

**Members Present:** President Joe Krapohl, Vice President Jim Washington, Commissioners Keeler, Lynch, Nolden, Dickerson, Wright,

**Members Absent:** Secretary Bill Lucas, Commissioner Madore and Nealy

**Staff Present:** Amy McMillan, Director; Barry June, Deputy Director; Kevin Shanlian, Chief Ranger; Leisa Gagne, Financial Officer; Danielle Fulcher, Marketing Specialist, Nancy Edwards, Programs and Grants; Deborah Wilkes, Secretary; Patrick Linihan, Administrative Intern

**Others Present:** Tom Kehoe

**1) Call to Order.** President Krapohl presided and called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

President Krapohl told the Commission that, under New Business, it may be necessary to enter into closed session.

President Krapohl asked Ms. McMillan to introduce Deputy Director Barry June and Mr. June gave a presentation to the Commission of the projects that have kept the staff busy all summer.

Barry June: These projects were funded by a combination of park funds and grants and much of the work was done with park staff as well as contractors with Matt Armentrout, Facilities Director the primary driver on these projects. Road maintenance; trail mowing; clearing McKinley Park to get to the pavilion; clearing trash from Flint Park Lake; removing dead and dangerous trees, selling that wood at the campground, large saw logs go to the mill at Crossroads reusing wood for siding at Crossroads and the railroad; grinding stumps with a rented stump grinder; repair leaks in Atlas Mill; stagecoach refurbishing by a shop teacher at Carman Ainsworth; refinishing 4 railroad cars; Bridge 2 was completed; addition of tool crib on railroad shop, military shelving was installed in tool crib; Genesee Belle renovation of interior and painting of exterior and engine work; Pyles Rd clearing with grader allowing it to be used for a walking trail. Shoreline restoration on Holloway at Wolverine Campground (a three year project); Cummings Center Sawtooth demolition, new arena area prepared; Comcast communication in four locations; parking lot repairs, crack filling, sealcoating and restriping; Max Brandon chess tables, replaced posts and cable fencing at Max Brandon; fencing on south side of Flushing County Park; therapeutic swings in Flushing, Linden County Park, Bluebell Beach, accessible trail at ForMar from the Visitor's Center to the pavilion, removed invasive species; Flushing County Park accessible trail from parking to playground and vault toilets and pavilion and drinking fountain; Richfield north and south side of park trails for access to playground, pavilion and toilets; Stepping Stone Falls trail progress, paving should be done next week, the bridge will be put in the following week; reworked several of the maintenance buildings, many were original from the 1960s; Mounds contact building, roof on pavilion and new storage facility for tools and equipment.

**2) Opportunity for members of the public to address the commission.**

Tom Kehoe, 4304 E Stanley Rd., addressed concerns about the new trestle. The plans show some infringement. He wants assurance that someone will address this with the contractor to avoid infringements. (to Barry June) Are you going to address this because he is not going to allow this infringement.

Ms. McMillan informed Mr. Kehoe that his comments are to the Commission, not park staff during this meeting. If you have questions we may be able to address it later in the meeting, or he can call her office.

Kehoe: He is the only person with private access to Mott Lake. He contributes to the community, has planted a tree on the corner and his family helps decorate it. He was involved with the Welcome to Genesee sign as well as the library and pavilion. He is here looking for allies not enemies and this project seems like it was intended in the beginning to infringe on him. His initial contact that he got was a little cold, and his first introduction here was a little cold, he is trying to be friendly. He understands his issues are being looked into.

**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 Keeler  
Supported by Commissioner Washington

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

**Roll Call**

**Yeas:** Washington, Wright, Nolden, Lynch, Krapohl, Keeler, Dickerson

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** Secretary Bill Lucas, Commissioners Madore and Nealy are absent.

**MOTION CARRIED 7-0**

**4) Legal Counsel.** Reported on the lawsuit about the closing of Genesee Rd. We learned about it on Thursday afternoon about 3pm. It was filed by Pineview Estates, and an individual resident of Pineview, James Miller. It is filed against the Road Commission and the lawsuit requested injunctive relief including an order to stop the project. The lawsuit was filed with Judge Farah on Thursday and there was no notice to the Road Commission only a courtesy call to Mr. Barkey. The judge declined to enter the injunction at that time. The criteria was not met but he ordered that the Road Commission be served with the lawsuit and that they appear before him at 8:30 on Tuesday morning, the next business day. Mr. Barkey sent a copy of the lawsuit to the Road Commission and the judge heard arguments on Tuesday, but took no testimony. He again, declined to sign the injunction but decided to hear testimony for Friday (tomorrow) at 9am. The suit is being defended by the Road Commission. The issue before the judge is whether to stop the project at this time.

Krapohl: Legal counsel has been asked about the commission's options regarding this discussion because we do have an interest in this and if there are any financial burdens that may come back to the parks. We will discuss, if the commission chooses, the options in closed session.

Wright: Are we under construction now, the Road Commission has begun the project? Nothing is being held up?

Krapohl: Yes, construction has begun.

**5) Director's Report**

Staff requests to award the contract for catering, cafeteria and concession services to Sullivan's Marketing. They were the lone bidder and they are our current contractor. An RFP went through the County's Purchasing Department. The percentage to the parks is 10% which is a greater

percent of profit to the Parks than the last contract. Is not exclusive, weddings, proms, other events can use their own caterer. It is for two years with an option to renew for three years. It is in keeping with the proposal that was issued.

