

**GEAUGA PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
August 13, 2013**

The regular meeting of the Geauga Park District Board was held on August 13, 2013 at the Donald W. Meyer Center, Chardon, Ohio. The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. President James Patterson was in the Chair. Commissioners Michael Petruziello and Nicholas Fischbach were present.

President James Patterson called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Employees Present:

Tom Curtin, Executive Director
Anna McDonald, Executive Secretary
Paige Orvis, Mktg. & Administrative Services Director
Scott Wilson, Chief Ranger
Robin Pilarczyk, Human Resources Director
Aaron Young, Planning Director
Diane Valen, Naturalist Services Director
Paul Pira, Natural Resource Management Director
Don Lombardy, Information Technology Manager
Eileen Smith, Administrative Services Coordinator

Guests:

Tom and Diane Jones, A Wind in the Woods
Bob and Esther Laczko, Geauga County Residents
Caleb Dyke, Eagle Scout - Boy Scout Troop 360
John and Karen Dyke, Boy Scout Troop 360
Bev Fischbach, Geauga County Resident
Nora Stanton, Ohio Horsemen's Council
Joy Keco, Ohio Horsemen's Council
Linda Golding, Ohio Horsemen's Council
John Ralph, Judge Grendell's Office
Dave McNaughton, Geauga County Resident (Bass Lake)
Lonnie Sparkman, Geauga County Resident
Dave Ondrey, Thrasher Dinsmore & Dolan
Josh Echt, Geauga Maple Leaf

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Mr. Patterson advised that there is a revision to the Agenda under Roman numeral XI, item b. changing the word Program to Project.

Mr. Fischbach moved to adopt the Revised Agenda.

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

Mr. Fischbach	Yes
Mr. Petruziello	Yes
Mr. Patterson	Yes

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

The Board was presented with minutes from the July 9, 2013 Regular Board meeting for approval.

Mr. Fischbach moved to accept the minutes of the July 9, 2013 Regular Board meeting.

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

Mr. Fischbach	Yes
Mr. Petruziello	Yes
Mr. Patterson	Yes

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Ms. Patterson requested that all guests introduce themselves. In addition to Park District employees, the following guests were present at the meeting: Tom and Diane Jones, Bob and Esther Laczko, Caleb Dyke, John and Karen Dyke, Nora Stanton, Joy Kenco, Linda Golding, John Ralph, Dave McNaughton, Lonnie Sparkman, Dave Ondrey and Josh Echt.

PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Board was provided a copy of the June 2013 Financial Statement. There were no questions by the Board.

Geauga Park District FINANCIAL STATEMENT MONTH ENDED JULY 31, 2013

GENERAL FUND

BEGINNING FUND BALANCE	5,395,006.60
EXPENDITURES & OTHER USES	
Personnel	239,662.77
Medicare	3,444.06
Dental /Hospitalization	45,385.50
PERS (May payment)	34,469.49
Vouchers	155,546.07
EXPENDITURES & OTHER USES	478,612.64
REVENUES & OTHER SOURCES	
<i>Investment Income</i>	186.57
<i>Gifts & Donations</i>	182.41
- General public - program refreshment donations (\$54.75)	
- General public - bird box donations, critter care TWW (\$27.66)	
- L.Dula - Bird seed and critter food donation (\$100.00)	
<i>Fees</i>	
- Camping	100.00
- NAF Table Fees	1,450.00
- Utility fees	90.00
- Adventure Camp registration fees	1,725.00
- Space Camp registration fees	750.00
- Workshops - General - Public program	6.00
- Programs - General - Public Program	123.00
<i>Sales</i>	
- Tapper's Treasures - MC	217.80
- Tree Tops - TWW	2,386.33

Other Receipts

- Agriculture/Other Lease fees - Hi-Tech Extrusion	1,000.00
- Observatory house - Farrar	300.00
- Foundation rental space/equipment - GPD Foundation	501.84
- Swine Creek house - Harry	400.00
- Burton Wetlands house- Kolar	400.00
- Hyde house - Rose	400.00
- Chickagami house - Maksim (includes security deposit)	400.00
- Citation Disbursement	150.00
- Refunds - Western Engravers Supply Cable returned	94.11
- Local Government Funds	7,889.71
- Miscellaneous Receipts	12.02
- GPD Foundation reimburse for conference call (11.75)	
- Reimburse Tax on Ice - Staff Picnic (.27)	

