

GEAUGA PARK DISTRICT  
MINUTES  
JULY 8, 2003

The regular meeting of the Geauga Park District Board was held on July 8, 2003, at the Park District office, Chardon, Ohio. The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. President Robert McCullough was in the chair. Board members Betty Cope and Mark Rzeszotarski were present. Employees present were: Keith McClintock, Paige Hosier, and Eileen Smith. There were no guests present.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Miss Cope moved to accept the agenda as amended for the meeting. Dr. Rzeszotarski seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Miss Cope	Yes
Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes

**ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF JUNE 10, 2003**

Miss Cope moved that the minutes of June 10, 2003, be approved as presented. Mr. McCullough seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Miss Cope	Yes
Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes

**ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF JUNE 14, 2003**

Dr. Rzeszotarski moved that the minutes of June 14, 2003, be approved as amended. Mr. McCullough seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Miss Cope	Yes
Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes

**ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF JUNE 20, 2003**

Miss Cope moved that the minutes of June 20, 2003, be approved as amended. Dr. Rzeszotarski seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Miss Cope	Yes
Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
MONTH ENDED JUNE 30, 2003**

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>		
<b>BALANCE JUNE 1, 2003</b>		<b>1,408,910.95</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>		<b>267,018.48</b>
Personnel	146,307.65	
PBX- May	185.06	

Medicare	1,605.06
Dental /Hospitalization	24,881.70
Ohio PERS	20,294.72
Vouchers	73,744.29

**RECEIPTS**

**41,555.73**

Fees:

Camping	40.00
Rookery Heat	20.00
Shelters	240.00
Watercolor Class (cancelled)	48.00
Canoe/Kayak Programs	159.00
Out of County Program Fees	152.00
WCNAF - Table Fees	1,205.00
Best Dam Plans	165.00

Rental Properties-May

- McKinnon- Swine Creek house	350.00
- Scott - Krehlik House	350.00
- Kolar - Burton Wetlands House	350.00
- McClintock - Hyde House	350.00

Sales: Nature Stores 3,187.81

Donations:

Christina Rappaport	10.00
Trust of Ortrud Higgins	21,213.18
Blackbrook Audubon	100.00
Sol Goldman	30.00
Gea Cty Tourism Council; Sponsor - Writers Conf	419.00
Russell Civic Club for Quilt Project	100.00
Chagrin Valley Herb Society	50.00
Memory of J. Welch - C. & A. White	35.00
Memory of J. Welch - M. Welch	60.00
Memory of J. Welch - D. Hegershoff	10.00
Memory of J. Welch - McKee Family	20.00
Memory of J. Welch - T & M Norton	40.00
Memory of J. Welch - W & M Ferris	25.00
Memory of J. Welch - F. Tincher	10.00
Memory of J. Welch - R & I Ford	25.00
Memory of J. Welch - D & B Peck	20.00
Memory of J. Welch - D & J Hess	20.00

Refunds:

Verizon Wireless - Cell Phones	400.00
L. L. Bean - (Operations uniforms)	57.60
Citation Disbursement- Chardon Muni Court	1.00

Tax Income:

Public Housing	1,113.04
Local Government Funds	9,622.42
Interest earned- May	1,597.68



63-SO5-U	UNEMPLOYMENT COMP.	1,000.00
64-SO5	SUPPLIES	133,980.00
65-SO5	MATERIALS	158,497.00
66-SO5	EQUIPMENT	203,355.00
67-SO5	CONTRACTS-REPAIR	19,700.00
68-SO5	CONTRACTS-SERVICE	535,288.00
71-SO5	ADVERTISING	11,995.00
72-SO5	TRAVEL AND EXPENSES	15,330.00
76-SO5	OTHER	70,516.00
76A-SO5	CONTINGENCY	200,000.00
999-SO5	TRANSFERS	<u>3,000,000.00</u>
	TOTAL	7,175,224.00

Section III That there be appropriated from the Construction Fund:

70-Q41	CONTRACTS-SERVICES	\$175,000.00
71-Q41	CONTRACTS-PROJECTS	696,987.00
72-Q41	LAND ACQUISITION	2,648,734.00
77-Q41	OTHER	<u>0.00</u>
	TOTAL	\$3,520,721.00

Dr. Rzeszotarski seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Miss Cope	Yes
Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes

**2002 GRANT RESEARCH PROJECT**

Mr. McClintock forwarded to the Board in their packet the report from Leigh Hutchison entitled, "Influence of Land Use on Stream Health in Northeast Ohio Using Invertebrates as Bioindicators: A Focus on Bass Lake Basin, Geauga County, Ohio." Ms. Hutchison was one of our small research grant recipients for 2002. Because the scope of this report took longer than anticipated, an extension was extended to Ms. Hutchison. Jay Abercrombie, Biologist, has approved this report. A final payment of \$206.27 is outstanding.

