

**CASS COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
T.K. Lawless Park
Cassopolis, MI, MI 49031
January 9, 2020**

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

INVOCATION – Director Wyman

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Commissioner Campbell

ROLL CALL – Recording Secretary Dohm

Director Wyman – P	Annie File - P	
Thomas Atkinson – P	Hailey Harman – P	Lyndon Parrish - A
Bruce Campbell –P	David Kring - P	Robert Parrish - P
Kevin Claire - P	Fritz Kucklick - P	Jamie Stafne - P

ELECTION OF OFFICERS – Recording Secretary Dohm

Motion to cast a unanimous ballot for President and Vice President – Commissioner Kring

Second: Commissioner File

Unanimous Support

Motion to nominate Hailey Harman as Secretary – Commissioner Campbell

Second: Jamie Stafne

No other nominations

Unanimous Support

Officers for 2020 are:

Bruce Campbell – President

Kevin Claire – Vice President

Secretary – Hailey Harman

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBER: Thomas Atkinson

APPROVAL OF AGENDA with the addition of the parks video and correspondence

Motion: Commissioner Kucklick

Second: Commissioner File

APPROVAL OF MINUTES –

Motion: Commissioner Claire

Second: Commissioner File

INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS –

County Administrator Carmen, County Deputy Director Collins, Nor Serocki

PUBLIC COMMENT –

Nor reported what her job consists of within southwest Michigan. She also reported that they have received 2 grants to help manage invasive species for the next 2 years.

COMMITTEE REPORTS –

1. Policy Committee – no report, but will need to be working on CP-1.
2. Marketing Committee – Commissioner Stafne reported that she is working on setting up a meeting with the person that has done some marketing work for St. Joseph's parks to see what she could do for Cass.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Director Wyman

1. Was presented.

BUDGET – Director Wyman

1. Was presented.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Dark Skies Update, Commissioner Parrish
 - a. It is official! Dr. T.K. Lawless Park has been designated as an International Dark Skies Park.
 - b. Commissioner Parrish requested the purchase of two (2) light meters at the cost of approximately \$80 each.
 - c. Part of the obligations to the Dark Skies designation is to compile and annual report of all the activities done to promote dark skies. Commissioner Parrish has many speaking engagements that will be reported.
 - d. The official announcement and grand opening of this will be done during the Star Party, which is the last weekend in April.
 - e. Any press releases that go out are to be sent to the IDA also.
 - f. President Campbell set a committee for Dark Skies, the chairman to be Commissioner Parrish. Also named to the committee are President Campbell, Commissioners File and Atkinson, Patty Dohm and anyone that would like to be on it.
2. Sears Park / West Harmon
 - a. Charging an entry fee for using the boat launch. Assigned this to the policy committee.
3. Timber Sale
 - a. Director Wyman has a meeting set up with Jeff Steinkraus to formulate a plan for the timber sale.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Point Park
 - a. Discussed what options were available for the small parks properties that are designated "county parks" including Point Park.
 - b. President Campbell referred to the legal council that he has looking into whether these properties belong to townships or county.
2. Great Lakes Park Training Institute
 - a. Director Wyman attends this training in Angola, IN each year.
 - b. There is a free one-day training opportunity for board members in Novi the end of January. Anyone interested needs to talk to Director Wyman.
3. The Friends of the Cass County Parks
 - a. A 501(c) 3 organization that has been in existence for over 20 years.
 - b. Are in the process of purchasing a sound system for Lawless Park.
4. Five Year Recreation Plan
 - a. Will be working with the SW Planning Commission this year.
 - i. The last five year plan was done in-house.
 - b. The plan is used to secure grants.
 - c. Director Wyman will be meeting with Marcy Hamilton from the SW Planning Commission next week.
5. Video
 - a. The video of the parks done several years ago and has resurfaced with much interest. Director Wyman has contacted the person that worked on it, and they will be working to update it.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENT/ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. None

Adjournment

Motion: Commissioner Claire

Second: Commissioner Kring

Respectfully submitted,
Patty Dohm
Recording Secretary

Next regular meeting February 13, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. Please call 445-4456 if you cannot attend.