MINUTES OF THE

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

OF

MEDINA COUNTY PARK DISTRICT

June 19, 2019

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Chairwoman Davis called the meeting to order at 8:32 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 John Sandora of the Save the Lake committee; Bill Thombs, Bud Hardesty, and Keith Riedel of Chippewa Lake village; Alan Robbins of Chippewa Lake Village Council; and Jill Heck of Medina/Chippewa Lake.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. May 15, 2019

B. June 10, 2019

1. Commissioner de Luna offered a motion approving the minutes of the May 15, and June 10, 2019 meetings as presented. Commissioner Neate seconded; the motion unanimously carried.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A. Guest John Sandora of the Save the Lake committee requested that, due to heavy flooding and road closures in the Chippewa Lake area, the board reconsider its position regarding the Save the Lake committee's resolution requesting that Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District (MWCD) annex the Chippewa Lake outlet into its jurisdiction.

1. Background Notes:
   a. As previously stated at the park board's January 17, 2019 meeting, it is Legal Counsel Holland's opinion that said resolution, as presented by the Save the Lake committee, suggests that the park district will begin legal action requesting MWCD to expand its jurisdictional boundaries.
   b. Director Eppink had, at the January meeting, reminded those in attendance that Boris Slogar of MWCD had stated at the park board's November 14, 2018 meeting that MWCD has no interest in expanding its jurisdiction. At that time, Director Eppink stated the park district would like to work with MWCD's Chippewa Subdistrict to improve the quality of water flowing into Chippewa Lake from the inlet channel north to Buckeye Woods Park.

B. Guest Bill Thombs of Chippewa Lake asked the park board to reconsider its position regarding the Save the Lake committee's resolution requesting MWCD to expand its jurisdiction. He also suggested that representatives of multiple communities and multiple agencies such as the park district, the county commissioners' office, the county engineer's office, MWCD, Westfield and Lafayette townships, and the village of Chippewa Lake should convene with open minds to discuss solutions to the flooding issues.
    1. Director Eppink is open to a group approach as the park district, on its own, cannot resolve this problem. He reminded those in attendance that the park district must also invest its time and resources in the remainder of Medina County as well.
    2. Director Eppink reported that he plans to attend the Medina County Commissioners' July 9 meeting to share the park district's position on the Save the Lake resolution and his intention to further work with MWCD to construct additional wetlands, etc., to slow the speed and improve the quality of the water entering the lake.
    3. Director Eppink stated that the park district is not "anti-anything" and is not against a multi-community and multi-agency collaboration.

C. Guest Alan Robbins of Chippewa Lake stated that he understands the interrelationships with MWCD and the Army Corps of Engineers; however, he feels that if MWCD won't participate, there is no reason to continue discussing resolutions to the problem.

D. Guest Bud Hardesty commented that the water is putrid, the algal bloom smells like rot, and the lake is a turbulent mud pile. He appreciates the park district's efforts to improve the water quality.

E. Guest Keith Riedel of Chippewa Lake thanked the park district for all it has done to improve the lake. He acknowledged that neither the park district nor the village can find resolution on its own. He feels these groups and MWCD must work together for improvement. MWCD should be asked how it can help alleviate the problem north of the lake so the water can be mitigated as it heads south.

F. Guest Jill Heck of Medina/Chippewa Lake thanked the board members for their service and stated she is encouraged by the idea of various entities sitting together to focus on solutions to overall water management and flood control. She also requested that the board modify its position regarding the Save the Lake committee's resolution for MWCD.

G. Chairwoman Davis thanked the guests for their participation and said the park board will discuss how to best help all Medina County residents.

H. Director Eppink stated these are big issues that can be overwhelming. He reminded the group that Mr. Slogar of MWCD said that simply expanding MWCD's jurisdiction will not resolve flooding as this is a bigger issue. Director Eppink suggested the need for better stormwater management in the Chippewa Lake area and that every entity needs to be thinking of smart development including land preservation and restoration along the Chippewa Inlet in addition to buffering between lands and waterways.