Mr. McCullough made a motion to approve the final payment of Two Hundred Six Dollars and Twenty-Seven Cents (\$206.27) to Leigh Hutchison for her project entitled, "Influence of Land Use on Stream Health in Northeast Ohio Using Invertebrates as Bioindicators."

Dr. Rzeszotarski seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Miss Cope	Yes
Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes

**RESEARCH GRANT—2003 SMALL GRANT RESEARCH PROJECT**

Reinhold Friebertshausser from University School submitted a small research grant project entitled "Flow of Water Passing thru Silver Creek." This project would conduct research on Silver Creek using a monitoring data device called a data logger. The cost for this grant research project is Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00).

Mr. McCullough made a motion to approve the small grant research project entitled, "Flow of Water Passing thru Silver Creek" for the amount of Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00).

Dr. Rzeszotarski seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Miss Cope	Yes
Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes

**BASS LAKE PRESERVE FISH STUDY**

Keith McClintock informed the Board that he received a request from Rob Sylak of Chagrin Watershed Institute requesting a permit to conduct a minimally intrusive fish study on Bass Lake. This study would gather baseline data information on the fish populations for future tracking of fish and would run for three years. All data will be reported to Geauga Park District on an annual basis. Geauga Park District would not incur any expenses with this three-year fish study. Mr. Sylak will be enlisting the aid of students from Chardon High School and Shaker High School. Through this study the students would learn limnology and lake ecology while gathering the data. We have granted Mr. Sylak a special use permit.

**COMPENSATION SYSTEM**

At the June 10, 2003, Board meeting, Chris Belz from Belz and Associates, Inc. presented to the Board a proposed compensation system for Geauga Park District employees.

Dr. Rzeszotarski made a motion to approve the Compensation System as presented Board to be implemented accordingly.

Mr. McCullough seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Miss Cope	Yes
Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes

**BEST PRESEVE DAM REPAIR CONTRACT AWARD**

Gauga Park District went out to bid for the Best Preserve Dam Restoration project. The bid opening was held on June 19, 2003. The results of the bid were as follows:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Bid Base</u>	<u>Alt #1</u>	<u>Alt#2</u>	<u>Total</u>
Moderalli Excavating, Inc.	\$37,350.00	\$4,500.00	\$3,000.00	\$44,850.00
Easton Leasing, Inc.	\$56,496.00	\$7,500.00	\$ 500.00	\$64,496.00

Two other local contractors showed up at the bid opening, however, they did not submit a bid. The performance checks that we have received to date for Moderalli Excavating, Inc. have been favorable. Staff recommends to accept the bid of Moderalli Excavating, Inc. in the amount of Forty-four Thousand Eight Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$44,850.00).

Dr. Rzeszotarski moved to approve the Best Preserve Dam Repair contract to Moderalli Excavating, Inc. for the amount of Forty-four Thousand Eight Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$44,850.00) pending a favorable review of the unit bid prices in Moderalli Excavating, Inc.'s bid package.

Miss Cope seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Miss Cope	Yes
Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes

**EPD CONSULTANTS INC. – CHANGE ORDER NO. 1**

Mr. McClintock asked the Board to increase the contract for EDP Consultants Inc. in the amount of Eight Thousand Dollars (\$8,000.00) to cover the additional testing required for The Maple Highlands Trail-North.

Dr. Rzeszotarski moved to approve Change Order No. 1, which would increase the contract for EDP Consultants Inc. in the amount of Eight Thousand Dollars (\$8,000.00) for reasons stated above.

Mr. McCullough seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Miss Cope	Yes
Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes

### **PARK UPDATES**

Mr. McClintock shared the following updates with the Board:

#### **Bass Lake Preserve**

Jim Ziemnik, Landscape Architect, met the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) concerning the Bass Lake System. OEPA indicated that Geauga Park District could make improvements to the present system. The system needs a lift station and sand filter. Tim Kallay, Contract and Planning Director, will review the structure roof system on July 10<sup>th</sup> by cutting additional holes in the ceiling to see if the recommended reinforcement steps were implemented in the mid-1990s.

#### **Big Creek Addition and Ranger Garage**

Work continues with the interior trades on the Big Creek expansion project. The substantial completion date is August 1, 2003, with a final completion date of August 29, 2003.

#### **Ellerin Property**

The demolition work on the property has been completed. The Land Stewards have seeded and mulched the property.

