

**Licking Park District Commissioners**  
**Minutes of Regular Meeting – February 15, 2023**

Board Chair Mr. Kiracofe called the February 15, 2023 Regular Meeting to order at 6:05pm at the James Bradley Center, Infirmary Mound Park.

I. Roll Call

Present: Mr. Moseley, Mr. Kiracofe, Mr. Jenkins, Mr. White

Tardy: Ms. Campbell

Staff: Director Lund, Ms. Lohrman

II. Comments from the Public

Jim Bradley & his wife Nancy were present. Mr. Kiracofe reminded Mr. Bradley to keep his comments to five minutes or if not, meet with the Board afterwards or submit comments in writing.

Mr. Bradley presented a resolution from 1982 where the Licking County Commissioners entered into an agreement with Mr. Bradley to oversee the County Park. He also presented his oath of office from 1989, swearing him in as Commissioner for the Park District. He gave both documents to Ms. Lohrman so they could be filed with the other historical documents of the Licking Park District. Mr. Bradley also asked about the agenda. He asked what amendments were being made to the ByLaws.

Mr. Kiracofe answered adding the Directors Report & Pledge of Allegiance to the agenda & also limiting the public's comments to five minutes.

Mr. Bradley stated limiting the public's time to five minutes is censorship. He encouraged more time to be allotted. Mr. Bradley asked, if he needed more time, could he add himself to the agenda & Mr. Kiracofe stated he could at the discretion of the Director.

Ms. Campbell entered the meeting at 6:08pm.

III. Approve agenda items / Request for additional agenda items

Mr. Moseley moved, Mr. White seconded to approve the February 15, 2023 regular meeting agenda items.

Mr. Moseley moved to move up agenda item *VIII.A. Fritz Drumm Memorial/Alexandria Fun Days* to item *IV*. Mr. Jenkins seconded the motion.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

IV. Fritz Drumm Memorial/Alexandria Fun Days - location of future park amenities (shelter, etc.)

Dean Shiller & Jeff Mitchell with Alexandria Fun Days were present, along with Joyce Drumm, Lindsay Davis, & Beth Comisford with Fritz Drumm. Mr. Shiller spoke for the group, asking for the Board's permission to add amenities to Fritz Drumm Memorial park, in anticipation of moving Alexandria Fun Days to this park. Mr. Shiller presented a map labeling the features they would like to add, which included

the following: adding 11 lights in the park, building a shelter house, creating a flat area for food trucks & inflatables, & installing a clay track for tractor pulls, eventually making it asphalt.

Mr. Kiracofe asked the Fritz Drumm representatives, since they are the ones who lease the property from the Licking Park District, if they approved of these changes & Ms. Drumm confirmed that they did.

Mr. White suggested contacting Energy Coop or Holophane about possibly donating lights to the project. He also asked Director Lund if Alexandria Fun Days would be eligible for the Government Partner Funds.

Director Lund stated that in order for them to be eligible for the Government Partner Funds, the Village of Alexandria or St. Albans Township must own or lease the land, which is not the case, so unfortunately, they would not be able to access these funds.

Mr. Kiracofe stated the Board would like to see these funds being used so he suggested that Fritz Drumm & Alexandria Fun Days work with the Village of Alexandria or St. Albans Township and have either of those two entities complete an application for the Government Partner Funds and the Board would review the application.

Director Lund stated the addition of Alexandria Fun Days was included as an addendum to Fritz Drumm's lease agreement so no further action from the Board was needed.

V. Approval of Minutes

A. January 18, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes

Ms. Campbell moved, Mr. Jenkins seconded to approve the January 18, 2023 regular meeting minutes.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

VI. Financial Status of Park District

A. January 2023 Financial Summary

Mr. Moseley moved, Mr. White seconded to approve the January 2023 financial summary.

Director Lund presented the January 2023 financial summary to the Board.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

VII. Approval of January 2023 Revenue & Expenses

A. January 2023 Revenue & Expenses

Mr. White moved, Ms. Campbell seconded to approve the January 2023 revenue & expenses.

