

**GEAUGA PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
October 13, 2015**

The regular meeting of the Geauga Park District Board was held October 13, 2015 at The Meyer Center, Chardon Twp., Ohio. The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. Commissioners Mary Ruth Shumway and Bill Gertz were present.

Mary Ruth Shumway called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Park District Employees	GUESTS
John Oros, Executive Director	See EXHIBIT "A" attached
Anna McDonald, Executive Administrative Assistant	
Matt McCue, Director of Planning & NRM	
Michele Pennell, Director of Business & Visitor Services	
Dennis Sloan, Lt. Ranger	
Brett Bellas, Grounds & Facilities Manager	
Stephanie Zigman, HR Manager	
David Ondrey, Legal Counsel (Thrasher Dinsmore & Dolan)	

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

The Board was presented with minutes from the September 8, 2015 Regular Board meeting.

Mr. Gertz made a motion to approve the September 8, 2015 Regular Board Meeting minutes, as presented. Mrs. Shumway seconded the motion and after roll-call voice vote, the motion was approved 2-0.

Mrs. Shumway	Yes
Mr. Gertz	Yes

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – below are comment summaries:

- Ed Buckles, Troy Twp., expressed concern over use of firearms at Chickagami Park, and that the survey results have not been published, complimented the Park District on the Interurban Railroad kiosk at The Rookery and the signage at The West Woods outlining the history of Silver Creek.
- Shelley Chernin, Russell Twp., stated her position on the lack of Board responsiveness to her inquiry regarding the discharge of firearms at Liberty Camp. Ms. Chernin reported that Protect Geauga Parks contacted local legislature in June in opposition of House Bill 8, and that they will receive notification of any future hearings.
- Dave Partington, Munson Twp., thanked John Augustine for his assistance in videotaping the Park Board meetings for others to view, and invited all to attend Protect Geauga Parks' October 24, 2015 program at Kent State Burton titled "Back to the Wild".
- Mr. Gertz stated, for the record, that he agreed with Mr. Augustine's article regarding Parkman Twp. and asked Mr. Oros to respond to comments relating to Liberty Camp. Mr. Oros stated the Park District issued a Special Use Permit to the Tea Party to hold a 5-day Liberty Camp. He stated the American Legion did a 21 gun salute at the Park District's flag pole dedication ceremonies and he saw no harm in permitting Liberty Camp to discharge flintlock firearms that utilized black powder and no projectiles.

- John Augustine, Parkman Twp. stated that Ranger Sloan would not provide him information on whether the discharge of firearms at Liberty Camp was being investigated, commented on the cost of the new Headwaters shelter and that the Park District is no longer using recycled paper for its newsletters.
- Kathy Hanratty, Chardon Twp., stated that in 2014 the duties and authorities of the Executive Director were truncated per the Bylaws and inquired if the Bylaws had been changed back to allow more authority to the Executive Director.
- Linda O'Brien, Russell Twp., stated she is responsible for Liberty Camp, thanked Geauga Park District for use of its park and added she and her family enjoy the Park District in many ways.
- Kathleen Webb, Munson Twp., asked since the Survey indicated the people want more park land, when the Board would start looking at property to purchase.
- Skip Claypool, Geauga County citizen, commended the Park Board on the job they are doing, and that he and many other residents feel Park property should be used in a balanced way.
- Joy Keco, Bainbridge Twp., said all she has heard today is that Protect Geauga Parks is against having children in the Parks which is not true – they want children to be in the Parks enjoying and learning about nature.
- Garrett Meyer, Auburn Twp., commented on editorials that suggested playgrounds are not needed in the Park District adding he felt that a playground in the Park District is a great way to get children out in natural areas and that partisan policies should not stand in the way of making our parks better.