#### **The Maple Highlands Trail-Central**

Plans and specifications are under review at the Columbus office of the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT). The office of Environmental Services will be meeting with Geauga Park District staff for a walk of the project site to review the wetlands and the possible project impacts.

#### **The Maple Highlands Trail-North**

Repairs to the asphalt did not address concerns for subsurface rutting that occurred during the replacement of the pavement. It also does not address concerns for fine cracking in the surface. Geauga Park District is not satisfied with their suggestions. Tim Kallay would like to have the asphalt broken up, using the asphalt as a base, and then repaving.

The gas line reimbursement has been refused. We have requested ODOT to send us a copy of the federal law that applies to this situation. To date, we have not received the applicable federal law.

#### **The Maple Highlands Trail—Parking Area**

Plans for the parking area for The Maple Highlands Trail were submitted to ODOT in April. We received ODOT's comments to these plans. Richland Engineering Inc. is making the necessary changes. These plans will then be resubmitted to ODOT. Tim Kallay anticipates construction to commence at the end of August or September. It is a three-week project.

#### **The West Woods Nature Center**

Raytec Systems has been asked to give a quote for an intercom system, a hook-up for the nature store for a credit card reader, as well as ceiling speakers at The West Woods Nature Center. The HVAC warranty has not been received. We are continuing to monitor the temperature of the well

field to see if we need to add the glycol. We are checking with Tony Paskevich's office to go ahead and install the ice guard that was to be on the roof. Jim Ziemnik is prioritizing the work that needs to be done at the Affelder house.

#### **Middlefield Right-of-Way**

The Middlefield Village engineer will be at the Village council meeting on Thursday, July 10, 2003, to go over plans. Once brush hogging is complete, the bridge will probably be the first thing done. Final improvement plans were submitted to Tom Sterlekar, Park Technician, yesterday. Crew will be able to park at the Ronyak Warehouse and walk back approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile.

#### **Dark Sky Walk**

Ian Cooper from the Chagrin Valley Society will be conducting a search for a good location for the donated telescope on July 25<sup>th</sup> and has extended an invitation to the Park board members.

#### **Land Appropriations**

July 14<sup>th</sup> will mark the end of the 28-day response period to our appropriations actions regarding the railroad right-of-way. To date, we have not received any responses.

#### **The Trust for Public Land**

Mr. McClintock informed the Board that if they have not yet received an invitation, they would be receiving an invitation to an event celebrating the conservation of Bass Lake hosted by The Trust for Public Land along with Jerry and Kathy Petersen and Steve and Lorri Petersen. This event will take place on Sunday, July 20, 2003, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

#### **Pending Litigation**

We are currently undergoing a state audit. David Ondrey, legal counsel, received a request from the state audit as to the pending litigation for Geauga Park District. We have received a copy of David Ondrey's letter as to our liabilities. Mr. Ondrey informed the state audit that our range of loss would be less than \$10,000.00.

#### **Tim Smith Pond**

Mr. Smith had sent a letter to Geauga Park District stating that he was having problems with silt and debris in his pond that he felt was a result of the work the Park was doing on The Maple Highlands Trail. Mr. McClintock reported to the Board that we received a letter from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) with reference to this situation. The Ohio EPA stated that the Park District was in compliance with the permit for The Maple Highlands Trail.

#### **Silver Creek Stream Restoration Project – Notice of Public Hearing**

Mr. McClintock informed the Board that the public hearing for the Silver Creek Stream Restoration Project would be held at The West Woods Nature Center on Tuesday, July 22, 2003, at 7:00 p.m. Vince Sortman, Project Manager from Biohabitats, will be presenting the project and showing slides so that the neighbors would know exactly what to expect on the floodplain.

#### **NAMING RIGHTS—THE WEST WOODS NATURE CENTER'S EXHIBIT HALL**

Miss Cope referenced the past practice for naming procedures in the Park. The proposed name would be brought to the Board for comment, approval, and vote, if deemed appropriate. Miss Cope stated that in response to a persistent interest on the part of staff, friends of the Park, and volunteers, she and Commissioner Dr. Rzeszotarski are proposing that the Park's most recent crown jewel, namely the exciting exhibit hall in The West Woods Nature Center, be named in tribute to Commissioner Robert McCullough. Miss Cope suggested the ceremony be held over the Labor Day weekend, when, traditionally, the McCullough family gathers together or a later date in the fall if that is preferred by the McCullough's. Mr. McCullough expressed his appreciation for this consideration.

Miss Cope moved that The West Woods Nature Center's exhibit room be named in honor of Robert McCullough.

