1. Commissioner Neate offered a motion authorizing the director to execute an agreement with the Medina County Commissioners for use of the county-owned parking lot at the corner of SR18 and Foote Road for guests of the Brown-Trump Homestead. Commissioner Davis seconded; the motion unanimously carried.
   2. Commissioner Neate suggested releasing information regarding Fechko/ODOT using a portion of the Brown-Trump Homestead tree lawn for equipment staging during the SR18 construction project in exchange for restoration and improvement to the property with sidewalks, etc., when the construction project is completed.

C. 2023 Budget
   1. Commissioner Davis offered a motion ratifying the 2023 Budget as presented with cash carryover balances and formula corrections as needed. Chairman de Luna seconded; the motion unanimously carried.

## IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Chairman de Luna offered a motion that the board move into executive session for the discussion of land acquisition. Commissioner Davis seconded; the motion unanimously carried.

B. Chairman de Luna offered a motion that the board move into regular session. Commissioner Davis seconded; the motion unanimously carried.

C. Commissioner Neate offered a motion authorizing the director to purchase approximately 41.5 acres in Sharon Township for $175,000 from fund 3403-7800-50790. Closing costs shall be split between buyer and seller. The park district will pay for a property survey and extend to the seller an easement for an existing encroachment. The easement shall be contingent upon probate court approval. Chairman de Luna seconded; the motion unanimously carried.

## X. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

A. Commissioner Davis commented that she had a client in town with a special needs child. The client commended the park district on the all-inclusive playground at C.L. Mugrage Park.

B. Commissioner Neate thanked the director for participating in the TV interview regarding the partnerships formed for use of the Brown-Trump Homestead.

C. Commissioner Neate commented that the staff holiday party was great. He appreciated the invitation and the opportunity to get together with park staff.

D. Commissioner Neate asked the director about the meeting he had with the Chippewa Lake Ski Team regarding dock management. Director Eppink said the group is interested but isn't yet organized enough for such an undertaking in time for this season.

1. It was suggested that we operate the program as we have in the past for the upcoming boating season and then, perhaps, restrict slips and conduct a lottery.
2. Chairman de Luna suggested coming to the board next month with the changes, rules, and/or guidelines that would make in-house management of the dock program feasible.
    a. Commissioners Davis and Neate both suggested making necessary changes to the docking program for the upcoming season, if possible. Such changes may include restricting the number of slips per dock structure, submitting written permission from the landowner if shoreline isn't owned, only residents may dock overnight, and there will be no renting of dock space for financial gain from a public amenity.
        1. Legal Counsel Holland was asked to research the necessary public process so the park district's guidelines will be enforceable.

E. Commissioner Neate asked the director to contact an individual who posted comments about the park district and Holmesbrook Park on LinkedIn. The director will request to connect with the individual to address the comment.

## XI. ADJOURNMENT

A. There being no further business for discussion, Chairman de Luna declared the meeting adjourned at 10:23 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 52.

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

**NATHAN D. EPPINK, DIRECTOR**

pbc