MINUTES OF THE

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

OF

MEDINA COUNTY PARK DISTRICT

May 19, 2021

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Chairman Neate called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. via Zoom Webinar Conference.

B. Roll Call

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

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. April 21, 2021

B. April 30, 2021

1. Commissioner de Luna offered a motion approving the minutes of the April 21 and April 30, 2021 meetings as presented. Commissioner Davis seconded; the motion unanimously carried.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A. No members of the public were present, and Director Eppink did not receive comments from the public via email prior to the meeting.

IV. FINANCIAL REPORTS

A. Cash Balance Statement

1. The April 2021 cash balance statement was presented for the board's perusal.

B. Cash Flow Statement

1. April 2021 cash flow statement was presented for the board's review.

C. Approval of Vouchers

1. Resolution #21-011, April 2021

a. Chairman Neate offered a motion approving Resolution #21-011, payment of the April 2021 vouchers, as presented. Commissioner Davis seconded; the motion unanimously carried.

V. DIRECTOR/STAFF REPORTS

A. Director's Updates

1. Director Eppink provided COVID-19 updates to the board.

a. Effective May 19, mask-wearing will be optional at Medina County Park District as a great majority of staff is vaccinated.

b. Drinking fountains will remain closed through June 30.

c. Headquarters will remain closed to in-person business through July 5. Normal operations will resume the following day.

d. Wolf Creek Environmental Center will be closed through July 5. Normal operations will resume the following day.
f. Susan Hambley Nature Center will only be open Saturdays and Sundays beginning July 10 and 11.
g. Through July, all renters of enclosed facilities are required to pay for cleaning and disinfecting through Mark's Cleaning.
h. Re-opening activities are being phased in to remain consistent with plans made during the last few months in an effort to not overwhelm staff.

2. New Name: Wolf Creek Environmental Center
   a. When it reopens, Wolf Creek Environmental Center will be known as Oenslager Nature Center. The area name will be Alderfer-Chatfield Wildlife Sanctuary. This is keeping in line with the donation agreement signed by Ruth Oenslager.
3. Improvements Throughout the District
   a. A number of new entrance signs have been installed.
   b. A new vault restroom has been installed at Bluebell Valley in Black River Nature Preserve.
   c. A new playground has been ordered to replace the 25-year old unit at Hubbard Valley Park. Installation should occur within the next few days.
   d. Within the last few weeks, the natural resource staff planted ~5,500 trees district-wide.
4. Euclid Avenue/Main Drive Update
   a. The county has until March 2023 to complete the federally funded grant work.
   b. A committee consisting of park district, county engineer, etc., will be formed to manage the project.
5. Friends of the Parks
   a. Thanks to work by Marketing Coordinator Teubl, Friends of the Parks is now able to accept online donations and new memberships/renewals.

B. Monthly Report
   1. April 2021
      a. Director Eppink provided the April monthly report for the board's perusal.
C. Departmental Activities
   1. April 2021
      a. Director Eppink provided the April departmental activity report for the board's review.
         1. Chairman Neate asked Planning & Operations Manager Smith about the H2Ohio project meeting held for the Phase 1 Wetland Restoration work being done on the former Vaughn property located adjacent to the Chippewa Inlet Trail.
            a. Planning & Operations Manager Smith provided additional information about the project. He shared that Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District is assisting in coordination of the necessary permits and is providing as-built drawings.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. No Old Business was presented for discussion.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Lease with Cuyahoga Astronomical Association
   1. Commissioner Davis offered a motion authorizing the director to enter into a new ten-year lease with Cuyahoga Astronomical Association contingent upon approval by the Medina County Probate Court. The lease will not be recorded with the Medina County Recorder's Office, and the final executed agreement will be presented to the commissioners for ratification at an upcoming meeting. Chairman Neate seconded; the motion unanimously carried.

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Chairman Neate offered a motion that the board move into executive session at 9:06 a.m. for the discussion of land acquisition. 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 for 10 a.m. after the executive session discussion.

B. Following the land acquisition discussion, Chairman Neate offered a motion that the board move into public session at 10 a.m.
   1. Chairman Neate, Commissioner de Luna, Commissioner Davis, Director Eppink, Planning & Operations Manager Smith, Legal Counsel Holland, and Business Manager Chaney were present as the second public Zoom session began.

IX. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

A. Chairman Neate asked about holding future meetings in person. It was decided that the June 16 meeting will be held in-person at park district headquarters at 8:30 a.m.

B. Chairman Neate commented that he has been receiving great feedback from the public on the new park signs and park maps. He offered his thanks to everyone for their hard work.

X. ADJOURNMENT

A. There being no further business for discussion, Chairman Neate declared the meeting adjourned at 10:06 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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