Director Lund presented the January 2023 Revenue & Expenses to the Board.

Ms. Lohrman stated that the Licking County Commissioners deposited the \$90,000, for the Major Bike Path Fund 6054, into the wrong fund. It was

instead deposited into the original Bike Path Repair & Replacement Fund 3144, so these funds will need to be transferred.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

#### VIII. Old Business

##### A. Brownsville Rd Landing (ODNR) - status update

Director Lund updated the Board on the status of the Brownsville Rd kayak/canoe launch. He spoke with Jeff Johnson of the ODNR & they have allocated \$200,000 this year for this project, and possibly another \$200,000 next year, so they currently aren't asking LPD for any assistance with funding. ODNR may utilize LPD for trash pick up or removing sediment from the launch but as of now, ODNR will fund this project. ODNR anticipates installing a temporary parking area & launch this spring to accommodate traffic through the summer until final plans for a launch & parking lot can be established.

##### B. Longwell-Miles Memorial Park - status update

Mr. Kiracofe updated the Board on the status of the Longwell-Miles Memorial Park hearing. He met with Ms. Carnes, with the Licking County Prosecutors office, & there are currently no new updates. The next hearing will be a status hearing on February 28, 2023. If no agreement is reached, it will go to trial.

#### IX. New Business - Special Item Follow Up

##### A. Palmer Road Swamp Preserve (Etna Township) - parking lot & fencing

Director Lund updated the Board on the status of the parking lot & fencing project at Palmer Road Swamp Preserve. He is scheduled to be on the February 21 agenda for the Etna Township meeting, so he will see what their decision is on whether or not they decide to extend the roadway at Freeway Drive. He has met with two excavating companies and has received two quotes for a parking lot. He has also attempted to contact a property owner regarding the removal of trees and has yet to hear back from him. However, until Etna Township confirms whether or not they can extend the roadway, this project is on hold.

##### B. Repaving of Panhandle Trail (Route 146 to Felumlee Rd) - advertise for bids

Director Lund updated the Board on the repaving project for one mile of path on Panhandle. He stated new bids are needed so the next step is to advertise for these bids.

##### C. Tree removal at Palmer Road Swamp Preserve

Mr. White moved, Mr. Jenkins seconded to approve spending \$3,350 to Slone's Tree Services for tree removal at Palmer Road Swamp Preserve.

Director Lund stated six trees need to be removed, all being in danger of falling onto neighboring sheds, pools, houses, and/or decks. Three estimates were received, with Slone's being the lowest bidder. He stated these funds could be reimbursed from the Palmer Road Fund at Licking County Foundation.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

D. SuperGames - Portable Zip Line & Inflatable Fire Truck Slide (Outdoor Adventures)

Mr. Jenkins moved, Ms. Campbell seconded to approve spending \$5,300 to SuperGames to rent a ZipLine & Inflatable Slide for Outdoor Adventures in June.

Director Lund stated these attractions will be added to the Outdoor Adventures event, slated for Saturday, June 3rd.

Mr. Kiracofe asked if more mulch or a mat could be installed at the Nature Playscape slides. The mulch is being pushed away & a hole is forming.

Director Lund said he would remedy that.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

E. Licking County Foundation - grants received

Director Lund informed the Board that two grants were received from the Licking County Foundation. One for \$12,000 for the Nature Playscape & the other for \$640 for Licking County Trails.

F. The Buckeye Central Scenic Railroad - request

Director Lund informed the Board he met with Ron and Pete Jedlicka with the railroad group that has property neighboring the Buckeye Scenic trail. The Jedlickas asked if Licking Park District would terminate the bike trail at I-70 overpass so they could put in a historic railroad from I-70 to Cristland Hill Rd. Director Lund stated he discussed this inquiry with Sarah Wallace at the TJ Evans Foundation, since they own the property, and she is not interested and supports the bike path construction to Cristland Hill Road.

G. Amendments to ByLaws of the Licking Park District

Mr. White moved, Mr. Jenkins seconded to amend the ByLaws of the Licking Park District.

