

**CASS COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
Conference Room  
120 N Broadway  
Cassopolis, MI 49031**

**February 9, 2017**

**6:00 P.M.\_- CALL MEETING TO ORDER - Recording Secretary Dohm**

**INVOCATION – Commissioner Washington**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Commissioner Campbell**

**ROLL CALL – Recording Secretary Dohm**

Director Wyman – P	Kevin Claire – P	David Kring - P
Bruce Campbell – P	Annie File –P	Linda Pruett -P
Korine Blyveis – P	Kevin Hershberger – P	Johnie Rodebush – A
Jamie Stafne – P	Pauline Washington - P	

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA – with the addition of meeting time to new business**

**Motion to accept as amended: Commissioner File**

**Second: Commissioner Kring**

**Motion carried**

**INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Motion: Commissioner Hershberger**

**Second: Commissioner Blyveis**

**Motion carried.**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

None

**DIRECTOR’S REPORT - Director Wyman**

1. Discussion regarding the removal of the dam on Pucker Street. Those in charge are still hoping for removal yet this year, however there is a company that is trying to get the city of Niles to reconsider and restart the power plant there.
2. We have received our MAEAP sign. It was noted that we need to control the grapevines, erosion on our trails and the old farm dumps. Will have a presentation about MAEAP at an upcoming board meeting.

**BUDGET REPORT - Director Wyman**

1. The fund balance will play an important part with the Dodd Grant.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. Dodd Grant
  - a. Bids came in way over the grant amount.
    - i. \$473,000 was the low bid, \$510,160 with alternatives.

- b. Just starting the dialog with Cass County and BOC. We have 75 days to accept the bid.
- c. Much discussion followed.
  - i. BOC could levy ¼ mil tax without a vote by the public.
  - ii. Moving forward researching how to fund the outstanding portion of the bid.

**Motion: Commissioner Blyveis – to accept the low bid from Denny’s Excavating with both alternatives, pending financial approval from the BOC.**

**Second: Commissioner Pruett**

**Motion carried.**

2. Discover Winter Nights
  - a. Unfortunately due to un-winter weather conditions, all Discover Winter Nights were canceled, will have to hope for better weather next year.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Mobile home at Dodd
  - a. The renter has moved out, and the process of finding a new renter will begin. Will need to put an advertisement in the newspaper and plan on reviewing the applications at the next park meeting.
2. Mountain Bike Time Trials will be June 25<sup>th</sup>
  - a. NIMBA has purchased a trail grooming machine that will be kept at Lawless for us to use.
3. Meeting time
  - a. It was suggested that we change the meeting time of the board.

**Motion: Commissioner Kring – to set the Cass County Parks Board monthly meetings to the second Thursday of each month at 9:00 a.m. in a room to be designated later.**

**Second: Commissioner Hershberger**

**Discussion:**

- a. Notice needs to be announced to the public.
- b. Will it affect the per diem? Didn’t think so as per other meetings attended.

**Motion carried.**

#### **BOARD MEMBER COMMENT / ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. Commissioner Campbell and Director Wyman visited Commissioner Rodebush, and found him in good spirits hoping to be back at our meetings in the near future.
2. Commissioner Blyveis is recruiting volunteers to help with the annual Conservation District tree sale.
3. Commissioner Blyveis is resuming their organized hike at Lawless – it will be the last Wednesday of the month beginning at 5:00 p.m. weather permitting.
4. Director Wyman asked that board members take a look at the annual report and make suggestions.
5. Commissioner Claire commented that the critters really ate the corn in the buffer areas around Lawless, and asked to have the farmer thanked for doing such a great job in making the buffer.

**ADJOURNMENT 7:45 p.m.**

**Motion: Commissioner Blyveis**

**Second: Commissioner Claire**

**Next regular meeting March 9, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. Location TBA. Please call 445-4456 if you cannot attend.**

Respectfully submitted:

Patty Dohm, Recording Secretary