

**GEAUGA PARK DISTRICT BOARD
OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 28, 2021**

The special meeting of the Geauga Park District Board was held June 28, 2021 at 9:30am at the Meyer Center, Big Creek Park. The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. Commissioners Howard Bates, Dennis Ibold, Pat Preston, Mario Innocenzi, and Bill Dieterle were present.

Mr. Bates called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Park District Employees	GUESTS
John Oros, Executive Director	See EXHIBIT "A" attached
Mike Frederick, Finance Manager	
Sheryl Hatridge, Administrative Service Manager	
Bridey Matheney, Legal Counsel (Thrasher, Dinsmore & Dolan)	

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mr. Bates made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Preston seconded the motion and after roll-call voice vote, the motion was approved.

Mr. Dieterle	Yes
Mr. Innocenzi	Yes
Mr. Bates	Yes
Mr. Preston	Yes
Mr. Ibold	Yes

OLD BUSINESS

RESOLUTION NO. 2-21 – AMENDMENT TO THE BYLAWS

Mr. Oros presented proposed bylaw changes to add a Treasurer and Fiscal Officer as an Officer of the Board of Park Commissioners, provides for the duties of such Treasurer and Fiscal Officer and amends the procedure as to how to amend the Bylaws. Mr. Oros shared these items are directly related to the transition to self-fiscal, and he said many park districts have their own fiscal officer. Mr. Oros also stated he hopes that working with the county will ensure a smooth transition by July 1, 2021. Mr. Preston stated that he found the Geauga County Library also has their own fiscal officer, so it is not unique within the county. Mr. Dieterle said while we are hopeful, this auditor has been a problem for the park. He asked if we expect any problems and what if the auditor doesn't cooperate, or whether the auditor is obligated to help in this transition. Mr. Oros responded we believe there is an obligation. Mr. Preston explained everyone is entitled to their view as to how to conduct their job, however some areas of double work for the park has affected efficiency and similar issues have occurred in other offices where the auditor is superseding the decision-making process already in place which is creating difficulty. Mr. Oros stated staff was very diligent in the search for a Fiscal Officer and Mike Frederick has work experience with both Ohio and Illinois state auditor's offices. Mr. Preston also noted in correspondence of a list of requirements sent by the Auditor's office includes what any business entity would do and were common items that would be done.

Mr. Dieterle made a motion to approve the amendment to the bylaws, Mr. Innocenzi seconded the motion and after roll-call voice vote, the motion was approved:

Mr. Preston	Yes
Mr. Ibold	Yes
Mr. Dieterle	Yes
Mr. Innocenzi	Yes
Mr. Bates	Yes

RESOLUTION NO. 12-21 – APPOINTMENT OF A TREASURER & FISCAL OFFICER

Mr. Oros presented a request to approve the appointment of Michael Frederick as treasurer and fiscal officer.

Mr. Bates made a motion to approve the appointment of Michael Frederick as treasurer and fiscal officer, Mr. Innocenzi seconded the motion and after roll-call voice vote, the motion was approved:

Mr. Dieterle	Yes
Mr. Innocenzi	Yes
Mr. Bates	Yes
Mr. Preston	Yes
Mr. Ibold	Yes

RESOLUTION NO. 13-21 – DESIGNATION OF A DEPOSITORY

Mr. Oros presented a request to approve a designation of Middlefield Bank depository for Geauga Park District. Mr. Dieterle asked why Middlefield Bank was chosen and Mr. Oros replied that they are listed as one of the options with the state auditor and a request for qualifications was the depository that responded. Mr. Dieterle asked what the bank will do for us since this is a lot of money. He asked about fees, and mentioned many things can happen and banks are losing money too. Mr. Frederick responded this bank is listed as a public depository with the state, and proprietary information could be discussed at a later time. Mr. Oros added the district will be discussing an investment policy at a later time, and looking at these items carefully. Mr. Preston mentioned the park district is not there yet in the process of setting these details up and Middlefield Bank is a great bank. Mr. Dieterle stated he is just concerned about the money.

Mr. Ibold made a motion to approve Middlefield Bank as the designated of a Depository, Mr. Preston seconded the motion and after roll-call voice vote, the motion was approved:

Mr. Ibold	Yes
Mr. Dieterle	Yes
Mr. Innocenzi	Yes
Mr. Bates	Yes
Mr. Preston	Yes

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Dieterle made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Ibold seconded the motion and after roll-call voice vote, the motion was approved:

Mr. Preston	Yes
Mr. Ibold	Yes
Mr. Dieterle	Yes
Mr. Innocenzi	Yes
Mr. Bates	Yes

The meeting was adjourned at 9:43 a.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

Howard Bates, President