

Members Present: President Joe Krapohl, Vice President James Washington, Secretary Bill Lucas, Commissioners Cloyce Dickerson, Mike Keeler, Patrick Gleason, Archie Bailey, Jeff Wright, Commissioner Henry.

Members Absent: Ron Winters

Staff Present: Amy McMillan, Director; Ron Walker, Deputy Director, Leisa Gagne, Finance Officer; Nancy Edwards, Program Specialist; Mike Fiorucci, Seasonal Park Ranger; Deborah Wilkes, Secretary

Others Present: Brian Barkey, Legal Counsel, Olof Karlstrom, Ron Fonger

Call to Order. President Krapohl presided over the meeting and called meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

1) Opportunity for the public to address the commission. President Krapohl asked if there is anyone wishing to address the Commission. Per commission rules each person shall have three minutes in which to address the commissioners. No one addressed the commission.

2) Consent Agenda. President Krapohl asked if any commissioners wished to remove any items from the consent agenda. No items were removed.

Action Taken:

Motion by Commissioner Lucas
Supported by Commissioner Washington

Motion and support for approval of consent agenda items A-D as listed.

Roll Call

Yeas: Bailey, Dickerson, Gleason, Henry, Keeler, Krapohl, Lucas, Washington, Wright

Nays: None

Absent: Commissioner Winters is absent

MOTION CARRIED 9-0

3) Report from Legal Counsel – Mr. Barkey stated that he Miller Lawsuit is extremely close to being settled. Hopefully by the next meeting we will have settlement documents ready. The temporary restraining order in effect has been extended.

4) Director's Report.

A. Mounds – Ms. McMillan stated that Marketing Specialist, Hilda McShane is at the Mounds for a national commercial that is being produced for a Ford truck. They are using some of our services resulting in a nice piece of revenue for us.

B. Budget for FY 2011-2012 - Staff is asking for approval by the commission by four funds: General Operating, Crossroads Village, Railroad/Belle/Food Service, and Equipment. Upon

approval of these budget funds and resolutions, the budget will be presented to the Board of Commissioners for adoption along with the general county and other departmental budgets.

Action Taken:

Motion by Commissioner Wright
Supported by Commissioner Lucas

Motion and support to approve resolution 004-11 for General Operating Fund # 208 with revenues of \$5,056,477 and expenses of \$4,456,665 as presented.

Roll Call

Yeas: Wright, Washington, Lucas, Krapohl, Keeler, Henry, Gleason, Dickerson, Bailey

Nays: None

Absent: Commissioner Winters is absent

MOTION CARRIED 9-0

Action Taken:

Motion by Commissioner Wright
Supported by Commissioner Lucas

Motion and support to approve resolution 005-11 for Crossroads Village Fund #211 with revenues of \$1,236,050 and expenses of \$1,031,613 as presented.

Roll Call

Yeas: Keeler, Dickerson, Wright, Lucas, Bailey, Henry, Krapohl, Washington, Gleason

Nays: None

Absent: Commissioner Winters is absent

MOTION CARRIED 9-0

Action Taken:

Motion by Commissioner Wright
Supported by Commissioner Washington

Motion and support to approve resolution 006-11 for Huckleberry Railroad, Genesee Belle and Food Service Fund #508 with revenues of \$237,500 and expenses of \$761,249 as presented.

Roll Call

Yeas: Washington, Bailey, Henry, Wright, Krapohl, Dickerson, Gleason, Lucas, Keeler

Nays: None

Absent: Commissioner Winters is absent

MOTION CARRIED 9-0

Discussion of Fund #666:

Commissioner Henry asked if this is all of maintenance or just new purchases. Ms. McMillan stated that it is just new purchases. Maintenance falls under the general operating fund.