Dr. Rzeszotarski seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Miss Cope	Yes
Mr. McCullough	Abstain
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes

**STREAM MITIGATION REQUEST**

Keith McClintock reported to the Board that he received a request from Tracy Engle, Senior Project Manager for TransSystems Corporation. Mr. Engle is working on a project to widen State Route 82 in Strongsville. This project requires stream mitigation to offset the impacts of this project. Mr. Engle inquired as to whether Geauga Park District would accept their stream mitigation money. Mr. McClintock informed the Board that this stream mitigation money could be used for the Silver Creek Stream Restoration Project. Our fee for this project would be \$150.00 per linear foot.

Mr. McCullough moved to accept the stream mitigation money from TransSystem Corporation as stated above.

Dr. Rzeszotarski seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Miss Cope	Yes
Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes

**RESOLUTION NO. 25-03**

**RANGER APPOINTMENT**

Dr. Rzeszotarski moved for the adoption of the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that in accordance with Section 1545.13 of the Ohio Revised Code, Kathleen Henning be appointed as a police officer (Ranger) of Geauga Park District, and

RESOLVED, that this appointment shall be effective July 21, 2003.

Mr. McCullough seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Miss Cope	Yes
Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes

**RESOLUTION NO. 26-03**

**RANGER APPOINTMENT**

Dr. Rzeszotarski moved for the adoption of the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that in accordance with Section 1545.13 of the Ohio Revised Code, Brett Weber be appointed as a seasonal police officer (Ranger) of Geauga Park District, and

RESOLVED, that this appointment shall be effective June 16, 2003.

Miss Cope seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Miss Cope	Yes
Mr. McCullough	Yes

Dr. Rzeszotarski            Yes

**FULL-TIME RANGER POSITION**

Mr. McClintock reported that Geauga Park District part-time Ranger Denise Weisbarth has accepted the position of full-time Ranger effective July 20, 2003.

**THE WEST WOODS  
RAYTEC SYSTEMS**

As Mr. McClintock stated above, Raytec Systems was asked to give Geauga Park District a quote for the installation of an intercom system, a hook-up for the nature store for a credit card reader, as well as ceiling speakers at The West Woods Nature Center. Raytec Systems submitted a quote in the amount of Three Thousand Four Hundred Ninety-Nine Dollars (\$3,499.00) covering the specifications and labor.

Mr. McCullough moved to approve the contract with Raytec Systems as stated above in the amount of Three Thousand Four Hundred Ninety-Nine Dollars (\$3,499.00).

Dr. Rzeszotarski seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Miss Cope	Yes
Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes

**FELKIN HOUSE**

A Quit Claim Deed between Donald P. Felkin and Dorothy C. Felkin, husband and wife, and Geauga Park District, dated December 6, 1996, Section II stipulated that upon the death of Mr. and Mrs. Felkin, the house would be either burned or demolished. Prior to carrying out the intention of Mr. and Mrs. Felkin, Geauga Park District must declare the contents of the house to be surplus property. Once the contents of the house have been declared surplus, Geauga Park District seeks permission to auction off the contents of the house with one buyer. Once the auction is complete, Geauga Park District will carry out the intention of Mr. and Mrs. Felkin and have the house destroyed.

Dr. Rzeszotarski moved to have the contents of the Felkin house declared surplus property, conduct an auction with one buyer takes all, and the intention of Mr. and Mrs. Felkin be carried out to have the house destroyed.

Mr. McCullough seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Miss Cope	Yes
Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. McCullough moved to go into Executive Session at 5:15 p.m. for the purpose of discussing land acquisitions and follow-up on personnel disciplinary issues.

Miss Cope seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Miss Cope	Yes
Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes

The Board returned from Executive Session at 6:10 p.m.

**KIEBLER**

Mr. McCullough moved that the Deputy Director proceed with the purchase of property owned by Paul Kiebler, III in Chardon Township for the purchase price of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) per acre, with the final price to be determined by a future survey.

Dr. Rzeszotarski seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Miss Cope	Yes
Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes

**LAND ACQUISITIONS**

Dr. Rzeszotarski moved to authorize the Deputy Director to proceed with land acquisition negotiations in Troy, Hambden, and Claridon townships.

Miss Cope seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Miss Cope	Yes
Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes

**AUGUST BOARD MEETING**

Due to the unavailability of Dr. Rzeszotarski on August 12, 2003, the regular board meeting for August will be held August 19, 2003.

**DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

Departmental reports from the Supervisors were submitted for the month of June to the Director and a summary sheet was forwarded to the Board in their mailing packets prior to the Board meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

**SUNSHINE LAW COMPLIANCE**

The rules of the Park Board were complied with by sending notice pursuant to the rules adopted by the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

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Thomas G. Curtin, Executive Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert McCullough, President