

**Wood County Park District
Board of Park Commissioner's Minutes Regular Meeting
07/13/2023**

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Tom Myers at 4:30 p.m. at Wood County Park District Headquarters, 18729 Mercer Road, Bowling Green, OH. 43402.

2. Roll Call

Tom Myers, present
Sandy Wiechman, present
Bill Cameron, absent
Wendy Headley, present
Rebecca Ferguson, absent

Staff present: Andrew Kalmar, Jim Witter, Chris Smalley

Members of the Press: David Dupont – B.G. Independent News, Jane Maiolo – Perrysburg Messenger, Clint Corpe – BGSU Morning Show, Debbie Rogers – Sentinel Tribune

3. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Myers stated the minutes from the 6/13/2023 board meeting was distributed to the board prior to the meeting. Ms. Wiechman moved approval of the 6/13/2023 minutes as presented. Ms. Headley seconded. A roll call vote was conducted with all in favor, motion carried.

4. Chairman's Report

Mr. Myers stated that Paddle the Pond will be coming up again at W.W. Knight Nature Preserve on 7/24, 8/14 and 8/28 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Mr. Myers stated the last date for Stargazing will be coming up on 8/5 and the last date for Fire by the River will be Friday, 8/11. Mr. Myers stated Nature Camps are still available 7/25-7/28 and 8/1-8/4 and Mountain Bike Skills Camp will be 8/6, 9/3 and 10/1 at Rudolph Bike Park.

5. Director's Report

Mr. Smalley stated the one-year anniversary walk through at the Rudolph Bike Park was completed. He stated the Rudolph Bike Park is now paid in full and maintained and operated fully by the Wood County Park District moving forward. Mr. Myers asked about activity being monitored at the Rudolph Bike Park. Mr. Smalley stated activity seems to peak during after-school hours and on weekends. He stated the Ohio Parks and Recreation Association regional meeting was hosted at Rudolph Bike Park on 6/20 and representatives from different park districts were present, including Erie Metroparks and Johnny Appleseed Metroparks. Ms. Wiechman thanked Mr. Smalley and the Wood County Park District staff for going above and beyond during the process

of making Rudolph Bike Park a reality. Mr. Smalley thanked our community partners and donors for their contributions to Rudolph Bike Park.

Mr. Smalley presented a Declaration of Surplus Property that lists a 2013 Dodge Durango, the previous administration vehicle. Mr. Myers presented resolution 23-028 to the Board of Park Commissioners. Ms. Wiechman moved to approve the resolution. Ms. Headley seconded. A roll call vote was conducted with all in favor, motion carried.

Mr. Smalley presented the two versions of the 2024 Statutory Budget to the Board of Park Commissioners. He stated one version includes the normal step increase and the second version includes a 3% COLA. Mr. Myers stated he prefers the option with the 3% COLA because this will give a fairer overall picture. Ms. Wiechman agreed with Mr. Myers and stated she found this budget to be very fair after review. Mr. Myers presented resolution 23-029 to the Board of Park Commissioners. Ms. Wiechman moved to approve the resolution. Ms. Headley seconded. A roll call vote was conducted with all in favor, motion carried.

Mr. Smalley stated the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) is administered by the Toledo Metropolitan Council of Governments (TMACOG). He stated TAP has specific features that would allow Wood County Park District to apply for funding the repaving and/or repair of the Slippery Elm Trail. Mr. Smalley stated TMACOG requires proof of an approval to participate in the program so it is known that Wood County Park District is aware of all obligations attached to the project, including the matching funds. Mr. Myers presented resolution 23-030 to the Board of Park Commissioners. Ms. Wiechman moved to approve the resolution. Ms. Headley seconded. A roll call vote was conducted with all in favor, motion carried. Mr. Myers asked if Wood County Park District has participated in this program or anything similar in the past. Mr. Smalley stated the park district has not participated in TAP in the past. Ms. Headley asked if there is a start date for this project. Mr. Smalley stated if the process goes as planned, the project could possibly start in late 2024 or early 2025. Mr. Myers asked what the likelihood is of being awarded TAP funds. Mr. Smalley stated he remains hopeful due to the Slippery Elm Trail being one of the oldest trails in Wood County and its huge community following.

Mr. Smalley stated the Friends of the Parks made arrangements for Wood County Fair giveaways this year. He stated the Wood County Fair starts on Sunday, 7/30 and ends on Sunday, 8/6 and it's their 150th anniversary.

6. Departmental Reports

Mr. Myers stated the departmental reports were distributed prior to the board meeting for review. Andrew Kalmar stated they were successful in obtaining roadway funds from the state of Ohio through O.D.O.T. to pave the parking lot at W.W. Knight Nature Preserve. Mr. Smalley thanked Mr. Kalmar for his efforts in this project.

7. Approval of Payables

Mr. Myers stated the payables for the month of May were distributed to board members prior to the meeting and called for a motion to approve. Ms. Wiechman made a motion to approve the payables, Ms. Headley seconded. Mr. Myers inquired on two separate payments to Reineke Ford for the 2023 Ford Explorer. Mr. Smalley stated the initial payment was from a purchase order from 2021 in the amount of \$39,660.00. The second payment for this vehicle was to make up the difference due to increased cost. Mr. Myers inquired on payments made toward taser support. Mr. Smalley stated taser purchases were approved by the Board of Park Commissioners in 2019. The invoice sent in 2020 was paid. Due to invoices not being received or sent to incorrect email addresses for 2021 and 2022, a larger payment was applied on the most recent billing. Mr. Smalley stated one final payment will be due on this account. A roll call vote was conducted with all in favor, motion carried.

8. Old Business

No old business heard at this time.

9. New Business

No new business heard at this time.

10. Friends of the Wood County Parks

No one in attendance from Friends of the Parks.

11. Hearing of Visitors

No visitors heard at this time.

12. Executive Session

Mr. Myers stated there will be an Executive Session with no action taking place afterward regarding possible real estate acquisition. Ms. Wiechman moved to enter Executive Session at 4:55 p.m. Ms. Headley seconded. A roll call was conducted with all in favor, motion carried.

13. Adjournment

The Board exited Executive Session at 5:23 p.m. Ms. Wiechman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Headley seconded. A roll call vote was conducted with all in favor, motion carried.



Tom Myers, Chairperson



Christopher Smalley, Director

Wood County Park District Headquarters, 18729 Mercer Rd., Bowling Green, OH. 43402