JUDGE TIMOTHY GRENDALL

Judge Grendell introduced himself and spoke on the following:

House Bill 8:

Judge Grendell brought House Bill 8 to the Board's attention, referencing his letter of May 8th to them (copy provided to all in attendance at meeting) and the potential environmental impact that the passage of this Bill would have to Park District property. Judge Grendell stated that this Bill passed the Ohio House 98-0 and should it pass in the Ohio Senate, it would allow horizontal drilling on Park Property if park neighbors obtain the approval from the ODNR Division Chief to include neighboring Park District property in their drilling unit. He added that currently the only public properties exempted from this Bill are State Parks and that Senator Eklund is introducing an amendment to the Bill that would include County Parks as exempt. Judge Grendell urged all to contact State legislature to support Senator Eklund's amendment prohibiting drilling in County Parks and other public properties.

Liberty Camp:

Judge Grendell stated that Liberty Camp is a nationally recognized program that educates children about our founding principles, our founding fathers and the liberties and freedoms on which this country is based (Liberty Camp video shown). Judge Grendell stated that Liberty Camp is an example of what volunteerism in this county can do to help educate and prepare children for the future. Judge Grendell, on behalf of Geauga County Probate and Juvenile Court, presented Certificates of Commendation to Geauga Park District, John Oros, Linda O'Brien, and Skip Claypool for their contribution and execution of the Liberty Camp Geauga in educating the youth of the county in the history of our country. Ms. O'Brien and Mr. Claypool expressed their appreciation to all the volunteers that contributed to Liberty Camp.

PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Board was provided with a copy of the September 2015 Financial Statement. There were no questions by the Board.

Geauga Park District
FINANCIAL STATEMENT MONTH ENDED
September 30, 2015

GENERAL FUND

BEGINNING FUND BALANCE SEPTEMBER 1, 2015	7,438,459.73
EXPENDITURES & OTHER USES	
Personnel	233,130.60
Medicare	3,350.04
Dental /Hospitalization	44,962.76
OPERS August	48,622.05
Vouchers	165,970.17
EXPENDITURES & OTHER USES	496,035.62
REVENUES & OTHER SOURCES	
<u>General Tax Collections</u>	
- Real Estate Tax Public housing distribution	1,179.68
- State Reimbursement Tax rollback (includes \$4,107.99 Mfg. Homes)	345,734.51
<u>Investment Income</u>	564.11
<u>Gifts & Donations</u>	1,489.83
- Chagrin Valley Rotary for Nature Scopes-\$500.00	
- Affelder quarterly donation - \$430.62, R.Jilek memorial - \$25.00	
- L.Mertel paver at TWW - \$200.00, Unrestricted - \$84.21	
- P.O'Neill Family Foundation for operating funds - \$250.00	
<u>Fees</u>	
- Camping	600.00
- Utility fees	435.00
- Adventure Camp registration fees - JFS	600.00
- Programs - Out-of-county	164.00
- Programs	238.00
<u>Sales</u>	
- Tree Tops - TWW	3,377.58
<u>Other Receipts</u>	
- GPD Foundation rental space/equipment	216.43
- Observatory house - Sindelar	300.00
- Swine Creek house - Harry	400.00
- Chickagami house - Kolar	400.00
<u>Other</u>	
- Public Records requests - \$3.48, Juvenile Court restitution - \$125.00	128.48

- Local Government Funds 7,872.54

REVENUES & OTHER SOURCES 363,700.16

ENDING FUND BALANCE AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2015 7,306,124.27

LAND IMPROVEMENT FUND

BEGINNING FUND BALANCE SEPTEMBER 1, 2015 3,398,131.21

EXPENDITURES & OTHER USES 215,081.66
Vouchers

EXPENDITURES & OTHER USES 215,081.66

REVENUES & OTHER SOURCES

Investment Income 329.66

Royalties/In-Lieu Fees
- Hehmeyer - \$63.38, Ford Windsor - \$667.91, Sunnybrook - \$18.68 749.97

REVENUES & OTHER SOURCES 1,079.63

ENDING FUND BALANCE AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2015 \$3,184,129.18

RETIREMENT RESERVE ACCOUNT

BEGINNING FUND BALANCE SEPTEMBER 1, 2015 \$82,472.51

REVENUES & OTHER SOURCES 7.81

Investment Income 7.81

ENDING FUND BALANCE AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2015 \$82,480.32

PRESENTATION OF VOUCHERS

The Board was presented with vouchers paid during the month of September 2015. These vouchers represented the normal day-to-day operating expenses, approved budgeted expenses and payroll. There were no questions from the Board.

