

**Licking Park District Commissioners**  
**Minutes of Regular Meeting – March 20, 2024**

Board Chair Mr. Kiracofe called the March 20, 2024, Regular Meeting to order at 6:00PM at the James Bradley Center, Infirmary Mound Park.

I. Roll Call

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

Absent: Ms. Campbell

Staff: Director Lund, Ms. Lohrman

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Comments from the Public

Jim Bradley notified the Board of the America 250 grant program. The Ohio Commission for the United States Semiquincentennial (AM250-OH) will make funds available for grants to non-profit, educational, and local governmental organizations to support educational and commemorative programming about the 250th anniversary of the independence and founding of the United States. He suggested the Park District look into this grant. He also stated that the Licking County Historical Society is attracting volunteers by partnering with the Ohio Department of Higher Education and The Ohio State University to incentivize community service among Ohioans 60 years and older. He presented a flyer that stated volunteers who complete 100 volunteer hours can receive credit hour vouchers that can either be used at OSU, either by them or any Ohio resident they gift it to. He thought maybe the Park District could offer something like this, to encourage volunteering at the park. Lastly, he presented a flyer from Licking Memorial Hospital advertising jobs, and in it included a nod to the Park District to attract candidates to the area, noting a “robust park district” as a local amenity.

IV. Approve agenda items / Request for additional agenda items

Mr. King moved, Mr. Jenkins seconded to approve the March 20, 2024 regular meeting agenda items.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

V. Approval of Minutes

A. February 21, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes

Mr. White moved, Mr. King seconded to approve the February 21, 2024 regular meeting minutes.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

VI. Financial Status of Park District

A. February 2024 Financial Summary

Mr. White moved, Mr. King seconded to approve the February 2024 financial summary.

Director Lund presented the February 2024 financial summary to the Board.  
Motion carried by unanimous vote.

VII. Approval of February 2024 Revenue & Expenses

A. February 2024 Revenue & Expenses

Mr. Jenkins moved, Mr. White seconded to approve the February 2024 revenue & expenses.

Director Lund presented the February 2024 Revenue & Expenses to the Board.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

VIII. Old Business

A. Longwell-Miles Memorial Park - status update

Director Lund stated the Licking County Prosecutor's office notified him of an eminent domain claim from Energy Coop involving four acres at the Longwell-Miles property, which garnered \$415,851.00. This land sale will increase the amount of money in the Longwell-Miles account to 1.2 million. Director Lund informed the Board that the Park District's legal counsel also stated the Johnstown Consortium group was asked if they wanted to join the Park District in a status conference, but they declined the invite so now is the time for the Park District Board to file, if they so choose.

Mr. Kiracofe stated he has left messages with Carolyn Carnes office and hopes to have more information at the next Board meeting.

B. James Bradley Center - Replacement Windows

Mr. King moved, Mr. Jenkins seconded to approve amending the previously approved amount of \$18,663 and increasing it to \$21,393.00 to include an exterior door.

Director Lund stated the second quote from Rosati Windows included an exterior door.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

C. Park Rules

Director Lund informed the Board that Ms. McAdams is continuing to converse with legal counsel and other entities to update park rules.

D. Nature Playscape - Phase 4 Update

Director Lund updated the Board on the status of the Nature Playscape Phase 4 progress. He will sign the contract this week, which currently excludes the tree house and ADA ramp. Director Lund stated the Licking County Building Dept is requiring architectural engineered stamped drawings for the tree house with ADA ramp so Urban Wild is currently looking for an architectural engineering firm to approve the drawings.

IX. New Business - Special Item Follow Up

A. Emergency Repair to TJ Evans Trail Bridge

Mr. King moved, Mr. White seconded to approve GM General Contracting to repair the bridge on the TJ Evans trail between Northridge Rd & Castle Rd for \$6,100.00.

Director Lund stated this emergency repair had originally been approved by three Board members via email and work is complete. New timbers were installed after Director Lund was notified of a board that dropped 10 feet and, after further inspection, more boards were found to be in desperate need of replacement.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

B. Game Craze - Harvest Moon Festival \$4,771.08

Mr. King moved, Mr. Jenkins seconded to approve the rental of event equipment from Game Craze for \$4,771.08 for Harvest Moon Festival, which will take place in October.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

C. Legal Assistance form Licking County Prosecutor's Office - contract

Mr. White moved, Mr. Jenkins seconded the approval of signing a contract with the Licking County Prosecutor's Office for legal assistance fees.

Director Lund informed the Board that the Licking County Prosecutor's Office will now be charging the Park District for legal counsel. Rates will be \$80/hour for standard counsel and \$95/hour for any court representations, depositions, etc.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

D. Transfer of Funds - Licking County Foundation

Mr. White moved, Mr. King seconded to approve transferring \$25,000 from the Park District's 6029 General Fund into the new Nancy & James Bradley Fund at the Licking County Foundation, with the constraint that the funds only be used to maintain or upgrade the James Bradley Center with any expenses that exceed \$5,000.00.

