

Members Present: President Joe Krapohl, Vice President James Washington, Secretary William Lucas
Commissioners: Joe Madore, Jeff Wright, Michael Lynch, Mike Keeler, Cloyce Dickerson, Bryant Nolden,

Members Absent: Commissioner Carl Arthur

Staff Present: Amy McMillan, Director; Barry June, Deputy Director; Leisa Gagne, Finance Officer; Nancy Edwards, Programs and Grants Officer; Hilda McShane, Marketing Specialist; Deborah Wilkes, Secretary

Others Present: LaMonica Harris, Gail Viers-Cook, Chris Miller

1) Call to Order.

President Krapohl presided and called meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

President Krapohl noted that there is an additional to the agenda: Goose Roundup.

President Krapohl welcomed Commissioner Mike Lynch and Bryant Nolden to our commission as representatives from the Board of Commissioners.

1) Opportunity for members of the public to address the commission.

According to commission rules, the public has three minutes to address the commission. Please state your name and address for the record. No one addressed the commission.

Gail Viers-Cook presented the parks commission with an award for their support of the Genesee County Fair.

LaMonica Harris addressed the Commission.

3) Consent Agenda. President Krapohl asked commissioners if there are any other items they wish to remove from the consent agenda for discussion. Mr. Krapohl explained the consent agenda process to the new commissioners. No items were removed from the consent agenda.

Action Taken:

Motion by Commissioner Lucas

Supported by Commissioner Washington

Motion and support for approval of consent agenda items A through E, as listed in your information packet.

Roll Call

Yeas: Dickerson, Keeler, Krapohl, Lucas, Lynch, Madore, Nolden, Washington, Wright

Nays: None

Absent: Commissioner Carl Arthur is absent.

MOTION CARRIED 9-0

4) Director's Report.

a) Mr. Washington has been reappointed to the Parks Commission as a Citizen Representative. Ms. McMillan also welcomed Mr. Lynch, the Public Works Chair and Mr. Nolden, the Board Vice

Chair. It is very exciting for us to have these folks who hold these chair positions sitting on our board, being part of our discussions, and helping us shape those discussions. It will form a strong link to the Board for us. This is the first time we've had the vice chair of the Board on our parks commission as well.

b) President Krapohl asked the Director to have the staff stand up and introduce themselves and tell the new commissioners about their position.

McMillan: As we bring on new full time staff, that we were just authorized to hire, you will be meeting them in the future.

President Krapohl said we value every one of our employees whether they mow the lawn or whether they have the responsibilities of the assistant director. We have a lot of good people that work for the parks system that we've had over the last few years. Every one of our employees has a passion for the parks. You'll be seeing these people (in this room) most of the time, but we encourage our commissioners, if they ever see an employee in the park that is doing a good job, let them know. It really builds the teamwork we have established here.

c) Ms. McMillan presented the commission with a resolution for goose nest destruction and goose round up. There are multiple causes for some of the water quality issues we have had in Mott Lake. This particular program has been in place for several years and we believe it has had a direct impact on the Mott Lake and Bluebell Beach water quality resulting in less beach closures in the past several years. We always hire a qualified contractor to perform the nest destruction, egg and goose roundup. There was a point in time when birds were relocated, but typically the birds are destroyed and given to feed the hungry. We also hold a permit waterfowl hunting program during the waterfowl season. The request on the table is for commissioners to take action to continue this program.

Commissioner Wright stated that the Director is absolutely right, there are multiple causes for past problems with water quality on Mott Lake, and they have methodically been looked at and corrected and it has resulted in having only one day of beach closure in the past four years compared with long periods of closures in past years. This program is an important program and that is why he supports it.

Keeler: How many years have we been doing this? Are the numbers of birds decreasing?

McMillan: At least six years. Geese are very prolific. Typically we start out collecting more, but the animals move. The numbers are not as high as in the past, but they ebb and flow.

Action Taken:

Motion by Commissioner Wright
Supported by Commissioner Washington

Motion and support for approval of Resolution 001-15, Canadian Goose Nest Destruction and Goose Round Up Program.

Roll Call

Yeas: Wright, Krapohl, Madore, Dickerson, Lynch, Washington, Nolden, Lucas, Keeler

Nays: None

Absent: Commissioner Carl Arthur is absent.

MOTION CARRIED 9-0

5) New Business.

President Krapohl asked Commissioner Lynch to be on the Parks Executive Board, with Mr. Nolden stepping in if Mr. Lynch cannot attend.

6) Opportunity for Commissioners to address the Commission.

Commissioner Lynch is proud to be on this board. He has lived in Genesee County all his life and has spent a lot of time in the parks. He lives close to Buell Lake and spent most of his summers casting fishing rods there. The commission has done a great job with the parks, they are clean and great places for people who can't get away to have a nice day.

Commissioner Dickerson congratulated and welcomed the new commissioners. This is a great body to work with, we work well together.

Commissioner Nolden is a bicyclist and his girlfriend has a cycling club at the Berston Field House and enjoys many of the parks. He is really happy to be on the board and plans to learn a lot and do whatever he can do to help.

Commissioner Wright welcomed the board members and he said he believes they will enjoy this board.

Commissioner Madore said he does not ride his bike much, he's more of a snowmobiler. He's glad to see some snow. Welcome.

Commissioner Keeler congratulated the new commissioners. You will love it here. People all seem to get along; if you have differences, it is no big deal, you can vote against something, vote the way you feel, and there are no hard feelings. Welcome aboard.

Commissioner Lucas thanked the commission for their support. He is glad to be back and welcomes the new commissioners and believes they will be an asset to this board.

Commissioner Washington welcomed the new commissioners. He also thanked the commissioners for their support in re-appointing him back onto this board. He values this board very seriously, this is a great group of people to work with, staff here is tremendous, he loves coming to the meetings. Many of you may dread going to meetings, because of what will happen, who will be there, what their agenda is; but he can honestly say that we can agree to disagree and nobody takes it personal. He thoroughly enjoys that. We have snow guys, bike guys, and racquetball, so we have it all covered!

Commissioner Nolden said one of the things he wants to do one day is snowmobile across the Upper Peninsula, so if you have snowmobilers here, great!

Commissioner Krapohl thanked Commissioners Nolden and Lynch for their early support of the millage. It wasn't the best time to ask for a millage, but the track record of the parks commission and administration in the county reflected in the vote. The vote totals are exactly what our surveys said that they would be for the success rate. We are looking forward to having our employees back into the parks general fund so we know they will be with us, rather than under grants. Your support really made a difference, we are sure of that. And it is nice to pay our bills and nice to have some security.

Commissioner Nolden: He appreciates that Amy sent the fee schedule to the board commissioners. Someone had asked about that at the last board meeting downtown, about

affordability of activities. He thinks we have some very economical fees for the activities that are going on and he thinks a lot of people really don't know that.

Krapohl: All the activities are listed in the Family Fun Guide. People can go through and pick out the many free activities if they want, or the very low cost activities. We've always tried to keep it free or very low cost because we know the situation in the County.

Commissioner Wright: thanked the representatives of the Fair Board for the award they gave us. He looks forward to the next five years working together.

7) Opportunity for the public to address the commission. No one addressed the commission.

LaMonica Harris congratulated the new commissioners.

8) Adjournment. Hearing no objections, President Krapohl adjourned the meeting at 10:27 a.m.