Mr. Gertz made a motion to accept the September 2015 paid vouchers into the record as presented. Mrs. Shumway seconded the motion and after roll-call voice vote, the motion was approved 2-0:

Mrs. Shumway Yes
Mr. Gertz Yes

RETIREMENT SEVERANCE POLICY 310.1 REVISION, RESOLUTION NO. 25-14

The Board was provided with legal opinion that recommended the Park District Retirement Severance Policy 310.1 remain unchanged. The Board agreed with legal opinion and no action was taken.

RANGER CANINE UNIT UPDATE

Lt. Sloan reported that the Union would have no issues with a Park District Canine Unit and that a contractual agreement between the canine handlers and Park District is being prepared for legal review.

PARK DEVELOPMENT PROJECT UPDATES

Frohring Meadows shelter is complete and Headwaters is on schedule for completion this year.

CASH TRANSFER, RESOLUTION #37-15

The Board was presented with a request to transfer \$25,000.00 from the Retirement Reserve Fund to the General Fund, which amount represents retirement severances in excess of budgeted estimates.

Mrs. Shumway made a motion to approve the Cash Transfer, Resolution #37-15 as presented.

Mr. Gertz seconded the motion and after roll-call voice vote, the motion was approved 2-0:

Mrs. Shumway	Yes
Mr. Gertz	Yes

CONTRACT INCREASE, RESOLUTION #38-15

The Board was presented with a request for a Contract Increase, Resolution #38-15 in the amount of \$30,000.00 to cover legal expenses through year-end.

Mr. Gertz made a motion to approve the Contract Increase, Resolution #38-15 as presented.

Mrs. Shumway seconded the motion and after roll-call voice vote, the motion was approved 2-0:

Mrs. Shumway	Yes
Mr. Gertz	Yes

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS, RESOLUTION #39-15

The Board was presented with a request for a Supplemental Appropriation, Resolution #39-15 in the amount of \$25,000.00 as follows:

To increase appropriations in the General Fund (6017) account below to allow for the retirement expenses paid for one employee in September and expected to be paid for another employee retiring in December.

<u>Salaries (6017-057-00-501)</u>	<u>\$25,000</u>
--	------------------------

Mr. Gertz made a motion to approve the Supplemental Appropriation request, Resolution #39-15 as presented.

Mrs. Shumway seconded the motion and after roll-call voice vote, the motion was approved 2-0:

Mrs. Shumway	Yes
Mr. Gertz	Yes

PAYROLL AUTHORIZATION FORMS

The Board was provided with informational copies of the updated County Payroll Authorization Form to include Stephanie Zigman, HR Manager. Board President, Mary Ruth Shumway, will be required to sign the form prior to filing with the County.

SURPLUS PROPERTY

The Board was asked to approve the following as Surplus Property.

	Inventory No.	Description	Starting Bid
1	1910 E	UPS Battery Backup (item is defective)	Scrap
2	1919 V	2005 Ford F450 Dump with salt spreader and 8' plow	18,000.00

Mr. Gertz made a motion to approve the items declared surplus as presented.

Mrs. Shumway seconded the motion and after roll-call voice vote, the motion was approved 2-0:

Mrs. Shumway Yes
Mr. Gertz Yes

2016 BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

The Board was presented with a proposed 2016 Park District Board of Commissioners meeting schedule.

Mr. Gertz made a motion to approve the schedule as submitted.