Director Lund stated he met Mr. Bradley at the Licking County Foundation to discuss the creation of a new fund, the Nancy & Jim Fund. These funds will be used to pay for any maintenance expenses or upgrades, that exceed \$5,000.00, to the James Bradley Center at Infirmary Mound Park. In order to utilize the funds, Mr. Bradley would like the Park District to match the \$25,000.00 he and Nancy will be placing into the fund.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

E. June 19, 2024 Board Meeting (Federal Holiday)

Mr. King moved, Mr. White seconded to move the June 19, 2024 Board meeting to June 18, 2024 at the Licking Park District office.

Director Lund brought to the Board's attention the June 19, 2024 board meeting falls on a recognized holiday, Juneteenth. The Board agreed to move the meeting to Tuesday, June 18, 2024 and will meet at the Licking Park District office, located at 4309 Lancaster Rd, Granville.

F. Tree work on TJ Evans Trail

Mr. Jenkins moved, Mr. King seconded to approve Morehouse Tree Service to complete the tree work on the TJ Evans Trail between Granville and Concord Road for \$11,500.00.

Director Lund stated he had three contractors give proposals for work between Granville and Concord Road. Of the three quotes he received, one from Morehouse Tree Service for \$11,500.00, another from Slone Tree Services for \$14,432.00, and a third from McCullough Tree Service for \$19,885.00, he recommended Morehouse Tree Service to complete the work. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

G. New Vehicle

Mr. King moved, Mr. Jenkins seconded to approve the purchase of a new 4x4 SUV that has a third row and a tow package for up to \$45,000.00.

Director Lund informed the Board the 2007 Dodge Durango has several mechanical issues. He has an appointment with Brown's Transmission to have them go over the vehicle next week, but feels it is time to replace the vehicle. He presented three quotes to the Board. The first from John Hinderer Dodge for a 2024 Dodge Durango SXT for \$43,980.00, the second from Montrose Ford for a 2024 Ford Explorer XLT for \$43,848.00, and a third from Great Lakes Toyota for a 2024 Toyota 4Runner for \$42,955.00.

After much discussion, the Board recommended the Toyota 4Runner but left the decision to staff, approving up to \$45,000.00 for a new SUV. The Board did encourage Director Lund to get a local dealership's quote for a Toyota 4Runner.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

H. GRIT Freedom Chair - purchase of 3rd chair (GRIT Junior)

Mr. King moved, Mr. White seconded to approve the purchase of a second GRIT Junior wheelchair for \$5,308.00.

Director Lund informed the Board he received a \$2,500.00 grant from OPRA and would like to use these funds to go towards the purchase of a second GRIT Junior wheelchair.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

I. The Onion Bag - Litter Prevention Project

Director Lund stated he had a phone conversation with Curtis Casto regarding the placement of onion bag boxes at two of the Park District's river launches, Riverview Reserve and Staddens Landing. He stated the boxes

will house onion bags that will be provided by the Onion Bag Project that the public can take and use to clean up trash along the Licking River while paddling. The trash can then either be placed in the dumpster located at Staddens Landing or participants can take the trash home and place it in their own trash receptacles. The bags then can be kept and reused by the public.

J. Paving of Lobdell Reserve (Mounts Rd entrance driveway)

Director Lund stated in the 5 Year Plan, the Mounts Road entrance at Lobdell Reserve is scheduled to be paved and the Park District currently has \$149,387.66 in the ODOT Metro Parks fund. These funds can be used to maintain driveways and/or parking lots. He received a quote from Shelly & Co., who has a contract through ODOT for the Metro Park funds, for \$70,353.70. Director Lund informed the Board that since ODOT has a contract with Shelly & Co, anything over \$50,000.00 can't be challenged, even if the Park District receives a quote for less. Director Lund stated that if the Park District wants to use a contractor that can do it for less, the ODOT funds can not be used and funds will need to come from the Park District's general fund.

The Board instructed Director Lund to save the ODOT Metro Park funds for a bigger project and to get other quotes and use money from the general fund for the Mounts Road parking lot project.

X. Director's Report

Director Lund presented the Board with his director's report. Discussion took place on the following:

Seal coating path at Newell Rec. Preserve, missing fence on Panhandle Trail, wheelchair rental agreement and credit card procedure, Rent.Fun unit installed, Planet Trail MOU signed and donation sent, letters of interest submitted to four landowners near Staddens Landing, Palmer Swamp flooding issue remedied, successful RAD class participation, hunting regulations update, Taft farmhouse demo.

Mr. Kiracofe suggested charging Licking County residents for a deer hunting permit and Director Lund stated he would see what other park districts are doing.

Ms. Lohrman stated out-of-county residents are currently charged \$25/week for their hunting permits but advised against charging Licking County residents since they are already paying by way of property taxes. She stated local hunters are losing their hunting grounds due to farmers leasing their lands to outfitters and family farms being sold to developers, so offering this free program to Licking County residents goes a long way. She stated she'd rather see the out-of-county residents fee go up in order to keep it free for the local hunters.

XI. Adjournment

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

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

The meeting adjourned at 7:49PM

Next Regular Meeting April 17, 2024 | 6:00 PM at Infirmary Mound Park | James  
Bradley Center