REVENUES & OTHER SOURCES **18,764.79**

ENDING FUND BALANCE AS OF JULY 31, 2013 **4,935,158.75**

LAND IMPROVEMENT FUND

BEGINNING FUND BALANCE JULY 1, 2013 **2,329,606.85**

EXPENDITURES & OTHER USES

Vouchers 9,546.59

EXPENDITURES & OTHER USES **9,546.59**

REVENUES & OTHER SOURCES

Investment Income 78.10

Royalties/In-Lieu Fees 1,281.80

- Ford-Windsor-(\$732.25) Johnson-Sladky-(\$62.46) Kapel-(\$53.93)
- Fisher-Kovach-Kuhn-Troyer-(\$433.16)

REVENUES & OTHER SOURCES **1,359.90**

ENDING FUND BALANCE AS OF JULY 31, 2013 **\$ 2,321,420.16**

RETIREMENT RESERVE ACCOUNT

BEGINNING FUND BALANCE JULY 1, 2013	\$ 82,402.13
EXPENDITURES & OTHER USES	0.00
Vouchers	-
REVENUES & OTHER SOURCES	2.75
<i>Investment Income</i>	2.75
ENDING FUND BALANCE AS OF JULY 31, 2013	\$ 82,404.88

VOUCHER RESOLUTION NO. 23-13

The Board was provided with a copy of July 2013 vouchers. There were numerous questions by the Board which were answered satisfactorily. Mr. Fischbach requested explanation on the rise in fuel costs and the hourly cost paid by the Park District for vehicle repairs, which will require follow-up answers. Mr. Fischbach noted that Board will be looking for ways to consolidate services/vendors to help save the Park District money. Mr. Petruziello moved to adopt Voucher Resolution No. 24-13, a copy of which is on file in the Park District office.

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

Mr. Fischbach	Yes
Mr. Petruziello	Yes
Mr. Patterson	Yes

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

Mr. Patterson relayed that the Park District is blessed with a tremendous group of volunteers. In addition, it is fortunate to have a number of young men that assist the Park District while working on their Eagle Scout project, two of which will be receiving Certificates of Appreciation: Rory Hougan for his work at Chickagami Park and Caleb Dyck for his work at Orchard Hills Park. Caleb was in attendance at the meeting and was presented with the following certificate of appreciation:

*Certificate of Appreciation
Presented to
CALEB DYCK
for
Completing his Eagle Scout project of assisting the Geauga Park District Operations
Department in the deconstruction of two structures no longer in use at Orchard Hills Park.
This is part of the continuing restoration efforts to return the property to a natural state.*

*James F. Patterson
Board of Park Commissioners, President*

*Michael Petruziello
Board of Park Commissioners, VP*

*Nicholas Fischbach
Board of Park Commissioners*

Mr. Patterson congratulated Caleb for his accomplishments. Caleb addressed the Board stating that it was 'really neat' being able to work with the Park District and that everyone was very helpful.

Mr. Patterson requested a motion to enter the Certificate of Appreciation into the Park Board meeting minutes.

Mr. Fischbach made a motion to enter the above Certificate of Appreciation into the minutes.

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

Mr. Fischbach	Yes
Mr. Petruziello	Yes
Mr. Patterson	Yes

Mr. Curtin read a commendation from Chief Scott Wilson presented to Ranger Michael Benesh for his continued commitment to the Geauga Park District Ranger Department's LEADS certification program. Ranger Benesh administers and insures that all Ranger Department personnel are compliant with LEADS policies and procedures. Ranger Benesh recently assisted the Geauga County Sheriff's Department in an audit by the State of Ohio regarding LEADS compliance by the Geauga Park District Ranger Department which resulted in 100% compliance. Chief Wilson thanked Ranger Benesh for a job well done and his continued dedication to the Geauga Park District Ranger Department.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Mrs. Jones addressed the Board regarding the Felkin property inquiring whether the report has been received yet. Mr. Patterson advised that the report has not yet been received.

