

**WOOD COUNTY PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS MINUTES REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 13, 2021**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Sandy Wiechman at 4:00 p.m. at the Hankison Great Room at the W.W. Knight Nature Preserve, 29530 White Road, Perrysburg, Ohio.

2. ROLL CALL

Sandy Wiechman, present
Kim Rose, absent
Dennis Parish, present
Tom Myers, present
Bill Cameron, present

Staff present: Neil Munger, Todd Nofzinger, Eric Shiffler

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Wiechman stated the minutes of the March 9, 2021 meeting were distributed to the board in advance of the meeting and asked if there were any additions or corrections. Mr. Parish moved approval of the March 9, 2021 meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Cameron seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Ms. Wiechman had nothing to report.

5. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Munger reported that over the past few years, there has been issues with the water well at the Carter Historic Farm and after investigation it was recommended to drill a new well. Mr. Munger stated that maintenance specialist, Scott Stoudinger, requested quotes from three well drilling companies. Mr. Munger reported that Williams Well Drilling out of Ottawa Lake Michigan submitted a quote of \$5,700 and Able Well Drilling out of Bowling Green submitted a quote of \$4,850. Mr. Munger noted that the third company contacted to submit a quote, Holman Drilling out of Risingsun, did not submit a quote. Mr. Munger noted that in each quote the companies quoted drilling a 100-foot deep well, adding that should they need to go deeper it would increase the cost in which case we would use a change order to account for any overage. Mr. Munger presented resolution 21-007 authorizing entering into agreement with Able Well Drilling for the drilling of a well and installation of associated equipment for the amount of \$4,850. Mr. Cameron moved approval of resolution 21-007, Mr. Myers seconded. Mr. Parish questioned if the exact location of the well has been determined. Mr. Munger stated that operations personnel have marked a location on site and that he is completing the paperwork for the health department permit for the well. A roll call vote was conducted, all in favor, motion carried.

Mr. Munger reported that included in the 2021 Equipment Budget is replacement of one of our Grasshopper riding mowers per the operations department equipment replacement schedule. Mr. Munger stated that the mower is a commercial grade mower that is diesel powered with a 61-inch mowing deck. Mr. Munger stated that the operations department has used Grasshopper mowers for quite some time now and found them to be high quality, reliable mowers at a good price and wish to continue to use them. Mr. Munger stated that Operations Manager, Rob Brian, has contacted three local dealers requesting quotes and to date has received two quotes. Mr. Munger stated that the low quote was submitted by A.J. Boellner, Inc. out of Maumee for \$13,975. The second quote was from Redline Equipment out of Portage for \$16,041.15. Mr. Munger presented resolution 21-008 authorizing the purchase of a Grasshopper model 725DT6 mower from A.J. Boellner, Inc. for the amount of \$13,975. Mr. Myers moved approval of resolution 21-008, Mr. Parish seconded. Mr. Parish questioned if the two companies were quoting the same equipment given the difference of over \$2,000. Mr. Munger responded that Mr. Brian gave all companies the same specification on the mower to be quoted and both quoted the specified mower. Mr. Munger added that A.J. Boellner quoted the mower utilizing a government purchasing program but wasn't sure if Redline Equipment did which could account for the discrepancy in the quotes. A roll call vote was conducted, all in favor, motion carried.

Mr. Munger reported that back in 2016 when we moved the Zimmerman School from its original location at the intersection of Nelson and Carter Roads to the Carter Historic Farm, staff planned for the eventuality of the need for electric at the school. Mr. Munger noted that over the past few years, we've had issues with moisture under the school that has necessitated the need to put a sump pump in the crawl under the school to avoid damage which will require electric to power the sump. Without the sump we run the risk of damage to the school as well as the potential formation of mold making the structure unhealthy for the school kids that visit the school. Mr. Munger stated that he and Mr. Baney have been working with a consultant to run electrical service out to the school but have recently had two things arise that effect the project. When the consultant contacted Toledo Edison to get information on the service, Edison officials indicated that the service would have to be installed overhead as opposed to underground. In addition, the cost indicated by Toledo Edison was significantly higher than estimated. Mr. Munger stated that as a result they are working with the consultant to explore other options to provide electrical service to the school and hope to have a proposal for board consideration at the May meeting.

Mr. Munger reported that the existing entrance drive at the Reuthinger Memorial Preserve is located approximately 150-feet south of the Caple Boulevard intersection. The proximity of our drive to the intersection often makes it difficult and dangerous for park visitors and our staff to exit the preserve, particularly if they are trailering equipment. Mr. Munger stated that he has been working with Poggemeyer Design Group on engineering for relocating the entry drive at the Reuthinger Memorial Preserve to line up with Cable Boulevard, which is a signalized intersection. Mr. Munger noted that this project includes the installation of a traffic signal at the entrance as well as an entry drive that will connect with the existing infrastructure at the preserve. Mr. Munger added that the work

Poggemeyer is doing includes the design of a new visitor parking lot that will serve future attractions at the preserve including the borrow pit that is presently under construction and planned trails through the wetland that was recently constructed on the east end of the property. Mr. Munger noted that in speaking with the engineer at Poggemeyer that is working on the project, he anticipates having final drawings completed soon with a tentative bidding and construction schedule. Mr. Munger noted that he hopes to have these details for the May board meeting. Mr. Munger noted that this project will be funded in large part utilizing Park District Roadway Improvement Funds through the Ohio Department of Transportation.

