

GEAUGA PARK DISTRICT
MINUTES
JUNE 8, 2004

The regular meeting of the Geauga Park District Board was held on June 8, 2004, at the Park District office, Chardon, Ohio. The meeting was called to order at 3:35 p.m. President Robert McCullough was in the chair. Board members Betty Cope and Mark Rzeszotarski were present. Employees present were: Tom Curtin, Keith McClintock, Leslie Bendar, Sherry Bosworth, Nate Eppink, Paige Hosier, Tim Kallay, Sally Lehmann, Michele Pennell, and Eileen Smith. Geauga Park District Foundation representative was Jay Giles.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

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

Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Yes

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF MAY 18, 2004

Dr. Rzeszotarski moved that the minutes of March 8, 2004, be approved as amended.
Mr. McCullough seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Yes

FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FOR THE MONTH ENDING
MAY 31, 2004

GENERAL FUND

BALANCE MAY 1, 2004		1,415,852.61
EXPENDITURES		272,096.25
Personnel	141,668.26	
PBX- April	185.06	
Medicare	1,613.97	
Ohio PERS	19,527.52	
Hospitalization -May	25,861.60	
Unemployment Comp	1,503.00	
Vouchers	81,736.84	
 RECEIPTS		 18,070.03
Fees:		
Shelter Fees	170.00	
Camping	60.00	
Canoe Programs	18.00	
Hypertufa Workshop	376.00	
Wildflower Folklore	50.00	
Plans for Asphalt Paving	110.00	

Out of County School Programs	360.00
WCNAF table fees	995.00
Rental Properties-May	
- McKinnon- Hyde House	350.00
- Kolar - Burton Wetlands House	350.00
- Harry - Swine Creek House	350.00
Sales: Nature Stores	1,838.89
Donations in Memory of Duane Ferris-W W Berger	100.00
Donations in Memory of Duane Ferris-Connors	50.00
Donations in Memory of Duane Ferris-Vannatta	25.00
Donations in Memory of R. Petersen- C & S Vrystrcil	25.00
Donation: Nature Scopes- St. Mary's PTO	300.00
Donation: Nature Scopes- Robert Lindsey PTO	500.00
Chardon Muni Court- Citation Disb.	88.00
Local Government Funds	9,230.11
Interest earned-April	2,724.03

BALANCE MAY 31, 2004 **1,161,826.39**

CONSTRUCTION FUND

BALANCE MAY 1, 2004 **3,130,724.55**
EXPENDITURES **605,232.48**

Vouchers 605,232.48
RECEIPTS **167,395.09**

Interest Earned-April	1,130.17
In Lieu Fees- Wetland Mitigation - City of Brunswick	75,000.00
Donation: BB Metzenbaum	2,000.00
Transfer of funds: GPD Foundation 2003 TWWNC campaign donations	88,448.25
Royalties - Cedar Valley - Hehmeyer Prop	406.28
Royalties- Ergon Oil, Power Gas - Farley Property	101.32
Royalties - Oxford Oil - Ford Well	309.07

BALANCE MAY 31, 2004 **2,692,887.16**

VOUCHER RESOLUTION NO. 14-04

Dr. Rzeszotarski moved the adoption of the voucher resolution, a copy of which is on file in the Park District office, so marked Resolution No. 14-04.

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

Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Yes

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

Dr. Rzeszotarski shared a phone call he received from a Park patron expressing his concern about a party which took place at The Rookery on Friday evening, June 4th. It appeared that this party lasted much later than the specified hours of operation for shelters, had a live band whose noise level was quite high, and left the Great Blue Heron Lodge and restrooms in disarray. Dr. Rzeszotarski would like steps taken to prevent a reoccurrence. Dr. Rzeszotarski added that the disarray of the Great Blue Heron Lodge and the restrooms left the seasonal for Park Operations

with a burdensome cleanup of getting the Park ready for not only patron use but for the BioBlitz program which was scheduled at The Rookery for the balance of the weekend. Dr. Rzeszotarski added that patrons reserving the shelters have to be held accountable should Park property be damaged. Keith McClintock added that Rangers Vince Valerio and Joel Firem patrolled the area, cited guests for underage consumption, and broke up the party. Unfortunately, the guests returned after the Park was closed. A discussion followed as to how best to handle similar situations in the future.