Joy Keco of the Ohio Horsemen's Council asked the board for clarification on rules regarding wheeled vehicles on the bridle trails. She is specifically concerned with baby buggies/strollers using trails at the same time as horses are on them, and the potential for injuries if a horse were to kick or jump. Mr. Curtin advised that that Park District trails are multi-use and that there are no prohibitions for stroller/buggy use on the bridle trails. He advised the Park District would discuss internally and thanked Ms. Keco for voicing her concerns.

Ms. Keco introduced Linda Golding from the Ohio Horsemen's Council who tracks the documented miles that their members log on Park District Bridle Trails. Ms. Golding distributed information to the Board that documented the number of reported miles ridden on bridle trails in parks throughout the State of Ohio, and Geauga Park District specific. Reported miles by the Geauga Chapter of the Ohio Horsemen's Council for Geauga Park District bridle trail usage:

2009 – 3,772 miles
2010 – 3,356 miles
2011 – 5,089 miles
2012 – 5,424 miles

Mr. Curtin inquired as to whether records on the number of riders that utilized the Park bridle trails were available. Ms Golding advised that number is tracked and she will forward to Mr. Curtin.

Mr. Laczko of Robinson Road, Chardon addressed the Board regarding a UFO sighting by his wife, his son and himself on December 3, 2011. The sighting included two red round lights hovering over Big Creek Park and a yellowish diffused light north on Robinson Road. The objects appeared to rise and join together at the same time, moving east toward Concord and power lines. Mr. Laczko documented the sightings and reported the incident to then Chief Ranger Urban on December 5, 2011.

Dave McNaughton, Bass Lake Community, addressed the Board regarding the possible removal of Bass Lake Preserve from the 2013-14 Deer Management Program. He reported that he has hunted the property in the

past with his sons and it has become a family activity, adding more members every year. One of his sons has written a booklet regarding the time spent hunting with family – and there is more to hunting than the actual hunt. He understands that Bass Lake hunters only reported two deer being culled (those he reported), but he is aware of more that were not reported via the Park District post-card program. He requested that Bass Lake Preserve be reconsidered for hunting in the 2013-14 Season.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Parkman Well

Previously Mr. and Mrs. Jones brought the Mast well in Parkman Twp. to the attention of the Park District, citing that if horizontal drilling was performed there was the possibility that Park District land (the Farley property) may be affected. The Park District requested a legal opinion based on the oil and gas lease the Farley’s entered into.

Dave Ondrey of Thrasher Dinsmore and Dolan was in attendance, and advised that legal counsel is of the opinion is if the proposed Mast well drilling goes forward as it has been filed with ODNR, the drilling company will have to secure approval from the Park District for horizontal drilling under the property and that Geauga Park District should communicate this information to the drilling company and request/initiate negotiations for Park District approval. A copy of the proposed communication with Chesapeake Exploration LLC was provided to the Board for review. Action by the Board to pass a motion approving the sending of the letter to Chesapeake Exploration, LLC was requested.

Mr. Fischbach moved to approve sending the communication to Chesapeake Exploration LLC.

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

Mr. Fischbach	Yes
Mr. Petruziello	Yes
Mr. Patterson	Yes

Frohring Meadows Tower Agreement

The City of Cleveland has requested permission to place emergency communication equipment on the emergency communications tower in Frohring Meadows currently being utilized by the Sheriff’s Department. The City of Cleveland has made the changes to the Agreement requested by the Park District and the language has been approved by legal counsel. The Park District is requesting the Board approve the Agreement per the revisions made by the City of Cleveland.

Mr. Petruziello moved to approve the revised Agreement.

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

Mr. Fischbach	Yes
Mr. Petruziello	Yes
Mr. Patterson	Yes

Amended Bylaws

Mr. Patterson requested moving the discussion on the Bylaws to the end of the meeting and to proceed with discussions on the 2013-14 Deer Management Program.

