MINUTES OF THE

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

OF

MEDINA COUNTY PARK DISTRICT

September 16, 2026

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Chairwoman Davis called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. at Oenslager Nature Center, 6100 Ridge Road, Sharon Township, Ohio.

B. Roll Call

1. Roll call showed Chairwoman Davis, Commissioner Neate, and Commissioner Venner present. Also in attendance were Director Eppink, Planning Manager Smith, Project Coordinator Nekich, Park Planner Kleshinski, Legal Counsel Holland, and Business Manager Chaney. Guests included Friends of Vulture's Knob members Stefan Garcia and John Schafroth.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. August 19, 2026

1. Commissioner Venner offered a motion approving the minutes of the August 19, 2026 meeting as presented. Commissioner Neate seconded; the motion unanimously carried.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A. Director Eppink reported that he did not receive comments for the board from the public prior to the meeting.

1. Presentation
   a. Friends of Vulture's Knob
      1. Director Eppink introduced Stefan Garcia and John Schafroth of Friends of Vulture's Knob. He explained that the group is in the predicament of losing the site it has called home to its mountain bike group for the past 32 years. Discussions have taken place about the possibility of the Friends of Vulture's Knob partnering with the park district to utilize a portion of Killbuck Lakes as its new mountain bike facility.
         a. Mountain bike enthusiast Todd Davis arrived at this time.
      2. Mr. Garcia presented historic information about the group and its current following of over 3,000 riders each year representing more than half of the United States and overseas.
         a. Carrie Hoover of Friends of Vulture's Knob arrived at this time.
      3. Continued discussion took place among the park board, park staff, and group members regarding the partnership opportunity, construction of riding trails/length of trails, long-term use of the site, revenue and financial contributions, etc.

4. Legal Counsel Holland will draft a ten-year lease agreement between the park district and Friends of Vulture's Knob for future board consideration regarding the group's use of Killbuck Lakes, contingent upon probate court approval.
    a. Mr. Garcia, Mr. Schafroth, and Mr. Davis, Park Planner Kleshinski, and Project Coordinator Nekich left the meeting at the conclusion of the discussion.

IV. FINANCIAL REPORTS

A. Cash Balance Statement
    1. The August 2026 cash balance statement was presented for the board's perusal.
B. Cash Flow Statement
    1. The revised August 2026 cash flow statement was presented for the board's review.
C. Approval of Vouchers
    1. Resolution #26-011, August 2026
        a. Chairwoman Davis offered a motion approving Resolution #26-011, payment of the August 2026 vouchers, with correction to the Holmesbrook Park project abbreviations as discussed. Commissioner Venner seconded; the motion unanimously carried.

V. DIRECTOR/STAFF REPORTS

A. Staff Updates
    1. Director Eppink
        a. Project Slides
            1. The director presented slides of the accessible kayak launch at Lake Medina, paving at the Lake Medina Greenway, security lighting at headquarters, and updates to the Lodi Woods project. He reminded the board of the sneak-peek event on 10/15 and the ribbon cutting on 11/12.
        b. AEDs
            1. Beginning in 2027, the park district is requiring organized youth sports teams and leagues to sign an agreement that requires them to have an AED on site during athletic events and a trained user present. Legal Counsel Holland has drafted an agreement for the park district that will accompany the reservation form the teams already need to complete.
        c. Paddlecraft RFP for Brunswick Lake
            1. A partnership idea for the rental of paddlecraft at Brunswick Lake is in the works and will be presented to the board at a later date.
        d. Fall Field Trips
            1. Director Eppink reminded the board that planned fall field trips to various park sites in the Lodi area are taking place this week and next.
    2. Planning Manager Smith
        a. BLP Restroom
            1. Planning staff just received word that Brunswick City Council has granted preliminary approval of construction plans for the flush restroom at Brunswick Lake Park.

b. WCG Construction
1. Soft construction of the Wolf Creek Greenway has begun on the east side of Ridge Road. All permitting agencies have offered the park district approval in advance of receipt of the permit documents. Actual trail construction will begin once all permit copies are received and on file.

3. Natural Resources Manager Morton
a. Chippewa Lake
1. Chippewa Lake has been algal-bloom free so far this summer. Eight tested water samples have all returned with results around "level one" (level eight indicates toxicity).
2. The park district had also contracted with Aqua Doc for three treatments of vegetation around the docks at Chippewa Lake in 2026. The park district contributed $2,500 toward the cost of this, which was $10,000. The communities paid the balance. Overall, the lake looks great this year.

B. Monthly Report
1. August 2026
a. Director Eppink provided the August monthly report for the board's perusal.

C. Departmental Activities
1. August 2026
a. Director Eppink provided the August departmental activity report for the board's review.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. There was no Unfinished Business presented for discussion.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Website Privacy Policy
1. Commissioner Neate offered a motion approving the website privacy policy as submitted by Proximity Marketing and updated by Legal Counsel Holland for inclusion on medinacountyparks.com and chippewalakeohio.com as soon as practicable. Commissioner Venner seconded; the motion unanimously carried.

B. Request for Qualifications (RFQ) 2026 – Approval of the 2026-2027 List of Qualified Professional Design Firms for Projects with Design Fees Less Than $50,000
1. Commissioner Neate offered a motion approving the adoption of the list of qualified professional design firms for projects with design fees less than $50,000 as presented, effective through September 30, 2027. Commissioner Venner seconded; the motion unanimously carried.

C. Advertisement of Design-Build Services for Brunswick Lake Restroom
1. Chairwoman Davis offered a motion authorizing the park district to advertise a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Design-Build services for the Brunswick Lake Restroom Project and to initiate the selection process as required by Ohio Revised code, with a recommendation for selection of the top-ranked firm being presented at a later meeting. Commissioner Venner seconded; the motion unanimously carried.

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Chairwoman Davis offered a motion that the board move into executive session to consider the purchase of property for public purposes as described in O.R.C. 121.22(G)(2); for the purpose of considering the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official; and for the discussion of pending litigation. Commissioner Venner seconded; the motion unanimously carried.
   1. Guest Carrie Hoover left the meeting at this time.

B. Commissioner Venner offered a motion authorizing Legal Counsel Holland to file a claim as a result of the faulty design of failed drainage construction that was part of the H2Ohio Vaughn project at the Chippewa Inlet Trail. Commissioner Neate seconded; the motion unanimously carried.
   1. Planning Manager Smith left the meeting at this time.

C. Chairwoman Davis offered a motion that the board move into regular session. Commissioner Neate seconded; the motion unanimously carried.

D. Commissioner Neate offered a motion authorizing the director to accept a donation of approximately 16.5 acres of land in Medina Township contingent upon probate court approval. The park district will pay closing costs from fund 3403-7800-50790. Commissioner Venner seconded; the motion unanimously carried.

IX. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

A. No comments were offered.

X. ADJOURNMENT

A. There being no further business for discussion, Chairwoman Davis declared the meeting adjourned at 11:16 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 55.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MEDINA COUNTY PARK DISTRICT

NATHAN D. EPPINK, DIRECTOR

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