

**CASS COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MSU Conference Room – 2nd Floor
Cassopolis, MI, MI 49031
February 14, 2019**

9:00 a.m. – CALL MEETING TO ORDER – Recording Secretary Dohm

INVOCATION – Commissioner Parrish

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Commissioner Campbell

ROLL CALL – Recording Secretary Dohm

Director Wyman – P	Kevin Claire – P	David Kring – P
Bruce Campbell –P	Annie File –A	Fritz Kucklich - P
Korine Blyveis –P	Kevin Hershberger –A	Robert Parrish - P
Jamie Stafne – P (late)		

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – with the addition of organization prior to the minutes.

Motion: Commissioner Parrish

Second: Commissioner Claire

APPROVAL OF MINUTES –

Motion: Commissioner Claire

Second: Commissioner Kucklich

INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS – Nora Serocki

PUBLIC COMMENT – saved until new business

COMMITTEE REPORTS –

1. None

DIRECTOR’S REPORT – Director Wyman

1. Was presented.

BUDGET – Director Wyman

1. Was presented.
2. Have used 80% of the equipment repair line item already due to Gator and truck repairs. The parks definitely needs a new Gator, and the new truck will be here in March.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Dark Skies Update
 - a. The application has been looked at; suggesting two changes:
 - i. Park availability – with extended hours
 - ii. Restoration project that will affect change that the public can see (ornamental street lights in the village of Cass). Commissioner Parrish has contacted the village president to see about the possibility of changing the bulbs, but no response).
 - b. March 5 Commissioner Parrish has yet another presentation scheduled.

Motion by Commissioner Parrish: To approve the Lighting Management Plan as presented.

Support: Commissioner Kucklich

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Parrish – Y
Commissioner Kucklich – Y
Commissioner Kring – Y
Commissioner Claire – Y
Commissioner Blyveis – Y
Commissioner Campbell – Y

Unanimously passed by all those present at the time of vote.

2. Special Event Update
 - a. Winter Nights – Had to cancel the first scheduled night, had about 30 participants on the second night, 300 on the third night, and cancel the fourth night.
 - i. Director Wyman would like to reconfigure the tubing hill at some point.
 - ii. Commissioner Blyveis suggested the addition of some winter games.
 - b. April 6 – The celebrating International Dark Skies Week. Commissioner Parrish will be at the park from 8:00 p.m. to midnight, weather permitting.
3. Dowagiac River
 - a. They are waiting on the permit from DEQ to take the dam out.
 - b. Clearing the Dowagiac River from Dodd towards Pucker Street dam – this is an inter-county drain issue; looking at petition.
 - c. Commissioner Kucklich suggested the canoe groups would be willing to cut out the downed trees and branches, however Director Wyman indicated this would be a bigger job.
 - d. Commissioner Blyveis suggested plantings behind the cabins at Dodd to spruce up the landscape.

NEW BUSINESS

1. The Voice
 - a. Asking if the Parks Department would like to place an ad in their publication.
2. Invasive Species Annual Meeting
 - a. Update given by Nora Serocki.
 - b. Working with drain and road commissions.
 - c. Working with lake associations to set up a forum-type meeting.

BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Commissioner Blyveis – handed out tree catalogs for Conservation District sale, with a thank you for advertising.
2. March 4th is the first hike with a naturalist with Commissioner Parrish. Anyone wishing to volunteer needs to sign up with Commissioner Blyveis.
3. April 22nd is Earth Day at Lawless from 4:00 – 8:00 p.m.
4. Commissioner Stafne – Melting Man Race is March 23rd.

Adjournment

Motion: Commissioner Parrish

Second: Commissioner Kucklich

Respectfully submitted,
Patty Dohm
Recording Secretary

Next regular meeting March 14th at 9:00 a.m. Please call 445-4456 if you cannot attend.