2013-14 Deer Management Program

The proposed 2013-14 Deer Management Program was submitted to the Board for review. Paul Pira advised the proposed program revisions were based on discussions with the Operations and Ranger Departments and

concerns on safety, logistics, wildlife management and hunt success. The recommendation was to modify and reduce the number of Parks that will allow hunting to provide time to evaluate the properties, discuss how Rangers can enforce hunting laws, revise hunter data reporting and to conduct deer density surveys to allow for management recommendations and decisions.

After extensive discussions, the recommendation was for the 2013-14 Deer Management Program to remain the same as it was for the 2012-13 Program with the exception of the rotation of The West Woods and Big Creek Park. Hunting at Big Creek Park will be contingent upon scheduled programming and current Park reservations (shelters, camping). Natural Resource Management will revise the 2013-14 Deer Management Program based on Board recommendations.

Mr. Fischbach moved to approve the 2013-14 Deer Management Program based on the Board's recommendation that it remain the same as the 2012-13 Program, except for the rotation of The West Woods and Big Creek Park, and hunting being permitted at Big Creek Park contingent upon scheduled programming and Park current reservations (shelters, camping).

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

Mr. Fischbach	Yes
Mr. Petruziello	Yes
Mr. Patterson	Yes

Park Updates

Park Updates will be forwarded to the Board via their weekly Board update.

Contract Review

There were no items brought forward for discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

Surplus Property

All questions by the Board regarding the donation of Exhibit pieces were satisfactorily answered.

Items to be declared surplus

	Inventory No.	Description	Starting Bid
1	2102E	DELL Dimension 2400 series computer	Sold as lot-\$100
2	1822E	DELL Dimension 2400 series computer	-
3	1807E	DELL Dimension 4600 series computer	-
4	1945E	DELL Dimension 4600 series computer	-
5	1966E	DELL Optiplex GX 620 series computer	-
6	1978E	DELL Optiplex GX 520 series computer	-
7	1979E	DELL Optiplex GX 520 series computer	-
8	1981E	DELL Optiplex GX 520 series computer	-
9	1983E	DELL Optiplex GX 520 series computer	-
10	1984E	DELL Optiplex GX 520 series computer	-
11	1985E	DELL Optiplex GX 520 series computer	-
12	1986E	DELL Optiplex GX 520 series computer	-
13	2057E	DELL Optiplex 745 series computer	-
14	-	13 Keyboards	-
15	-	7 Mice	-

Mr. Petruziello moved to approve the above outlined property as surplus.

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

Mr. Fischbach	Yes
Mr. Petruziello	Yes
Mr. Patterson	Yes

Mr. Patterson requested a motion to table discussions on the Amended Bylaws (item c. under Unfinished Business) to the next Board meeting.

Mr. Petruziello moved to table discussions on the Amended Bylaws (item c. under Unfinished Business) to the next Board meeting.

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

Mr. Fischbach	Yes
Mr. Petruziello	Yes
Mr. Patterson	Yes

COMMISSIONERS' TIME

There were no items brought forward for discussion.

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no questions from the public.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – ROLL CALL

Mr. Petruziello moved to go into Executive Session at 5:11 p.m. for the purpose of discussing land acquisition and personnel compensation.

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

Mr. Fischbach	Yes
Mr. Petruziello	Yes
Mr. Patterson	Yes

The Board returned from Executive Session at 5:56 p.m. The following item was brought forward:

Mr. Fischbach moved to approve changes to Articles 15, 16, 17, 19, and 22 of the Geauga County Park District Ranger employment contract.

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

Mr. Fischbach	Yes
Mr. Petruziello	Departed prior to vote
Mr. Patterson	Yes

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD

There were no reports from Committees of the Board.

REPORTS FROM OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE BOARD

Departmental reports for the month of April were submitted to the Executive Director and a summary sheet was forwarded to the Board prior to the meeting.

Mr. Curtin advised the Board that he will be taking vacation time in mid-September 2013.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:59 p.m.

SUNSHINE LAW COMPLIANCE

It is declared that notification of this meeting and any business conducted therein by the Geauga Park District Board of Commissioners was in compliance with Ohio’s Sunshine Laws.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas G. Curtin, Executive Director

James F. Patterson, President