Mrs. Shumway seconded the motion and after roll-call voice vote, the motion was approved 2-0:

Mrs. Shumway Yes
Mr. Gertz Yes

2016 RENTAL HOUSE FEES

The Board was presented with a proposal regarding the 2016 rental fees for Park District houses with the recommendation that the rental fees remain unchanged as they covered taxes and maintenance costs.

Mrs. Shumway made a motion to approve the 2016 rental fees as presented.

Mr. Gertz seconded the motion and after roll-call voice vote, the motion was approved 2-0:

Mrs. Shumway Yes
Mr. Gertz Yes

2016 UNIFORM REIMBURSEMENT, RESOLUTION #40-15

The Board was presented with a proposal for Geauga Park District's 2016 uniform allowance, which recommended the allowance remain unchanged in 2016, as follows:

- \$400 for full-time field employees
- \$1000 for full-time Rangers, per FOP contract
- \$150 for part-time field employees
- \$275 for part-time field employees if steel toed boots are required
- \$100 for full and part-time office staff

Mrs. Shumway made a motion to approve the 2016 Uniform Allowances, Resolution #40-15 as presented.

Mr. Gertz seconded the motion and after roll-call voice vote, the motion was approved 2-0:

Mrs. Shumway Yes
Mr. Gertz Yes

2016 VISION PLAN, RESOLUTION #41-15

The Board was presented with the proposed 2016 Vision Plan, recommending the reimbursement remain unchanged for 2016, as follows:

- \$200 total reimbursement benefit for each full-time employee and his/her family*.
- \$100 total reimbursement benefit for each part-time employee and his/her family*.

***Family includes spouse and IRS dependents only.**

Mr. Gertz made a motion to approve the 2016 Vision Plan, Resolution #41-15 with effective dates of November 1, 2015 thru October 31, 2016.

Mrs. Shumway seconded the motion and after roll-call voice vote, the motion was approved 2-0:

Mrs. Shumway	Yes
Mr. Gertz	Yes

2016 HEALTH INSURANCE, RESOLUTION #42-15

The Board was presented with the 2016 Health and Dental Benefits premium costs as provided by the County. The 2016 premiums reflect a 12.4% increase from 2015 for the total monthly premium for the Family Enhanced Plan (\$17.00/month). The recommendation to the Board was to reciprocate with the County and to approve the premiums as presented:

CEBCO/ANTHEM Wellness Rates - 2016					
Type	Coverage	Monthly Premium	Monthly County Contribution	Employee Bi-Weekly	Employee Monthly
Enhanced	Family	\$1,416.72	\$1,307.72	\$ 54.50	\$109.00
Enhanced	Single	\$ 537.48	\$ 493.48	\$ 22.00	\$ 44.00
Basic	Family	\$1,249.02	\$1,216.02	\$ 16.50	\$ 33.00
Basic	Single	\$ 473.84	\$ 460.84	\$ 6.50	\$ 13.00

CEBCO/ANTHEM Standard Rates - 2016					
Type	Coverage	Monthly Premium	Monthly County Contribution	Employee Bi-Weekly	Employee Monthly
Enhanced	Family	\$1,416.72	\$1,258.72	\$ 79.00	\$ 158.00
Enhanced	Single	\$ 537.48	\$ 473.48	\$ 32.00	\$ 64.00
Basic	Family	\$1,249.02	\$1,201.02	\$ 24.00	\$ 48.00
Basic	Single	\$ 473.84	\$ 454.84	\$ 9.50	\$ 19.00

CEBCO/DELTA DENTAL Rates - 2016					
Type	Coverage	Monthly Premium	Monthly County Contribution	Employee Bi-Weekly	Employee Monthly
DDP	Family	\$ 80.32	\$ 80.32	\$ 0	\$ 0
DDP	Single	\$ 28.18	\$ 28.18	\$ 0	\$ 0

Mr. Gertz made a motion to approve the 2016 Health and Dental premiums for Geauga Park District, Resolution #42-15 as presented.

