

**WOOD COUNTY PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS MINUTES REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 9, 2019**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Tom Myers at 3:31 p.m. at the Reuthinger Memorial Preserve, 30730 Oregon Road, Perrysburg, OH.

2. ROLL CALL

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

Others present: Neil Munger, Jeff Baney, Jim Witter, Rob Brian, Steve True, Corinne Gordon, Todd Nofzinger and Adrien Lowien.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Myers stated the minutes of the March 12, 2019 regular meeting were distributed to the Board and asked if there were any additions or corrections. Mr. Hawker moved approval of the March 12, 2019 regular meeting minutes. Mr. Parish seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Nothing at this time.

5. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Buttonwood Closure Resolution – Mr. Munger presented Resolution 19-010 closing the Buttonwood/Betty C. Black Recreation Area for an indefinite period of time by order of the Board of Park Commissioners. The park will remain closed until it is determined by the Board of Park Commissioners that it is appropriate to reopen and only by resolution of the Board.

Mr. Parish moved to approve Resolution 19-010 closing the Buttonwood/Betty C. Black Recreation Area for an indefinite period of time by order of the Board of Park Commissioners. Seconded by Mr. Cameron.

Ms. Wiechman questioned access to the river from Hull Prairie Road. Mr. Munger responded Hull Prairie Road is open and explained that the Buttonwood drive/parking lot, off to the right, is closed. Mr. Munger confirmed that off to the left of Hull Prairie Road is privately owned property all the way to the river. Mr. Munger stated individuals may walk along the riverbank. Mr. Munger explained that the main focus now is keeping vehicles and pedestrians out of the parking lot and safe from debris. Mr. Munger reviewed several pictures of the park noting there is still ice in areas, mud on the fields and a lot of debris. Mr. Munger stated clean-up will be a lot different than in 2015. Mr. Munger stated that volunteers will

be sought once staff has removed the large debris. Mr. Baney explained that most of the debris will likely be burnt. Mr. Munger stated that Mr. Baney will meet with the Corps of Engineers about how to better utilize the park and the flood plain. There was discussion of the area reverting back to a native state. Responding to Mr. Parish, Chief Nofzinger stated that the park police have not spent much time at Buttonwood for the walleye run this year as there is no camping and limited access. The Board briefly discussed clean up and how to best utilize volunteers. All in favor. Motion carried.

Sawyer Quarry Interpretive Center – Mr. Munger reviewed plans for the Sawyer Quarry interpretive center which includes elimination of the second floor. A team is working to develop exhibit space to include kid’s activities, a rock wall, nature activities and historical displays. Responding to the Board, Mr. Munger stated that an appraisal has been completed on the house and that staff has not considered tearing the building down and rebuilding due to the conservation easement. Mr. Munger stated that the bid will be awarded at the May meeting with construction starting as soon as possible and ending in the fall. The Board discussed conducting a walk-through of the building. It was the consensus of the Board that Mr. Munger proceed with advertising for bids with a bid opening on April 26.

ODOT Ohio Park Districts Roadwork Funds – Mr. Munger stated park districts in Ohio receive funding from the Ohio Department of Transportation for roadway improvements. The funds may be utilized for public drives and parking lots and may not be used for the Slippery Elm Trail, private drives or the headquarters parking lot as it’s deemed employee use, not public. This is a biennial approval that requires a resolution of the Board approving and accepting grant funds. As part of the resolution a prioritized list of intended uses of funds is required. This year the proposed use of funds is for construction of a new entrance drive and parking lot at the Reuthinger Memorial Preserve. Mr. Munger explained that adding a signal will help to alleviate the danger when exiting the park.

Ms. Wiechman moved to approve Resolution 19-011 requesting funds from the Ohio Department of Transportation for Ohio Park District Roadway Funds FY 20/21 through the Ohio Parks and Recreation Association. Seconded by Mr. Cameron.

Responding to the Board, Mr. Munger confirmed that funds may be carried over from year to year. All in favor. Motion carried.

NRAC Nomination- Mr. Munger stated he has served as a member and chairman of the Natural Resource Assistance Council since the inception of the Clean Ohio Program in 2003. His appointment expires this year and he’s requesting the Board nominate him to continue to serve on the committee.

Mr. Parish moved to authorize Chairman Myers to sign a letter nominating Mr. Munger to the commission. Seconded by Ms. Wiechman. All in favor. Motion carried.

6. **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

Mr. Myers stated departmental reports were distributed and asked for questions. Responding to the Board, Ms. Lowien discussed controlled burn plans and stated that the media will be notified when burns are scheduled. There was discussion regarding a slip and fall incident at the W.W. Knight Nature Preserve and rerouting of a trail at the Sawyer Quarry Nature Preserve. Chief Nofzinger discussed annual fire extinguisher inspections and noted that certain park cameras may need to be repositioned if front license plates are eliminated.

7. **APPROVAL OF PAYABLES**

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

Mr. Parish moved approval of expenditures for the month of March. Seconded by Mr. Hawker.

Mr. Parish requested an itemized list of bills per park including all electric suppliers, gas (propane and natural) and water and sewer providers and an accounting of all Verizon plans for one month. Mr. Parish requested this information be forwarded to the Board and explained that he's requesting this due to an electric bill for Otsego being almost the same as that of HQ and that seemed odd to him. There was a discussion regarding The Escape Room program and Mr. Hawker expressed that staff has continued to try new programs. Other items discussed included trailer repair and tree trimming at William Henry Harrison Park. 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 stated that the volunteer recognition dinner will be held Thursday at Thompson Stone Hall at Otsego Park and invited Board members.

12. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Nothing at this time.

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Wiechman moved adjournment. Mr. Parish seconded. All in favor. The meeting adjourned at 4:22 p.m.



Tom Myers, Chairman



Neil A. Munger, Director

Wood County Park District
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