

**ISABELLA COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
Wednesday, June 4, 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, Bob Busch, Bill Hauck, Bob Willoughby, Craig Clingan, Jeremy Murphy, Jordan Bruursema, Randy Vasold, Ruth Barrett and Steven Weber

**COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT**

N/A

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Director Alexis Hansen, Parks Supervisor Kurt Burnia, seasonal park staff member Kathy Vanderkolk and park intern Leo Mazey.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**Agenda was accepted as presented (Silker/Barrett).**

**INTRODUCTIONS**

Seasonal camper, Jenny Gordert

**MINUTES**

The May 7, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes were reviewed. **It was moved (Murphy/Bruursema) to approve the May 7, 2025 Meeting Minutes. Motion carried unanimously.**

**GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS**

N/A

**FINANCIAL REPORTS**

The Director presented the invoices for May 2025. **It was moved (Clingan/Bruursema) to approve the Financial Summary Report for May 2025.**

**CAMPGROUND SUMMARY REPORT**

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

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**Employee/Volunteers**

Parks are still accepting applications for a Night Ranger at Herrick Recreation Area and a few sub-Gate Attendants for all parks.

The Director noted that the seasonal staff are doing a great job so far this season.

Parks Intern, Leo, is working on hiking maps that will have distances on each trail.

### **Parks**

The Director noted that the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and the State of Michigan Parks are having “Three Free Weekend.” For State of Michigan Parks, that means that fishing licenses, fees for off road vehicles and fees for all state parks are waived. The Director noted that this event went well last year when the County Parks also offered free entrance. **A motion was made (Murphy/Busch) to allow free day passes and free watercraft passes for Saturday, June 7, 2025 and Sunday, June 8, 2025. Motion carried unanimously.**

The Director updated the board on an incident that happened at Coldwater Lake Family Park over the past weekend. It started out as a 911 hang-up call with possible domestic violence, the Michigan State Police responded 4 separate times throughout the weekend. Lydia Stahl and Caleb Edgar will be permanently banned from the County Parks under section 34 of the Rules and Ordinances. Commissioner Bruursema will schedule a hearing with two other board member present. The hearing will be at least 7 days from the date of the letter being mailed to these individuals. **A motion was made (Busch/Silker) to accept the Director’s recommendation for a permanent revocation hearing.** The Director will follow up with the County’s Attorney.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

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

Isabella County Parks and Recreation is now under contract with Isabella Corp. for the project. On Tuesday, May 20, 2025, an amended project agreement to reflect the new scope of the project will go before the Board of County Commissioners. Construction is on track to begin immediately after Labor Day.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

N/A

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Commissioner Hauck stated that Meridian Road has been paved and Coleman Road is next.

Commissioner Willoughby noted that the Drain Commission received a 2% grant for Weidman Dam updates.

Commissioner Silker stated that the Planning Commission will be meeting to discuss a large farm that wants to incinerate manure to turn it into methane gas.

**The next Parks and Recreation Board Meeting** is scheduled for Wednesday, August 6, 2025 at Herrick Recreation Area in the West Pavilion.

**ADJOURNMENT: It was moved to adjourn (Murphy/Clingan) at 6:59 pm. Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Craig Clingan, Secretary