

**ISABELLA COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
Wednesday, February 5, 2025**

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**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Vasold at 6:00 pm.

**COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT**

Ann Silker, Bill Hauck, Bob Busch, Bob Willoughby, Craig Clingan, Jeremy Murphy, Jerry Jaloszynski, Jordan Bruursema, Randy Vasold, Ruth Barrett

**COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT**

Steven Weber

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Director Alexis Hansen, Administrative Assistant Nichole Manley, Parks Supervisor Kurt Burnia, Assistant Parks Supervisor Emma Vanacker, Parks Seasonal Staff Member Kathy Vanderkolk and Gary Silker

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**Agenda was accepted as presented (Murphy/Busch).**

**INTRODUCTIONS**

N/A

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

The Director called for Chairman Nominations.

**It was moved (Willoughby/Murphy) to nominate Randy Vasold as Chairman.**

**Moved (Willoughby/Busch) to close nominations and have a unanimous ballot cast for Randy Vasold as Chairman. Motion carried unanimously.**

Newly reelected Chairperson Vasold called for Vice-Chair Nominations.

**It was moved (Busch/Jaloszynski) to nominate Jordan Bruursema as Vice Chairman.**

**Moved (Jaloszynski/Murphy) to close nominations and have a unanimous ballot cast for Jordan Bruursema as Vice Chairman. Motion carried unanimously.**

Chairperson Vasold called for Secretary Nominations.

**It was moved (Willoughby/Busch) to nominate Craig Clingan as Secretary.**

**Moved (Murphy/Willoughby) to close nominations and have a unanimous ballot cast for Craig Clingan as Secretary. Motion carried unanimously.**

**MINUTES**

The December 4, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes were reviewed. **It was moved (Bruursema/Murphy) to approve the December 4, 2024 Meeting Minutes. Motion carried unanimously.**

## **GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS**

N/A

## **FINANCIAL REPORTS**

The Director presented the bills for December 2024 and January 2025. **It was moved (Murphy/Busch) to approve the Financial Summary Report for December 2024 and January 2025.**

## **CAMPGROUND SUMMARY REPORT**

Director Hansen gave an update on the Campground Summary Report for January 2025.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

### **Professional Development**

Assistant Parks Supervisor Emma Vanacker and Maintenance Coordinator Coty Lobsinger renewed their pesticide certifications. Coty will also renew his playground inspection certification later this year.

Director Hansen will be attending the Michigan Recreation & Parks Association (MPARKS) Conference in March.

### **Employee/Volunteers**

Administrative Coordinator Miranda Walker sent out the seasonal return to work letter to see if any prior seasonal staff plan to return to work for the 2025 season. Once that information is gathered, job postings will be advertised for any open positions.

The Director met with a great intern candidate from Central Michigan University. Director Hansen is still trying to figure out the logistics of having an intern in our current, temporary office set up. A goal project for this internship would be to have the distances of each trail measured and then added to park maps as well as working on invasive species management.

Staff Training will be held at the Mid-Michigan College Community Room at the Mt. Pleasant Campus on Tuesday, May 13, 2025.

### **Parks**

Opening Day for online reservations is Tuesday, February 11, 2025 at 9:00am. Opening Day for reservations via phone is Wednesday, February 19, 2025 at 9:00am.

Parks Rules and Ordinances are updated. The Director noted if anyone would like a copy to notify the Parks Office.

The Director stated that she is looking into occupancy data as she has had a couple people reach out to her regarding group reservations and group sites. After checking with a few other local County Parks, the Director found that they do not offer special accommodations for groups either. The Camis Reservation System does not easily support a group site reservation. One thing the Director noted that she was looking in to would be to re-zone Coldwater Lake Family Park so

extended stay campers were grouped to one area which would then allow for transient camping in the other area that could be more accommodating to groups so they do not have to be spread out across the park.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **Department of Natural Resources Spark Grant**

At the December Parks Board Meeting, the Director noted that she may be looking into a post-bid addendum for the project. She and Parks Staff met with Isabella Corp to see if they would still be interested in doing the project if the project was scaled back to fit within the budget. The scaled back project will no longer include the playground or pit toilet projects. The project will include a new roof and siding on the bathhouse as well as a new ADA accessible sidewalk and ADA accessible parking space, 2 ADA accessible bathroom stalls, 1 ADA accessible shower stall, new doors and fixtures. The post-bid addendum came back with a cost of \$393,000 down from the original bid of \$524,000. The Director noted that she would like to get the approval of the Isabella County Parks Board to go under contract with Isabella Corp for the \$393,000 project. **It was moved (Jaloszynski/Willoughby) to support going under contract with Isabella Corporation for \$393,000. Motion carried unanimously.**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

The Director noted that she will not be in town during the date for the March meeting as she will be attending the annual Michigan Recreation & Parks Association (MPARKS) Conference in Traverse City. **It was moved (Murphy/Busch) to cancel the March Isabella County Parks Board Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Commissioner Jaloszynski stated there is a goal setting meeting on Tuesday, March 11, 2025 at 2:00pm. Commissioner Jaloszynski noted that they Board of County Commissioners supports the use of ARPA funds for the sewer project. He stated the importance of the Fisher Annex to the County Parks system.

Commissioner Silker stated at the last Planning Commission Meeting, battery storage ordinances were talked about.

Commissioner Hauck stated that the Road Commission has met with 16 townships this year. He also noted that work is still continuing on solar projects and that 13 windmills are in need of repair.

Commissioner Willoughby stated that there will be a couple big projects going to later this year.

**The next Parks and Recreation Board Meeting** is scheduled for Wednesday, April 2, 2025 at the Isabella County Road Commission Building.

**ADJOURNMENT: It was moved to adjourn (Busch/Murphy) at 7:16 pm. Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Craig Clingan, Secretary