Action Taken:

Motion by Commissioner Dickerson
Supported by Commissioner Washington

Motion and support to approve resolution 007-11 for Equipment Fund #666 with expenses of \$280,500 as presented.**Roll Call:**

Yeas: Krapohl, Bailey, Wright, Gleason, Washington, Dickerson, Keeler, Henry, Lucas

Nays: None

Absent: Commissioner Winters is absent

MOTION CARRIED 9-0

C: **Wildlife Management.** Staff is asking commission to permit us to conduct a bow hunting program at the E.A. Cummings Center this year. It will be the first four Mondays and Tuesdays at the Center. Early hunters tend to shoot for meat whereas the late season hunters shoot for trophy deer. In order to reach the goal of reducing the herd we would like to move the hunt up to the early season. We would do the same pre-qualification of hunters on September 10, 11 and 12. The hunters who qualified last year will not have to qualify again. To qualify hunters must hit a paper plate sized target at a certain distance with accuracy. Once qualified, they will be put into a lottery and names will be drawn for places and dates available throughout the hunt.

We are asking for approval of the same program this year as last year with the same fees and charges but with this year's dates. The state has changed its opposition on permitting baiting. Last year baiting was not permitted. There are some state restrictions that must be followed, primarily the amount of food used as bait. Sprays and oil are considered bait as well.

The sub-committee discussed the organic litter created by baiting. If we permit carrots, apples or corn we believe the best way to manage this would be for the parks to dispense bait and charge a small fee. Two gallons are allowed in an area. If bait does not disappear, by whatever natural means, then the parks staff would pick it up. However, if we do the baiting, they hunters are stuck with where we place the bait. We'd like to allow hunters to use the sprays and oil, which they would be expected to adhere to state restrictions.

We would post the same signage to warn people, in advance, that the park will be closed to everything except deer hunting on those dates. Each designated area has signage and the lottery procedure worked well last year. Last year we had cold weather in the late season; with October dates we expect a good turnout. The dates would be October 3, 4, 10, 11, 17, 18 24 and 25.

Commissioner Gleason said it would be hard to place bait where they won't find it. They will find it. He believes that we need to permit a minimum of 5 applicants using bait to start up. We can get a feel after the hunt starts if hunters want more areas baited or less. It's not a big

investment to purchase the bait. Get the input from the hunters what they want. The activity will be much better in October than December.

We didn't come to a conclusion about tree stands. During preliminary discussions permanent stands would not, of course, be permitted but certainly climbers could be allowed. We have more time to discuss that before the hunt. We also talked about there obviously must be a clear cut definition of how the state is protected if a hunter falls out of a tree on state land. We are public land, just like they are.

Ms. McMillan said it is really not different, as she understands it, that it would be no different that if she falls off her horse at the barn. It is an activity to which she has willfully engaged and it has an inherent risk and the county has protection for that, similar to someone tripping over their own feet on the disc golf course.

Commissioner Gleason gave a light-hearted comparison to the deer bait pile and how well the bait pile works (where the cookies and treats are kept) during the commission meeting. No matter where it is, he goes to the same general area to look for it! He thinks once the bait pile is established in the hunt area, the deer will find it. He believes the program will be very successful this year considering last year's program drew attention with minimal amount of time to advertise it. If we fine tune it within the next few weeks it will be a great activity.

Ranger Fiorucci said they hunters will probably want the tree stands because of limited sight because of tree foliage.

Ms. McMillan also clarified that the bow hunting would be open to Genesee County residents only.

Commissioner Henry asked for clarification about baiting.

Ms. McMillan said we'd probably charge \$5 or \$10 for baiting. Only those requesting bait would pay.

Motion and support to allow a limited bow hunt in the E. A. Cummings Center using the same guidelines and fees as last year, on the first four Mondays and Tuesdays in the month of October. There will be a lottery draw system used and baiting will be allowed, controlled and administrated by the Genesee County Parks.

Ayes 8

Nays 1 (Commissioner Bailey voted no)

Absent 1

MOTION PASSED 8-1

D. **Day Out With Thomas.** We had a good weekend last week at the event. There were some challenges with the weather and data lines going out on Saturday and Sunday. There is a good forecast this weekend so we expect another good weekend.

Commission Lucas asked if we are down or up with Thomas.

Ms. McMillan said it is too early to tell. Advance tickets were slower, but the walk-up sales are much higher. We don't have all the numbers yet. We are a little down from last year.

5) New Business. There is no new business.

6) Opportunity for Commissioners to address the Commission.

7) Opportunity for the public to address the commission.

8) Adjournment. Hearing no objections, President Krapohl adjourned the meeting at 10:34 a.m. a.m.