

**WOOD COUNTY PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS MINUTES REGULAR MEETING
MAY 8, 2018**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dennis Parish at 3:04 p.m. at the Bradner Preserve, 11491 Fostoria Road, Bradner, Ohio.

2. ROLL CALL

Dennis Parish, present
Bob Hawker, present
Bill Cameron, absent
Tom Myers, present
Sandy Wiechman, present

Others present: Neil Munger, Jeff Baney, Jim Witter, Ned Fairbanks, Steve True, Todd Nofzinger, Eric Scott and Jamie Sands.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Parish stated the minutes of the April 17, 2018 regular meeting were distributed to the Board and asked if there were any additions or corrections. Ms. Wiechman moved approval of the April 17, 2018 regular meeting minutes. Mr. Hawker seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mr. Parish stated the Board is optimistic regarding the levy vote today noting levy coverage has been positive.

5. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ranger Utility Vehicle Replacement - Mr. Munger stated that quotes have been received for a ranger utility vehicle. This type of vehicle is useful to the rangers in many different ways including at special events and on the Slippery Elm Trail. After reviewing several options and requesting quotes, a determination was made that the Kawasaki Mule provides the most versatile use. The utility vehicle is expandable to four seats and has a bike rack. The low quote was received from Honda East Toledo at \$20,641.80 which Mr. Munger recommended the Board accept.

Mr. Hawker moved to approve Resolution 18-011 authorizing Neil Munger to purchase a Kawasaki Mule ATV from Honda East Toledo for the amount of \$20,641.80. Seconded by Mr. Myers.

Responding to Ms. Wiechman, Mr. Munger confirmed that the utility vehicle will be equipped with lights. All in favor. Motion carried.

Carter Historic Farm Wetland Public Meeting Open House – Mr. Munger stated that a public meeting will be held on Thursday, May 10th from 5 to 7 p.m. at Park District Headquarters to discuss the proposed wetland project at Carter Historic

Farm. Representatives from the Black Swamp Conservancy will be in attendance as well as the architectural firm to answer questions and assist the public in interpreting the plan.

Electric Bicycles in Parks, House Bill 250 – Mr. Munger stated that he and Mr. Baney recently attended a meeting of the Ohio Parks and Recreation Association where discussion took place regarding the recent passage of House Bill 250 which relates to electric bicycles or Ebikes. Mr. Munger explained the different types of Ebikes noting that Class 1 and 2 have top speeds of 20 mph. HB 250 allows the use of Class 1 and 2 Ebikes on bike lanes, bike trails and other non-motorized areas. Class 3 Ebikes which travel at speeds up to 28 mph are not permitted unless specifically designated by the agency. Mr. Munger recommended that, at this time, the Board take no action which will permit the use of Ebikes on trails where bikes are used. Responding to Mr. Parish, Chief Ranger Todd Nofzinger stated that he doesn't believe Ebikes will be an issue. The Board briefly discussed concerns with speed but it was pointed out that many bicyclists that use the trail can easily travel at 20 mph on a normal bicycle. It was the consensus of the Board to take no action at this time.

6. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Mr. Parish stated departmental reports were distributed and asked for questions. Mr. Hawker pointed out that the shelter at Bradner looks nice and thanked staff for their work.

Mr. Munger introduced Eric Scott, Stewardship Coordinator. Mr. Scott introduced his staff and noted that stewardship is just one department that makes the Park District great. Mr. Scott explained that stewardship's goal is to manage land and its resources for future generations. Mr. Scott stated a large focus of the stewardship department is natural areas including wood lots and prairie areas. Mr. Scott stated his department also battles invasive species and explained how the department combats these species. Mr. Scott then explained seed collection, cleaning and propagation. Mr. Scott stated that with the help of Assistant Director, Jeff Baney, they are coming up with management plans for each park which will include firm goals. Other projects his department takes part in are quail introduction and the honey bee project. Stewardship also assists with Adopt a Garden programs, butterfly gardens, and monitoring programs. Mr. Scott stated stewardship also hosts several volunteer programs each year. Responding to the Board, Mr. Scott stated that the park management plans will be re-evaluated annually. Mr. Scott described controlled burns which are typically held during the fall after the appropriate permits are received. Mr. Parish requested that the Board and press be notified before the next controlled burn so they can all see the process. The Board thanked Mr. Scott for the presentation and his enthusiasm.

7. APPROVAL OF PAYABLES

Mr. Parish stated payables have been distributed and asked for questions.

Mr. Myers moved approval of expenditures for the month of April. Seconded by Ms. Wiechman. 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**
Nothing at this time.

11. **HEARING OF VISITORS**
Mr. Munger mentioned the difficulty in hiring seasonals and gave accolades to staff noting we are extremely busy and all staff have really stepped up.

12. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**
Nothing at this time.

13. **ADJOURNMENT**
Mr. Hawker moved adjournment. Ms. Wiechman seconded. All in favor. The meeting adjourned at 3:33 p.m.



Denny Parish, Chairman



Neil A. Munger, Director

Wood County Park District
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