Mrs. Shumway seconded the motion and after roll-call voice vote, the motion was approved 2-0:

Mrs. Shumway	Yes
Mr. Gertz	Yes

2016 BUILDING CLOSURES

The Board was provided with proposed Building Closure days for approval. Building closures are separate from Holidays.

Mr. Gertz made a motion to approve the 2016 Building Closure Days as presented.

Mrs. Shumway seconded the motion and after roll-call voice vote, the motion was approved 2-0:

Mrs. Shumway	Yes
Mr. Gertz	Yes

COMMISSIONERS' TIME

The following items were brought forward during Commissioners' Time:

John Oros:

- Tami Gingrich located an "American Snoutnose Butterfly" in Geauga County – a specie that is not native to the area.
- The Tree Tops Nature Store will feature 5 new children's books by local author Mia Colten that reflect the seasons and nature.
- The Observatory Park "Super Moon" program had over 800 in attendance.
- The Fall Fest at Swine Creek had 1,250 (conservative number) in attendance – celebrated Fall and the grand opening of Maple Highlands Trail South
- Park District video spots highlighting Observatory Park and a Family spending time in our parks were previewed.

Mr. Gertz: Fall Festival was well attended and volunteers are the heart of the Park District

Mrs. Shumway:

- Stated that John Oros will have all GPD trails reviewed for proper usage.
- Bridges at Beartown now have a sand-type paint on them to help eliminate slipping.
- The Park District is responding to the public survey by providing events such as Fall and Frozen Fest.
- In review of a 2012 video tape made at a Township Meeting Tom Curtin attended she stated Mr. Curtin made the following comments:
 - Paving of MHT South would not occur due to budget restrictions. *Mrs. Shumway stated the Park District is now reviewing to determine if paving of MHT South could be accomplished.*
 - The house at Burton Wetlands should not come down due to the Oak Trees. *Mrs. Shumway stated that the Park District will be conscious of the Oaks surrounding the building.*
 - Geauga Park District would not be purchasing any additional property in the future and would concentrate on improving the infrastructure within the Parks. *Mrs. Shumway stated this is what the Board has been attempting to do within the last year.*
- Liberty Camp: In reviewing the camp Mrs. Shumway determined that they did not shoot guns with projectiles – they did the same that was done by the color guard at the Park's flag raising ceremonies and concluded from her investigation that there was no problem with their activities.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mrs. Shumway made a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss personnel compensation.

Mr. Gertz seconded the motion and after roll-call voice vote, the motion was approved 2 – 0:

Mrs. Shumway	Yes
Mr. Gertz	Yes

The Board entered Executive Session at 5:12 p.m.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 5:20 p.m. No items were brought forward.

Mr. Gertz made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Mrs. Shumway seconded the motion and after roll-call voice vote, the motion was approved 2 – 0:

Mrs. Shumway	Yes
Mr. Gertz	Yes

The meeting was adjourned at 5:21 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,

John Oros, Executive Director

Mary Ruth Shumway, President

Exhibit "A"

GEAUGA PARK DISTRICT
 Board of Park Commissioners
 October 13, 2015 - Regular
 The Meyer Center

Name	Organization/Company
Jane O'Brien	resident
Ann Korman	resident
N.D. Howard	RESIDENT
David Huppely	Res.
John Hugenbue	Parkman Resident
Marlene DeWey	Claridon resident
Paul & Sue Kiplinger	S. Trumbull
Bob & Dore Armstrong	Monson Resident
Nara Stanton	O.H.C.
Gabrielle Johnson	Claridon Twp
Madison C Johnson	resident
Peggy Sisk	resident
Joe Kozick	Times
Shelley Chernin	Russell
STAR Piekas	Newbury
Kathy Hammann	Chardon Twp
Peter Eric Sunka	Novelt
Linda Henry	Chardon Twp
Barbara Henry	Boonville Georgia
Kim Lamm	Geauga Probate Ct
Jo Lehr	Russell
TONY ESTAVEL	Geauga
DeLisle Family	OLPH Home School Group