

**ISABELLA COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, June 1, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Vasold at 6:00pm at Deerfield Nature Park.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT

Bob Busch, Craig Clingan, Jeremy Murphy, John Dinse, Jordan Bruursema, Randy Vasold and Bob Willoughby

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT

Frank Engler, Tim O'Neil

OTHERS PRESENT

Director Sue Ann Kopmeyer, Parks Supervisor Kurt Burnia, Assistant Parks Supervisor Emma Vanacker, Administrative Assistant Nichole Manley, Administrative Coordinator Miranda Walker, Park Staff Member Kathy Vanderkolk and Alternate County Commissioner Terry Hutchinson

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Agenda was accepted as presented (Murphy/Clingan).

INTRODUCTIONS

N/A

MINUTES

The May 4, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes were reviewed. **It was moved (Dinse/Willoughby) to approve the May 4, 2022 Meeting Minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

N/A

FINANCIAL REPORTS

The Director presented the bills for May 2022. **It was moved (Murphy/Clingan) to approve the Financial Summary Report for May 2022 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

CAMPGROUND SUMMARY REPORT

Director Kopmeyer gave an update on the Campground Summary Report for the month of May 2022.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Parks

The Director noted that there were electrical issues at Herrick Recreation Area during the

weekend of the Amish Flea Market, May 20 – 21, 2022. The electrical issues were on Consumers Energy's end and were rectified quickly for the area.

The steel roof for the West Beach Pavilion at Deerfield Nature Park will be installed by Staff soon.

Employees

The Maintenance Staff Training was held on May 9, 2022 and the All-Staff Training was held on May 10, 2022. All Parks Staff were trained by Supervisors and Park Managers.

The Director noted that the first Staff Meeting of the season will be held on June 2, 2022.

Professional Development

The Park's Main Office Staff attended a virtual Mental Health in the Work Place presentation on May 25, 2022, sponsored by the County's Employee Assistance Program.

The Parks Main Office Staff will also be attending a virtual Web Design refresher course for the Isabella County website on June 2, 2022.

Programs and Events

On June 21, 2022 the PALM (Pedal Across Lower Michigan) bike ride will be making its way through the Isabella County portion of the Pere Marquette Rail Trail. 600 bikers are expected to take part in the event.

The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe will be doing a water clean-up of the Chippewa River on Wednesday, July 6, 2022. The group will canoe and kayak from Deerfield Park to Meridian Park, picking up trash and recyclables along the way. Park Staff help with this event, taking care of the bagged trash.

The Director stated that MTT Dash Divers will be removing over 5,000 square feet of Eurasian Water Milfoil, an invasive aquatic weed, in Coldwater Lake. The Coldwater Lake Association, Isabella County Parks and Cooperative Invasive Species Management Areas (CISMSA) will be covering the \$3,500 cost for removal.

Incidents/Accidents

The Director gave an update on a report of swimmer's itch at Herrick Recreation Area.

Projects/Capital

The Director gave an update on Mid-Michigan Community Pathways project closeout.

Director Kopmeyer noted that the final draft of the Chippewa River Department of Natural Resources Designated Water Trail Application was sent to the State of Michigan.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Coldwater Lake/Beal City Public Sewage Improvements

Director Kopmeyer stated there will not be an update on this project until this fall. The Beal City Sewage Project is still underway and per the Project Engineer, Pete Lorenz, the Coldwater Lake are will begin the later part of this year.

Deerfield Nature Park – Chippewa River Erosion Project

The pre-construction meeting was held in May with Dave Boersema of Spicer Group and Ron Miller of Miller Contracting. A project start time of Mid-July was discussed for mid-July.

Meridian Park – DNR Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund/Acquisition Project

The grant has moved to the House Appropriations Committee for approval. The Director will begin a title search soon.

Deerfield Memorial

The memorial for Mike Marsh has started. Jim Allwood of Allwood nursery helped choose the tree that will be part of the memorial. An Autumn Blaze Maple has been planted in Mike's honor.

Deerfield Nature Park Turn Lane

Director Kopmeyer noted that she spoke with Operations Manager, Brian Atkinson, of the Michigan Department of Transportation and he is still looking into this, however, staffing shortages have been causing delays.

Bylaw Review

A copy of the Isabella County Parks and Recreation Bylaws was given to the Board Members for their review at the last meeting. The Parks Board had no changes for the current Isabella County Parks and Recreation Bylaws.

Parks Rules and Ordinance Review - Watercraft

The Director noted that Coldwater Lake Family Park will not be allowing overnight parking of day use boats or trailers. The only overnight parking allowed for boats and trailers will be for campers. This will help keep the parking near the boat launch area open for users.

FY '23 Budget

Director Kopmeyer went over a handout she provided of the FY '23 budget for the parks.

NEW BUSINESS

Board Appointment Advertisement

The vacant position on the Isabella County Parks and Recreation Board will be advertised within the next two weeks.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Busch noted that the Road Commission is currently making their way through

their projects. 50 miles of gravel is to be installed on County roads and a light will be placed at Bamber and Pickard roads.

Commissioner Willoughby stated that the Drain Office is currently handling issues that were caused by the recent flooding in the Rosebush area as well as finishing up the Mission Creek Project.

Commissioner Hutchinson gave an update on the County jail project, noting that the price of the project is very high. He stated that they are currently looking at options for funding, including a possible millage. He also noted how much the parks system is appreciated.

The next Parks and Recreation Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 3, 2022 at Herrick Recreation Area – West Pavilion.

ADJOURNMENT: It was moved to adjourn (Willoughby/Murphy) at 7:09 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Craig Clingan, Secretary