**Action Taken:**

Motion by Commissioner Wright  
Supported by Commissioner Nolden

**Motion and support to award the cafeteria catering and concession services for two years with option renew in years 3, 4 and 5 to Sullivan's Marketing.**

**Yeas:** All Ayes

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** Secretary Bill Lucas, Commissioners Madore and Nealy are absent.

**MOTION CARRIED 7-0**

Day Out With Thomas: DOWT started rough with no Bob the Builder. We had a full day of rain in the second weekend which had an impact on our walk-up business. From preliminary numbers we are feeling good that we hit our revenue projections for the event. This is our primary revenue generating program during the summer season. We've gotten uniformly good comments from the public, with the only complaint being the weather.

Ms. McMillan recognized the entire staff who, in the face of difficult circumstances with Kay's death during the course of the Thomas event, did not miss a beat, even during her absence and all staff put on a bright and sunny smile on their faces for our customers and made sure they had a great experience even though it was a difficult time for them. She was a driving force in the retail end.

Volunteer Dinner, if you haven't called in an RSVP, please do, it is a great time to recognize over 15,000 hours that these volunteers give us throughout the parks.

Krapohl: The Director was in court on Tuesday so he attended the Board of Commission meeting when the County Parks budget was presented. No questions were asked and no concerns were brought up. The budget is out for public review.

**6) New Business**

We'd like to schedule a meeting on the Genesee Belle, either at our next meeting or in October. If you would like to step away from our meeting space here we'd be happy to do that.

**Action Taken:**

Motion by Commissioner Wright  
Supported by Commissioner Nolden

**Motion and support to change the location of the September 24 Genesee County Parks meeting to the Genesee Belle in Crossroads Village, 6140 Bray Road.**

**Yeas:** All Ayes

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** Secretary Bill Lucas, Commissioners Madore and Nealy are absent.

**MOTION CARRIED 7-0**

Response to public comment: Ms. McMillan to Mr. Kehoe- to restate what we have said in the last meeting that Mr. Kehoe attended -we have conducted a survey of property to insure that all work being done in regard to Bridge #3 is on Genesee County Parks property, that it does not infringe on any private property adjacent to the project. All Genesee County residents have the same right and legal access to Mott Lake as all others do. Whether an individual agrees in terms of how the project is being managed or what the ultimate construction is, there is no individual that will not be able to use Mott Lake in the same manner that every other citizen can use it.

**Action Taken:**

Motion by Commissioner Keeler  
Supported by Commissioner Wright

**Motion and support to go into closed session under Section 8H of the Open Meetings Act to discuss information that is exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal statute.**

**Yeas:** Dickerson, Wright, Lynch, Keeler, Krapohl, Washington, Nolden

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** Secretary Bill Lucas, Commissioners Madore and Nealy are absent.

**MOTION CARRIED 7-0**

*The Commissioners entered closed session at 10:35 am.*

*The Commissioners re-entered open session at 10:50 am*

**Action Taken:**

Motion by Commissioner Keeler  
Supported by Commissioner Nolden

**Motion and support to re-enter open session.**

**Yeas:** All ayes

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** Secretary Bill Lucas, Commissioners Madore and Nealy are absent.

**MOTION CARRIED 7-0**

**7) Opportunity for Commissioners to address the Commission.**

Wright: Nice presentation about what is going on in the Parks. Will that be on the website? Regarding Bridge #3, the concern seems to be two-fold long-term access and short term during construction. When we are done with the construction of the trestle will the property owner have the same access to the lake that they had before? Assuming the center span is the bulk of where the travel took place before, will future access remain similar to what it is now? During construction there may be times that there are temporary disruptions? He assumes that based on how the Parks have done projects in the past, the Parks will do everything they can to make sure the center spacing will be as close as it was previously, taking into consideration construction techniques necessary.

McMillan: We are working on a new format for an annual report that will be both digital and print so this was rolling out the first parts of that. By the beginning of the calendar year you'll see that report online.

It depends on how you define the same. We don't have the specifications in front of us. Can he travel back and forth under the bridge from his property? Absolutely. Will it be the same exact width as it is now, we can't answer that to any degree of certainty. If the property owner has a larger boat than they have at this time, clearly it won't be able to go through. The trestles are not upright and it's not like we are putting a big "x" cross beam that he cannot travel through.

June: Potentially one side may be moved about 6 inches but the center span will remain the same.

Krapohl: There will be temporary disruption during construction, similar to the Genesee Rd project.

Dickerson: What was the teacher's name from Carman-Ainsworth that worked on the stagecoach? Could we invite him to the volunteer dinner?

June: Dave Minger.

McMillan: We assume he probably is on the list, we will make sure.

Keeler: Good job Barry. It is always nice to ride through the parks to see things being developed and maintained. Thanks.

Nolden: He is shocked that schools still have woodshop class. Most schools don't.

### **8) Opportunity for the public to address the commission.**

Kehoe: His access to the lake is very important to him. He isn't looking for final inches, the span on the east side is deepest, the span on the west side is actually the widest, each span has unique and is used. He built a go, no go gauge over his boat and if there are any infringements, his gauge is certified by a third party, he is prepared. He is sure nobody wants to infringe on his rights knowingly or unnecessarily. This is not a public road, this is a private train for pleasure so he doesn't know if it falls under all the other road commission deals, but he is trying to protect himself and make friends at the same time. He believes Barry assured him that everything will be right. He is trying to do what he can to keep his access as it is and as it has been traditionally.

Krapohl: The project is on park property that the work is being done and we want to be good neighbors. Ultimately our intent is to replace the trestle to assure that we can continue to function because of the money we have invested into Crossroads Village.

**9) Adjournment.** Hearing no objections, the meeting adjourned at 10:58 a.m.