Keith McClintock shared with the Board a letter he received from Bennett S. Sustin, dated May 22, 2004, which expressed Mr. Sustin's concern of possible flooding of his property and business due to the recent Silver Creek Restoration Project. Mr. McClintock indicated that he had forwarded this letter on to Vince Sortman at Biohabitats, Inc., contractor for this project. Mr. Sortman will provide Mr. Sustin with Phase II design drawings and the status of the project. Dr. Rzeszotarski suggested that Mr. McClintock send a letter to Mr. Sustin regarding his concerns. Miss Cope suggested contacting the Russell Township Trustees and informing them of this letter of concern and how Geauga Park District handled the matter.

Keith McClintock stated that he had received an e-mail from an individual who feels that we should be doing more of a "catch and release" policy than our current policy of *suggesting* "catch and release" at Bass Lake.

GREAT LAKES CONSTRUCTION COMPANY CHANGE ORDER NO. 7

Tim Kallay, Planning Director, addressed the Board with an updated status report on the slope stability problem on The Maple Highlands Trail – North. Mr. Kallay reported that a meeting was held at Big Creek Park on June 4, 2004, with Richland Engineering, EDP Consultants, and Great Lakes Construction Company to discuss the most cost effective and expeditious manner to repair the six failing slopes along State Route 44. Mr. Kallay stated that the necessary repairs would include installation of required stabilization control measures, installation of stone for a drainage swale crossover point, removal of the fence, the clearing of the existing topsoil, undercutting of the failed pavement area and slope between designated stations, applying or removal of moisture conditioned material, construction of an embankment with 12-foot wide layers with geogrid in two-foot lifts, removal and replacement of slope drainage, replacing topsoil, application of commercial fertilizer, seeding and mulching, installation of turf reinforcement matting, installation of a trail aggregate base and pavement installation at all areas once the slopes have been corrected, and reinstall the fence. Mr. Kallay indicated that existing fill materials, when possible, would be used.

In order to implement this plan, Mr. Kallay asked the Board to approve Change Order No. 7 not to exceed Three Hundred Thirty-Four Thousand Fourteen Dollars (\$334,014.00). Once complete, there would be a discussion with Richland Engineering, EDP Consultants Inc., and Great Lakes Construction Company as to who would be responsible for these expenditures. Dr. Rzeszotarski inquired as to the time frame for completing the above tasks. Mr. Kallay responded that it should be completed within 6-8 weeks. Once the Change Order has been approved, repair work will commence.

Dr. Rzeszotarski made a motion to approve Great Lakes Construction Company's Change Order No. 7, not to exceed Three Hundred Thirty-Four Thousand Fourteen Dollars (\$334,014.00) as stated above.

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

Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Yes

2005 TEMPORARY BUDGET

Mr. Curtin asked the Board if they had any comments concerning the 2005 Temporary Budget. Dr. Rzeszotarski stated that he would like to see a project list.

BIOHABITATS, INC. – PAY REQUEST

Keith McClintock presented an invoice from Biohabitats, Inc. for work that had been performed along with supporting documentation in the amount of Ninety-Two Thousand Four Hundred Seventy-One Dollars (\$92,471.00). Out of this figure, Biohabitats, Inc. has asked for reimbursement of the retainage. Mr. McClintock stated that we are not going to return the retainage until the end of the project and asked the Board to approve payment in the amount of Seventy-Nine Thousand Six Hundred Seventy-One Dollars and Eighty-Two Cents (\$79,671.82) representing the invoice for work performed.

Dr. Rzeszotarski moved to approve Biohabitats, Inc.'s pay request in the amount of Seventy-Nine Thousand Six Hundred Seventy-One Dollars and Eight-Two Cents (\$79,671.82) as stated above. Miss Cope seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Yes

**WALTER C. BEST WILDLIFE PRESERVE/BIG CREEK PARK
ASPHALT PAVING—BID AWARD**

Bid packets went out to GAR Paving, Carron Asphalt Paving, Inc., Ronyak Brothers Paving, Burton Scot Contractors, and Velotta Paving Company. The bid opening for the asphalt paving of the trails at Walter C. Best Wildlife Preserve and Big Creek parks was held on June 1, 2004.