I. Chairwoman Davis, again, thanked the guests for attending and stated that the park board needed to move on to the rest of its business.
   1. Guests John Sandora, Bill Thombs, Bud Hardesty, Keith Riedel, Alan Robbins, and Jill Heck left the meeting at this time.

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Chairwoman Davis offered a motion that the board move into executive session for the discussion of land acquisition and pending imminent court action. Commissioner de Luna seconded; the motion unanimously carried. The director, board, and legal counsel moved to the conference room to conduct the executive session discussion.
   1. Commissioner Neate excused himself from the executive session discussion and left the meeting at 10:24 a.m. due to another obligation.

B. Following executive session discussion, the director, legal counsel, and Commissioners Davis and de Luna 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.

V. FINANCIAL REPORTS

A. Cash Balance Statement
   1. The May 2019 cash balance statement was presented for the board's perusal.

B. Cash Flow Statement
   1. The May 2019 cash flow statement was presented for the board's review.

C. Approval of Vouchers
   1. Resolution #19-011, May 2019
      a. Chairwoman Davis offered a motion approving Resolution #19-011, payment of the May 2019 vouchers, as presented. Commissioner de Luna seconded; the motion unanimously carried.

D. Cash Transfer
   1. Resolution #19-012
      a. Chairwoman Davis offered a motion approving Resolution #19-012 as presented to complete the first half of budgeted transfers from the general fund to various capital accounts. Commissioner de Luna seconded; the motion unanimously carried.

VI. DIRECTOR/STAFF REPORTS

A. Director's Report
   1. Monthly Report
      a. Director Eppink provided the May 2019 monthly report for the board's perusal.
   2. Director Eppink shared Ravago's revised location for placement of the guy wire on Headwaters Nature Preserve property. The board had authorized the director to execute an easement for this purpose at the last meeting.
   3. Director Eppink shared a slide of the revised tree logo containing a few hidden park district shapes with the board.

4. Director Eppink shared highlights of a recent poll of county residents that contained four questions related to the park district. Based on replies, 76.9 percent of the 565 county residents polled have visited a county park within the last year, and Buckeye Woods Park is the site most visited. Overall, 92 percent of those surveyed have a favorable or somewhat favorable opinion of the park district. The complete survey results will be shared with the board soon.
5. Director Eppink reported that a recent grant application he submitted to the state's Clean Ohio program scored the highest of three applications. The park district will be awarded $328,219 toward land acquisition for the proposed Chippewa Rail Trail–Lafayette Woods Extension project.
6. Director Eppink invited the board to join various staff members for a voluntary "off-the-clock" field trip to begin site planning of the Rita Hold Nature Preserve.
7. Director Eppink reported that the park district is waiting to receive permits before beginning the headquarters entryway renovation project.
8. Chairwoman Davis authorized the director's vacation request for June 20 and 21, 2019.

B. Departmental Activities
   1. Director Eppink provided the May 2019 Departmental Activity Report for the board's review.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. No Old Business was presented for discussion.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Asphalt Paving
   1. Buckeye Woods and Letha House
      a. Chairwoman Davis offered a motion to accept Perrin Asphalt's quote to pave the black and red trails at Buckeye Woods Park for $29,700 and Carron Asphalt's quotes to pave Letha House Park West's blue trail and the Letha House East parking lot entrance for $41,676. Funds for these projects will come from 3402-7800-0580. Commissioner de Luna seconded; the motion unanimously carried.

IX. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

A. Commissioner de Luna shared that over the past month, he has had a few positive interactions with various rangers in the parks. He feels the ranger department is providing a nice presence in the parks.

X. ADJOURNMENT

A. There being no further business for discussion, Chairwoman Davis declared the meeting adjourned at 10:49 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.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MEDINA COUNTY PARK DISTRICT

NATHAN D. EPPINK, DIRECTOR

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