

Members Present: President Joe Krapohl, Vice President Jim Washington, Cloyce Dickerson, Commissioners Keeler, Nolden, Lynch, Nealy, Madore

Members Absent: Secretary Bill Lucas and Commissioner Wright are absent.

Staff Present: Amy McMillan, Director; Barry June, Deputy Director; Matt Armentrout, Director of Facilities Management; Deborah Wilkes, Secretary

Others Present: Tom Kehoe, Stanley Road, Genesee

- 1) **Call to Order.** President Krapohl presided and called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.
- 2) **Opportunity for members of the public to address the commission.** Mr. Kehoe wants to claim a position on the Parks Commission as he is an adjacent property holder.
- 3) **Consent Agenda.** President Krapohl asked commissioners if there are any items they wish to remove from the consent agenda for discussion. No items were removed from the consent agenda.

Action Taken:

Motion by Commissioner Mike Keeler
Supported by Commissioner Jim Washington

Motion and support for approval of consent agenda items A through C, as listed.

Roll Call

Yeas: Dickerson, Keeler, Krapohl, Lynch, Madore, Nealy, Nolden, Washington

Nays: None

Absent: Secretary Bill Lucas and Commissioner Wright are absent.

MOTION CARRIED 8-0

4. Director's Report

A. Commissioner Appointment Mike Keeler has been re-appointed by the Board of Commissioners to our parks commission. His term will end January 1, 2019.

B. Priority Children's Award: Nancy Edwards mentioned that the Parks won an award for the children's summer playground program for Safe and Health Places for Children in Genesee County.

C. Goose Round Up Resolution #002-16 Goose round up has been part of our wildlife management program, along with a managed waterfowl hunt, for the last eight or so years. This helps keep the beach on Mott Lake clean and swimmable. We ask that you allow us to continue this initiative. The amount of geese that we are rounding up is getting smaller, so they may be leaving and going to other places. There are costs involved so we require the commission's action.

Madore: This is at Mott Lake, are there other areas that it will expand to?

McMillan: No. We had consistent problems at Mott Lake and we also allow hunting on that lake. We don't have similar issues at Buttercup. In the past few years we've had some issues of concern to us at Clover Beach. We are expanding testing this year to determine where the problem is coming from at Clover Beach and we have a project with the Byram Lake Assn. We are only one of many, many property owners on Byram Lake, and that is a bit more of a challenge. On Mott Lake, we are the primary property owners.

Krapohl: Is this a flat rate or per bird? It is about a \$1,000 for the program?

Armentrout: It is not per bird. It is a flat rate. The amount is correct.

Keeler: Are the numbers going down? Do we happen to know what the sustainable number is that we can have and still have clean lakes?

Armentrout: The numbers have gone down significantly since we started.

McMillan: It would be helpful if we had an option for seagulls, but they are protected birds. There are a lot of other conditions that relate to water quality, so we don't think anybody knows that sustainable number. You can't point to geese only if there is a large population of other wildlife in the area.

Action Taken:

Motion by Commissioner Mike Lynch
Supported by Commissioner Jim Washington

Motion and support for approval of Resolution 002-16 for Goose Round Up.

Roll Call

Yeas: Washington, Lynch, Keeler, Nolden, Krapohl, Dickerson, Madore, Nealy

Nays: None

Absent: Secretary Bill Lucas and Commissioner Wright are absent.

MOTION CARRIED 8-0

D. DNR Recreation Passport Grant Last year we were funded for two out of three grants that we applied for from the DNR. This particular grant will provide construction of access to the lake and amphibious floating chairs so people can transfer from wheelchairs and get into the lake. One of the conditions of accepting the grant is a resolution of acceptance.

Keeler: So they stay on the chairs in the lake?

Armentrout: Yes. The chairs have oversized tires and floatation devices on the arm rest. So the person is in the chair and can recline back. There is a harness to strap them in and the chairs will roll right across the beach into the water and then it floats and you paddle out into the water.

Madore: This is at Mott Lake?

McMillan: Yes, Bluebell Beach.

Action Taken:

Motion by Commissioner Bryant Nolden
Supported by Commissioner Jim Washington

Motion and support for approval of Resolution 003-16 to accept a State of Michigan Department of Natural Resources grant RP 15-0084.

Roll Call

Yeas: Nealy, Keeler, Washington, Madore, Krapohl, Lynch, Dickerson, Nolden

Nays: None

Absent: Secretary Bill Lucas and Commissioner Wright are absent.

MOTION CARRIED 8-0

5) New Business Reminder that our next meeting is on Friday, February 26. You will be receiving a survey in the next few days from our facilitator, Ted Amsden and we hope you will return it promptly. The executive meeting is 8am, with the meeting beginning at 9am, and the retreat begins immediately after the regular meeting.

Nolden: Mr. Amsden is very good and very thorough.

McMillan: Offices are closed Friday and Monday, February 12 and 15.

6) Opportunity for Commissioners to address the Commission.

Keeler: Last year there was a badger in the parks. When asked where it was removed to, the staff didn't know. What is our policy for live trapping and removing animals? Do we have biologists that work on animal habitats?

McMillan: We work with certified licensed wildlife animal control people. They have regulations they must abide by. We didn't ask where they removed the animal to. If we did know, we probably wouldn't tell so people wouldn't seek out the animal, which would not end well. No, we do not have biologists on staff. We work with the DNR as issues come forward. We have relationships with organizations that do testing along the watershed to make sure the rivers and waters are healthy.

Nealy: Congratulations for winning a Priority Children award and also to ForMar for their nomination.

Madore: People that are licensed to remove animals follow regulations set forth by the State. Usually animals must be taken away a certain amount of miles away so they do not keep coming back.

The Richfield Township Board took up the issue of if any funds are brought to the area over the water problem, there may be some funds used to keep that landfill closed that is next to the Holloway Reservoir. That needs to be dealt with because there are limited amounts of months left in the perpetual care fund that the DEQ has to deal with the leachate. They say 10 years after that permanent liner at the top has been placed it should diminish the water flow a lot, but if we could get some funds, the DEQ would be less interested in having someone come and re-open the landfill. This might be a good time while the topic is hot. The state doesn't want it, they claim they have no money for it; it would be best for everyone to keep that closed.

McMillan: If you need support from us, let us know.

Krapohl: If Mr. Kehoe has any paperwork to show a rule pertaining to adjacent property holders holding a seat on the commission. We are not sure what he is addressing. If you have a copy, please bring it. We can forward the paperwork to the appropriate people. The Board of Commissioners actually makes appointments to the Parks Commission.

7) Opportunity for the public to address the commission. What, where and how many geese are taken? Are there any reimbursement for these animals being taken out because hunters pay for licenses to hunt. Goose hunting is one of the most expensive licenses to obtain. Mr. Kehoe asked if there are any funds put back into Duck Hunter's Unlimited since you are taking geese out of the area. They are animals that are hunted for food.

8) Adjournment. Hearing no objections, the meeting adjourned at 10:24 a.m.