The following bids were received:

Carron Asphalt Paving, Inc.	\$95,000.00
Ronyak Brothers Paving	\$75,515.00
Velotta Paving Company	\$101,000.00

Ronyak Brothers Paving was the lowest and best bid. Tom Curtin asked that the Board approve this bid, adding to this award an increase in drainage work as well as the use of asphalt bonding tape (Geo-Tack fabric), which would increase this bid to Eighty-Three Thousand Eight Hundred Fourteen Dollars (\$83,814.00). Mr. Curtin indicated that Seventy-Six Thousand Dollars (\$76,000.00) had been budgeted for this project. The balance of money for this project can be taken from money set aside for sealing parking lots.

Mr. McCullough moved to approve the bid award for the asphalt paving of the Walter C. Best Wildlife Preserve and Big Creek Park in the amount of Eighty-Three Thousand Eight Hundred Fourteen Dollars (\$83,814.00), as stated above.

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

Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Yes

AFFELDER COTTAGE

As previously reported at the May Board meeting (*Geauga Park District Board Minutes, May 18, 2004, Book 6, Pages 183-184*), bid packets went out to Roediger Construction, Inc., Severino Inc., John G. Johnson Construction Co., Hummel Construction Co., and BSC Construction Services, LLC.

On April 20, 2004, a bid opening for the Affelder Cottage Improvements was held. The following bids were received:

BSC Construction Services, LLC	\$144,099.00
Severino Inc.	\$175,000.00
John G. Johnson Construction Co.	\$144,900.00

Because these bids came in higher than anticipated, Mr. Curtin asked the Board to reject all bids.

Following a discussion, Dr. Rzeszotarski moved to reject all bids for the Affelder Cottage Improvements project, as stated above.

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

Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Yes

Mr. McCullough stated that this project should proceed with due diligence. The timeline for this project needs to be revised. Dr. Rzeszotarski questioned if the sanitary system and the gas/electric lines installation could be pulled out and scheduled. Mr. McClintock responded that it could.

PARK UPDATES

Mr. Curtin updated the Board on the following:

Fair Building Schedule – A copy of The Great Geauga County Fair building schedule, held from September 2, 2004, through September 6, 2004, was presented to the Board members to fill in their respective time slots.

Binocular Program – Nate Eppink, Marketing Assistant, gave an update on the “Nature Scopes” Binocular Program. The total amount needed for the next school year to run the program is \$15,698.80. This past school year, participating students were permitted to keep the binoculars. Next year, binoculars will be kept at the schools for as long as they participate in the program, but Geauga Park District retains ownership. St. Mary’s School, St. Helen’s School, and Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin Elementary School will join with our current participating schools, Robert C. Lindsey Elementary and Westwoods Elementary, in the program for the school year 2004-2005. Mr. Eppink reported that the Park did receive a grant from the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation in the amount of \$7,850.00. The Park also received a \$2,000.00 donation from a Park patron, a \$200.00 donation from Blackbrook Audubon Society, as well as \$2,050.00 in pledges from the various Parent-Teacher Organizations. Brochures on the “Nature Scopes” Binocular Program were sent out to the schools to be forwarded on to the parents.

Bass Lake Preserve – Jim Ziemiak, Landscape Architect, is developing preliminary sketches for the parking and boat launch improvements.

Beartown Lakes Reservation – J & L Engineering is evaluating the dam and preparing an Emergency Action Plan.

The Maple Highlands Trail – Central – Bids were opened on May 20, 2004, for this portion of the bike trail. Only one bid was received. Richland Engineering Limited estimated that the trail would cost \$4.3 million to build. The bid amount received from Soda Construction Co., Inc. was Four Million Seven Hundred Sixty-Eight Thousand Three Hundred Fourteen Dollars and Seventy-Five Cents (\$4,768,314.75). The Ohio Department of Transportation’s (ODOT) portion of the project is \$3.8 million, leaving the Park District with a balance of approximately Nine Hundred

Sixty-Eight Thousand Three Hundred Fourteen Dollars and Seventy Cents (\$968,314.70). The Park District has 60 days to act on this bid. In the interim, the Park District is checking references, obtaining a wetland permit for impacts, and securing the remaining parcels along the right-of-way.