Director Lund presented the changes he and Mr. Kiracofe had recommended. He stated Mr. Kiracofe would like to add the Pledge of Allegiance and also put a 5-minute time limit on any public comments. Director Lund stated he added the Director's Report, since this is already being done, & also raised the reported dollar amount on the Revenue & Expense sheet from \$1,000.00 to \$2,500.00.

Mr. Jenkins asked that the section that discusses the 5-minute rule for the public be changed to “*unless otherwise approved by a member of the Board*”, and remove “*approved by the Chair of the Board*”.

Mr. Moseley questioned why the addition of the Pledge & Mr. Kiracofe stated other organizations do it so he thought it should be added.

Ms. Campbell suggested getting any spending over \$2,500 approved by the Chair & Vice Chair, not just the Chair, or if one of them isn't available, another Board member can fill in.

Mr. Moseley questioned having three Board members approve emergency spending of more than \$5,000. He stated this is a quorum & constitutes a meeting. Director Lund stated he would check with the county prosecutor to confirm this.

Mr. Jenkins moved, Mr. Moseley seconded to table this item until further clarification can be made.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

#### H. 5-Year Strategic Plan

Director Lund presented the Board with a draft of the 5-Year Strategic Plan.

Discussion took place on the following topics:

Strengths, Opportunities, Threats, & Weaknesses.

#### X. Director's Report

Director Lund presented the Board with his director's report. Discussion took place on the following: OPRA conference, Boyd Wilkins lease, BST debris removal, Panhandle fence repairs, Shelter 5 cement repair, Maintenance barn roof painting, Lobdell pit toilet, ribbon cutting @ Mirror Lake for dock & path, resignation of maintenance employee, Government Partner meeting with township trustees, Ms Fouts (AmeriCorps) working on ODNR grant for archery equipment.

#### XI. Executive Session

##### A. Employment/Compensation of Public Employee

Mr. White moved, Mr. Jenkins seconded the motion for the Board to go into executive session, per ORC 121.22(G)(1), for the purpose of Employment/Compensation of Public Employee.

Roll call vote: Mr. Kiracofe-Yea, Mr. Moseley-Yea, Ms. Campbell-Yea, Mr. White-Yea, Mr. Jenkins-Yea

The Board entered into Executive Session at 8:34pm.

The Board returned from Executive Session at 9:10pm.

Ms. Campbell moved, Mr. Moseley seconded to approve the Maintenance Specialist I position description & advertise for the position.

Roll call vote: Mr. Kiracofe-Yea, Mr. Moseley-Yea, Ms. Campbell-Yea, Mr. White-Yea, Mr. Jenkins-Yea

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Ms. Campbell moved, Mr. Jenkins seconded to create the pay range for Maintenance Specialist I at \$20.00-\$25.00 per hour.

Roll call vote: Mr. Kiracofe-Yea, Mr. Moseley-Yea, Ms. Campbell-Yea, Mr. White-Yea, Mr. Jenkins-Yea

Motion carried by unanimous vote

Ms. Campbell moved, Mr. Jenkins seconded to approve the Maintenance Specialist II position description & promote Mr. Evans to the position & compensate Mr. Evans at a rate of \$26.50 per hour..

Roll call vote: Mr. Kiracofe-Yea, Mr. Moseley-Yea, Ms. Campbell-Yea, Mr. White-Yea, Mr. Jenkins-Yea

Motion carried by unanimous vote

Ms. Campbell moved, Mr. Jenkins seconded to increase the hourly rate of Karen Jennings (Trail & Volunteer Program Manager) to \$25.00 per hour & to revise the position description to include maintenance duties.

Roll call vote: Mr. Kiracofe-Yea, Mr. Moseley-Yea, Ms. Campbell-Yea, Mr. White-Yea, Mr. Jenkins-Yea

Motion carried by unanimous vote

## XII. Adjournment

Mr. Moseley moved, Mr. White seconded to adjourn.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

The meeting adjourned at 9:18pm.

Next Regular Meeting March 15, 2023 6:00 PM at Infirmary Mound Park - James Bradley Center