

**Members Present:** President Joe Krapohl, Vice President Jim Washington, Secretary Bill Lucas  
Commissioners: Gloria Nealy, Mike Lynch, Mike Keeler, Joe Madore, Jeff Wright, Cloyce Dickerson, Bryant Nolden

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Amy McMillan, Director; Barry June, Deputy Director; Danielle Fulcher, Marketing Specialist; Nancy Edwards, Programming and Grants; Deborah Wilkes, Administrative Secretary; Patrick Linihan, Maintenance Facilities & Project Coordinator.

**Others Present:** Vera Kraft, Columbiaville

**1) Call to Order.** President Krapohl presided and called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

**2) Opportunity for members of the public to address the commission.** No one addressed the commission.

**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 Washington  
Supported by Commissioner Nolden

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

**Roll Call**

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

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** Commissioner Wright arrived at 10:14 and missed this vote

**MOTION CARRIED 9-0**

**4) Director's Report**

**A. Great Lakes Gas Transmission Easement** Mr. Chris Doxsee and Greg Swanson. GLGT has an existing easement and pipeline through some park properties already. With the new KWA water line going through the park property it is necessary to re-locate their gas pipeline for the protection of the new water line and their gas line. They have decommissioned the current cathodic protection ground bed and have come to the commission asking to re-install a new one, which would be a small above-ground appurtenance (approximately 4 ft square) within the existing easement but in a different location to keep from damaging the new water line. Because it is above ground they like to work with the landowner and be transparent about what they are doing. They are seeking a new easement to show the new relocated structure.

Nolden: Is there any environmental effect for the park property, are we changing the landscape?

Swanson: All you will see is the above-ground structure which is about a 4 ft x 5 ft galvanized box with AC power.

Keeler: Has the existing easement been mowed?

Swanson: Yes it has been mowed.

Doxsee: There is a satellite bathroom and fence line there already. The GLGT lines have been staked.

Krapohl: You would need to bring electricity to the box?

Madore: Underground or overground?

Swanson: Yes, Underground, all new installs are underground.

Krapohl: You called it a rectifier? Would it need to be fenced in, to protect someone from possible electrical shock?

Swanson: It could be if requested. It is locked and it is grounded so there would be no problem with shock. Rather than electric shock, it is more likely to be vandalized. The only ones that are fenced in are at their facilities. In 15 years they have never had a safety problem.

Doxsee: There is an existing fence line barrier there. It doesn't hurt to keep people out of the easement area. It is proposed to relocate it to an area more away from the walking path.

Nolden: If approved, how long would it take to install?

Swanson: 7-10 days.

McMillan: This would be a two-step process. The Parks Commission would make a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners to grant the new easement.

Doxsee: They are on a tight timeline due to winter installation, so any help the Parks could provide to secure the easement would be appreciated.

Wright: After reviewing the drawings and discussing some of the technical issues with the representatives from GLGT, Mr. Wright believes that the GLGT should talk to his Chief Engineer, John O'Brien before a recommendation is made by the parks board to the Board of Commissioners.

Doxsee: A meaningful conversation would be where the KWA has ground protection located to make sure the systems are not detrimental to each other.

McMillan: This request only came to us late yesterday. Until this is fully vetted by the Drain Commissioner's office and KWA we should delay any further action. We could have everything in order within 2 weeks if they follow up with the Drain Commission and their concerns are addressed.

Lynch: If everything is in order he can make sure it is waived through committee and everything would be done, and done right the first time, in two weeks when the Board of Commissioners meet.

Krapohl: This issue will be tabled today and placed on the agenda for our September 22 meeting.

**B.** Back to the Bricks Volunteer Picnic request. A request has come in from an individual connected to the Back to the Bricks organization for a volunteer picnic at Richfield County Park for the folks that helped with their event. They would like the Gale Road entrance open for a period of time before their event starts and after it ends for the vintage cars to come and go.

Krapohl: We've had this discussion quite a bit in the past with the classic cars, antique cars requesting the use of the Gale Road entrance gate. Giving it some thought after receiving the email, Back to the Bricks is a large organization that draws from a wide area in and out county. His thought for a possible solution is that basically any groups that want to have a classic car show, we have a facility that would meet their needs, Flushing County Park. It has paved roads, there are quite a lot of open spaces for parking and showing of cars. It may be more conducive to that type of activity and it would solve the problem of the dirt road and their cars. It would give them an excellent facility to have their event. He is proposing FCP as an alternative location and there is a pavilion open on that same date. Would the commission like to consider that as an alternative?

McMillan: When she spoke to the organizer this morning, he indicated that they would be willing to move their event to Flushing County Park. Their preference was Richfield, but if we were unable to open the gate, FCP would be a reasonable alternative.

Keeler: Where is this group from?

Krapohl: His understanding is it is somebody holding a picnic to thank the volunteers that help with the Back to the Bricks event. They could be from anywhere in or out of the county. Back to the Bricks draws people from all over the local and outlying areas.

Madore: One of the organizers goes to his church, another lives on Coldwater Road, several board members live out in the Davison area so that is why they probably chose that park.

**Action Taken:**

**Motion:** Commissioner Lynch

**Support:** Commissioner Nolden

**Motion and support to offer Flushing County Park to an event holder (Dave Wood) as an alternative to granting his request to open the Gale Road entrance gate to Richfield County Park.**

**Ayes:** All ayes

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** None

**B.** We had a very busy weekend in the Parks. It was a very peaceful weekend and we were pleased all the beaches were open. We had only one slight, very short, beach closing at Linden County Park this summer. We've worked very hard with the residents on Byram Lake and the Genesee County Health Department to address our issues there.

Since the treehouse has opened we have had 8,190 people visiting ForMar in the last two weeks.

Krapohl: Typically more than ForMar have in a two-week period!

McMillan: A local company that we do business with is also volunteering their time to deal with some soil compaction issues on the site of the treehouse. We appreciate the help of Owen Tree Service.

Reminder: The Volunteer Dinner is tonight.

**6) New Business** No new business.

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

Lynch: He saw the commercial this morning about the treehouse. It was a great commercial so I think you are about to get even more (visitors).

Keeler: Are we able to analyze any of the zip codes so we know where folks are coming from?

Nancy Edwards: We are collecting zip codes, but we've not had time to take a breath to look at them yet.

Nolden: Next Friday from 8:30am to 2:30pm there is a community build of the playground at Berston Field House. All are welcome to attend and help. Keep Genesee County Beautiful has played a remarkable part in organizing about 150 volunteers, but we could use about 200. Hats off to them.

Madore: Regarding the Gale Road gate request. He thinks one of these days we should consider paving that main entrance road. The community would benefit greatly from that.

Lucas: He also saw the commercial this morning too and it was very good.

**8) Opportunity for the public to address the commission** No addressed the commission.

**9) Adjournment.** Hearing no objections to adjournment, the meeting was adjourned at 10:39 am.