Big Creek Park/The Maple Highlands Trail – Parking Area – Bids were opened on May 19, 2004, for the parking area of The Maple Highlands Trail on Ravenna Road. The low bidder on this project was Burton Scot Contractors in the amount of One Hundred Fifty-Eight Thousand Eight Hundred Two Dollars (\$158,802.00). This contract was approved through ODOT.

Burton Wetlands – Lake Kelso – Mr. McCullough addressed his concern about the floating dock and whether there would be maintenance on the deck and floating dock. Mr. Curtin responded that the wood used for the deck did not require seal coating. Therefore, no maintenance has been scheduled for the deck. We will fix the floating dock.

Burton Wetlands – Dr. Rzeszotarski inquired about the progress of the outdoor display at the Burton Wetlands. Mr. Curtin responded that it should be completed by mid-summer.

The Board took a break at 5:00 p.m., returning at 5:20 p.m.

RESEARCH GRANT AWARDS FOR 2004

Keith McClintock reported that eight proposals were received in response to our Request for Proposals for research grants for 2004. The Research Review Committee met on June 4, 2004. The Committee reviewed and scored all eight research proposals, which resulted in the following recommendation to approve the following research grants for funding:

<i>Biomonitoring of Brook Trout Streams within the Geauga Park District – Comparison between The Rookery, The West Woods, and Bass Lake Preserve. Paul J. Pira</i>	\$3,000.00
<i>Using Predictive Ecological Niche Models to Evaluate the Distribution And Conservation Needs of <i>Clemmys guttata</i> in the Eastern United States. Lara D. Roketenetz</i>	\$3,000.00
<i>Interpretive and Outdoor Education Inventory. Robert Faber</i>	\$1,595.00
<i>Mosses and Liverworts of The West Woods. Samuel J. Mazzer</i>	\$2,996.00

Mr. McClintock indicated that there was a fifth grant proposal entitled *Distribution and Breeding Success of the Spotted Turtle on Geauga Park District Lands* submitted by Jonathan White, which expense would be funding for equipment in the amount of \$409.00. Since the above grants total \$10,591.00, the balance of the money needed for this grant would be budgeted out of the Naturalist Department. Mr. McClintock is also recommending approval of this grant.

Mr. McCullough moved to approve the research grants for 2004 as stated above. Dr. Rzeszotarski seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Yes

**TRANSFER OF FUNDS
RESOLUTION NO. 15-04**

Mr. Curtin asked the Board to approve the transferring of One Hundred Thirty-Six Thousand Three Hundred Fifty-Three Dollars (\$136,353.00) from S05 to Q41, which will create revenue and authorize the Budget Commission of Geauga County to re-certify these funds.

Mr. McCullough moved the adoption of Resolution No. 15-04 as stated above.
Dr. Rzeszotarski seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Yes

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. McCullough moved to go into Executive Session at 5:25 p.m. for the purpose of discussing land acquisitions and personnel matters.

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

Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Yes

The Board returned from Executive Session at 6:15 p.m. The following has been discussed for resolution.

LAND ACQUISITIONS

HART PROPERTY

Dr. Rzeszotarski moved to approve the purchase of real property located in Troy Township, owned by William E. and Clara Hart, known as Permanent Parcel Numbers 32-019800 and 32-058900, containing approximately 63.313 acres of land, for the purchase price of Three Hundred Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$390,000.00).

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

Mr. McCullough	Yes
Dr. Rzeszotarski	Yes
Miss Cope	Yes

MISICK PROPERTY—LICENSE AGREEMENT

At the September 9, 2003, Board meeting, Geauga Park District entered into a Purchase and Sale Agreement with Lois Lee-Misick to purchase 47.07 acres of real property located in Montville Township. (*Geauga Park District Board Minutes*, September 9, 2003, Book 6, Page 128.) The Board has entered into a License Agreement regarding oil and gas royalties with Ms. Lee-Misick, which will entitle Ms. Lee-Misick to any royalties from any oil and gas well(s) existing on said property as of the date of the Purchase and Sale Agreement. Ms. Lee-Misick may not assign or otherwise transfer her rights to such royalties. Upon her death, such royalties shall be the property of Geauga Park District.

JULY BOARD MEETING

The regularly scheduled July Board meeting date has been moved back from July 6, 2004, to July 13, 2004.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

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

The meeting adjourned at 6:25 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,

Thomas G. Curtin, Executive Director

Robert McCullough, President