Mr. Munger reported that while guidelines were established opening the rental halls at Otsego Park and the W.W. Knight Preserve the same has not been done for the rental picnic shelters at Harrison Park and the Cedar Creeks Preserve. . Munger stated that he has had discussions with staff regarding these facilities and the general thinking is that as these are for the most part open air shelters, they can be opened with ½ capacity by removing tables, requiring masks to be worn by anyone in the shelter and social distancing required by everyone in attendance. Mr. Munger added that the shelter at the Bradner Preserve is a little different as it has smaller windows and no ventilation system making it less conducive to rentals at this time. Mr. Munger noted that we are rapidly approaching the busy summer season and there have been a lot of phone calls inquiring about the shelter rentals. Mr. Myers stated that he believes it makes sense to open the outdoor facilities with the restrictions noted to allow for public use of the shelters in a safe manner. Ms. Wiechman agreed that opening with half capacity and masking required makes sense. Mr. Munger noted that staff have physically examined the shelters and have determined that picnic tables can be arranged with social distancing to allow for half capacity. Mr. Parish moved to reopen the rental shelters at William Henry Harrison Park and Cedar Creeks Preserve, utilizing the recommended guidelines of half capacity and masking requirements, Mr. Cameron seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

6. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Ms. Wiechman stated departmental reports were distributed to the board in advance of the meeting for review and asked if there were any questions. Mr. Parish requested that a letter of commendation be presented to Kristin Long and placed in her personnel file, expressing the appreciation of the Board for all her work keeping up with the COVID paperwork on behalf of the Park District. Mr. Parish noted that Ms. Long did an outstanding job on all the reporting paperwork and kept up on all her routine responsibilities without incident and believes this dedication needs to be recognized.

7. APPROVAL OF PAYABLES

Ms. Wiechman stated payables for the month of March were distributed to the board in advance of the meeting for review. Mr. Cameron moved approval of the payables for the month of March, Mr. Myers seconded. A roll call vote was conducted, all in favor, motion carried.

8. OLD BUSINESS

Nothing at this time.

9. NEW BUSINESS

Nothing at this time.

10. FRIENDS OF THE WOOD COUNTY PARKS

No members were in attendance.

11. HEARING OF VISITORS

Ms. Molly Strader, a resident who lives in the vicinity of the Buttonwood-Betty C. Black Recreation Area was in attendance and raised issues in regards to the park. Ms. Strader noted that she walks down around Buttonwood often and has talked to other community members and has heard a lot of people wondering what is happening at Buttonwood and what the plans are for the area in the future. Mr. Munger explained that with the ice flow in 2019 the park received extensive damage. Mr. Munger added that the most concerning part of the damage was the fact that the costliest damage occurred in the same areas both times, resulting in expensive reconstruction of the parking lot and driveway. Mr. Parish stated that the Board continues to be concerned about investing money in the Buttonwood project knowing that what has happened previously can easily happen again. Mr. Munger stated that caused staff to take a long hard look at what we do at the park. Mr. Munger stated that the Park District contracted with landscape architecture and planners, EDGE, to assist in developing a plan that would better suit the site and avoid further issues. Mr. Munger stated that after thoughtful planning it was determined that the best course of action was to move the drive and parking lot as well as the campground to the southern end of the property. Mr. Munger noted that with each of the ice flows this area received debris from the flooding but did not sustain the heavy damage that was seen in the northern portion of the property where the drive and parking lot was previously located. Mr. Munger stated that following that planning the adjacent property owner made modifications to his property, creating an earthen berm to deflect future ice flows and flood waters to keep it off his property. The consultants at EDGE were concerned that these modifications may create a different dynamic with damaging water currents shifting. Mr. Munger stated that we are presently waiting for hydrologic studies that will better predict the effects of the potential flood waters before spending the money on reconstructing the drive, parking lot and campground. Mr. Parish stated that he would prefer to not put any sort of timeframe on when work will be completed but rather have EDGE present the plan to the Board to show what can be done for improvements without a large investment. Mr. Parish added that a drone could be brought in to film the entire area so the Board can see the whole park and get a better picture of the previous damage as well as the planned improvement. Mr. Munger stated that he would work with EDGE to have a presentation sometime this summer. Mr. Munger added that nothing is budgeted in 2021 for work on the site and any work would not come until 2022 at the earliest. Ms. Strader stated that she is happy to hear that there are plans in the works and stated that should the Park District be looking for assistance in cleanup of the property she feels confident that she knows several neighboring residents who would be happy to volunteer and assist. Mr. Munger responded that once we are at

the point where we have definite development plans the Park District would then announce plans for a cleanup and request volunteers. Mr. Munger added that he would definitely keep Ms. Strader informed when the time came.

12. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Nothing at this time.

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Parish moved adjournment, Mr. Myers seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 4:31p.m.



Sandra Wiechman, Chair



Neil Munger, Director

Wood County Park District, 18729 Mercer Road, Bowling Green, OH 43402