

**ISABELLA COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, June 3, 2026**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Vasold at 6:01 pm.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT

Ann Silker, Bill Hauck, Bob Willoughby, Craig Clingan, Jeremy Murphy, Randy Vasold, Ruth Barrett, and Steven Weber.

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT

Bob Busch and Jordan Bruursema

OTHERS PRESENT

Director Alexis Hansen, Parks Supervisor Kurt Burnia, Assistant Parks Supervisor Emma Vanacker, Administrative Assistant Brady Falardeau, and seasonal park staff member Kathy Vanderkolk.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Agenda was accepted as presented (Clingan/Vasold).

INTRODUCTIONS

N/A

MINUTES

The May 6, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes were reviewed. **It was moved (Silker/Hauck) to approve the May 6, 2026 Meeting Minutes. Motion carried unanimously.**

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

Randy Vasold commented on how nice Coldwater Lake Family Park was looking on a recent trip to the park as well as stating the Bathhouse Ribbon Cutting went great.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

The Director presented the bills for May 2026. **It was moved (Clingan/Silker) to approve the Financial Summary Report for May 2026.**

CAMPGROUND SUMMARY REPORT

Director Hansen gave an update on the Campground Summary Report for May 2026

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Employee/Volunteers

All seasonal positions are full, minus a Park Manager for Herrick Recreation Area, Director Hansen is looking into a candidate and is hoping to interview them soon. Director Hansen also shared that she is looking into having a Program Intern next summer to run events in the campgrounds.

Parks

The Pere-Marquette Rail Trail 25th Anniversary Rededication is next Thursday, June 11, 2026. The event will have free ice cream and hot dogs provided by the I Scream Ice Cream Truck, a preview of the

Historical Trail Signage, and a chance to paint handprints on the trail.

Programs/Events

Jay's & Webber Wildlife and Education Center is having a fundraising event on June 12.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources free fishing weekend is happening June 13-14. The Isabella County Parks and Recreation Commission previously approved allowing free entry into Isabella County Parks in observation of that event.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Department of Natural Resources Spark Grant

The Herrick Recreation Area Bathhouse on the campground side is nearly complete, with having fairly minor things to finish including some finalizing paperwork, getting the retainage paid out, and the bubbling FRP board in the ADA compliant shower stall fixed.

Campground Fees

Based on the preliminary nightly rates set at the May Meeting, Director Hansen presented potential rate updates for the full-season and long-term stay rates. Additionally, Director Hansen discussed the need to further limit the number of full-season campers from 35 to 25 sites. After discussion of the board members, it was decided that the Isabella County Parks and Recreation Commission would suggest that the full-season and long term stay rates would be set at a 60% discount for Isabella County Residents and a 40% discount for Non-Isabella County Residents to be approved by the Isabella County Board of Commissioners within the Fiscal Year 2027 Budget.

NEW BUSINESS

N/A

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Willoughby shared that the Drain Commission is less busy due to going into the warm and dry season.

Commissioner Silker didn't have an update.

Commissioner Hauck shared that the construction on Isabella Road will be completed next week and Baseline Road is closed due to a hole in a bridge over the Coldwater River.

Commissioner Weber added that the Isabella County Board of Commissioners have been less busy and that a parcel of land next to the Commission on Aging was donated to Isabella County.

The next Parks and Recreation Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 5, 2026 at the West Pavilion at Herrick Recreation Area.

ADJOURNMENT: It was moved to adjourn (Willoughby/Weber) at 6:50 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Craig Clingan, Secretary