

Members Present: President Joe Krapohl, Commissioners Cloyce Dickerson, Mike Keeler and Archie Bailey, Patrick Gleason, Ted Henry

Members Absent: Ron Winters, Vice President Jim Washington, Secretary Bill Lucas, Jeff Wright

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

Others Present: Brian Barkey, Legal Counsel; Joe Madore, Richfield Twp. Eleanor Riegler, Resident

Call to Order. President Krapohl presided over the meeting and called meeting to order at 10:06 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. Discussion: President Krapohl asked if any commissioners wished to remove any items from the consent agenda. No items were removed.

Action Taken:

Motion by Commissioner Keeler
Supported by Commissioner Henry

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

Roll Call

Yeas: Bailey, Dickerson, Gleason, Henry, Keeler, Krapohl

Nays: None

Absent: Commissioners Winters, Washington, Lucas and Wright are absent

MOTION CARRIED 8-0

4) Report from Legal Counsel – Legal Counsel has no report this meeting.

5) Director's Report.

A. Gale Road Resident Survey. Upon a resident's request to open the Gale Road entrance to Richfield County Park the Commissioners requested that the Director informally poll the residents on Gale Road for their input. The request did not ask to close the Irish Rd. entrance, just to open Gale Rd. for entry to the park. One resident in that area was under the impression that the Irish Rd entrance was built with a grant under the condition that Gale Road entrance be closed. There was a grant used, but there were no provisions to permanently close Gale Road entrance attached to that grant. They were also under the misunderstanding that there was a referendum vote held. There was no ballot issue to our knowledge.

The resident surveys were not unanimous. Two residents said they favored the road being open, the rest said they did not favor re-opening the road. Only about six residents did not respond. Almost everyone that contacted our office was grateful to the parks commission for giving them the opportunity to have a say so. Most responses were about traffic and speed. At least two responses were entirely inappropriate.

You can accept the report today, ask questions, or not ask questions and take no further action; you can accept the report and take action; or accept the report, as for further review and ask to place the issue on the agenda at some point in the future.

Commissioner Bailey: What is the director's recommendation?

Ms. McMillan: To be perfectly honest, you just got the report today, take the time to read it and bring it back to the next meeting or the meeting after that to discuss the issue.

Commissioner Bailey: Is this an action item, something I can make a motion to do that?

President Krapohl: You can or we can bring it back under old business on the agenda for the next meeting.

Ms. McMillan: She's not trying to drag her feet, but for the residents or elected officials from that area, they may want some time to discuss it further with the residents of that area.

C. Parks Updates. Mounds Birthday Party: We had some interesting off road vehicles out there that day that some vendors brought out for display. The event went well. We are starting to make up some ground on the loss of revenue from earlier in the season due to poor weather. We are just a little behind at Wolverine, we're making good headway at the boat launches, which percentage wise we were the farthest behind and the Mounds is picking up steam. A commercial photographer is meeting our marketing specialist at the Mounds as we speak to film a commercial. Although movie business is dropping off, the commercial advertisement business is still going strong. We are working to take advantage of that. Our rates are competitive.

The summer playground programs start this week. These have been funded by several grants and created partnerships to help with the costs. These programs are very expensive and not many places can afford to hold them. Through NRPA and Wal-Mart the participants at the playground programs will be fed lunch and a snack each day they attend. Hunger is a terrible problem in this County and each site of these programs fall into areas that qualify under school lunch programs where at least 50% of the children attending those schools receive a free lunch, which is why we qualified to hold these programs. We also are doing some gardening for the children.

The Warrior Dash numbers are at approximately 24,148, up about 1,000 from last week.

Commissioner Henry: What type of commercials are they doing at the Mounds? Do we charge a fee and what kind of fees?

Ms. McMillan: These are print commercials about getting people out and active from the Henry Ford Health System. In the past we've had car magazines out there and today Hilda is meeting with some folks who manufacture off road vehicles. We do charge a fee, at least \$150 p/hr to use the Mounds, plus any other equipment or services they request. This shoot they are using some tents and generators and two staff members so

they are paying cost, plus a certain percentage, for those services. All commercial shoots are restricted to a certain use in any park someone wants to use for these purposes.

6) New Business.

7) Opportunity for Commissioners to address the Commission.

Commissioner Henry: Where is Mid-State Chloride located?
What is the size of the buildings purchased from Clio Lumber?

Mr. Walker: Mid-State is located in Mayville. The sheds are 10 x 10 he believes.

Ms. McMillan: Those storage sheds for the playground program are paid for by the grants.

Commissioner Bailey: How many years has the Director been here? Ms. McMillan: Sept 1999.

Commissioner Bailey: Carpenter Road, next to Flushing County Park, is being paved and the Parks repaired the fencing along that road and they did a beautiful job. When the road is completed it will be worth taking a look at it because it will be very attractive. He'll try to bring in some pictures. The Drain Commissioner and the Road Commission can also be credited for the paving. The repairs will be quite an improvement.

Commissioner Keeler: A friend remembers when Gale Road was open and said that the road was very busy because Gale Road was paved and people used to wax their cars under the shade trees. People don't drive their newly washed car down the current gravel entrance.

8) Opportunity for the public to address the commission.

Joe Madore said he would like copies of future correspondence that goes out to residents because he was getting phone calls and emails about the Gale Road letter. Please keep him in the loop.

Down the road if the Parks would like to defer the whole Gale Road issue to the Township. He doesn't see the road opened without the local township's blessing anyway.

Could the Parks look into grants to pave the Irish Road entrance? The township would be willing to help if it comes to match money or CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) funds. He thinks the attendance in the park would go up drastically if the entrance was paved.

Ms. McMillan said if he has any CDBG funds that are unobligated she'd be happy to talk with him about that.

Mr. Madore: Some of those funds were just donated back to the County home improvement program for people in his township. A new three-year cycle will be coming up again. They often find a problem finding ways to spend those funds. If there is match money for a grant we would probably have enough support on his board for that.

Ms. Riegle said she thought it would be cheaper to open the Gale Road entrance rather than pave a road. She wishes it was re-opened so she could have places to sit and walk.

9) Adjournment. President Krapohl made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:26 with no objections.