

Chair
Tim Machowicz, Citizen Rep.

Vice-Chair
Chuck Nelson, Citizen Rep.

Secretary
Phil Hanses, Drain Commissioner

Members
Dwight Washington, BOC Rep.
Dave Pohl, BOC Rep.
Roni Christmas, Planning Comm. Rep.
Kevin Holt, Road Comm. Rep.
James Graham, Citizen Rep.
Pat Jackson, Citizen Rep.
Natalie Elkins, Citizen Rep.



Staff
Kyle Thornton
Parks and Greenspace
Coordinator

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MINUTES

PARKS AND GREENSPACE COMMISSION

Friday, June 3, 2022, AT 8:30 A.M.
Motz County Park
4630 N. Dewitt Road, St. Johns, MI 48879

I. Call to Order - Declaration of Quorum

Due to the absence of the Chair and Vice-Chair, Secretary Phil Hanses declared a quorum present and called the meeting to order at 8:34 AM

Members Present: Dwight Washington, Dave Pohl, Kevin Holt, James Graham, Natalie Elkins, Pat Jackson, Kevin Holt, Roni Christmas, Phil Hanses

Guests Present: Corey Zverina- Clinton County PGS Park Manager, Christine Adamo- Clinton County PGS Intern, Craig Longnecker- Clinton County Administration, Barry Culham- FMCIS Trail

Staff Present: Kyle Thornton

- A. Approval of June 3, 2022, Agenda
Moved by Pat Jackson, seconded by Natalie Elkins, to approve the June 3, 2022, meeting Agenda. Motion carried.
- B. Approval June 3, 2022, Per Diems
Moved by Roni Christmas, seconded by Dave Pohl, to approve the June 3, 2022, meeting Per Diems. Motion carried.
- C. Approval of May 6, 2022, Meeting Minutes
Moved by Dave Pohl, seconded by Natalie Elkins, to approve the May 6, 2022, meeting Minutes with recommended changes. Motion carried.

II. Public Comments Non-Agenda Items

- A. Clinton County Administrator, Craig Longnecker addressed the Parks and Green Space Commission on the topic of the Wood Road Property. He stated that pursuing the Pratt and Wood Road Property at the same time would stress resource capacity and make it difficult to maintain the standard of excellence that Clinton County parks are known for. Craig also provided the cost estimate of about \$23,000 to complete the Phase II portion of the site assessment of the Wood Road Property.
- B. The Parks and Green Space Commission held further discussion about the Wood Road property, including the acquisition of additional properties in the southern tier of Clinton County. Dwight Washington mentioned the Michigan Bicycle Association is looking for a property for a future park. He also requested that the commission begins to support partnerships such as the Michigan Bicycle Association.

Moved by Pat Jackson, seconded by Natalie Elkins, a recommendation to the Clinton County Ways and Means Committee to stop moving forward with the pursuit of the project to acquire the Wood Road Property at this time. Motion carried.

III. Coordinator's Report – Kyle Thornton

- A. Kyle Thornton reported that the park is open and at full staff capacity. Kyle mentioned that park staff has installed a car counter in both Clinton Lakes and Motz Count Park's to collect data of the number of visitors each year. Thornton reminded the members of the commission about the Clinton Lakes Improvement Project ribbon cutting ceremony coming up on June 24th. Lastly, Kyle mentioned Roger Dershem, has passed away.

IV. Committee Reports

- A. Water Based Recreation/Surface Water Quality – Phil Hanses & Chuck Nelson
- a. Nothing to report.
- B. Non-Motorized Facilities – Chuck Nelson & Dave Pohl
- County-wide NMF Plan / Trails Advisory Council
 - FMCIS Trail
- a. Barry Culham from FMCIS trails reported that the trails where mowed and sprayed this week. Barry reported that more informational kiosks have been purchased for the trails. Culham reported news from DNR, that at the end of the month, they are going to be meeting with the engineering group that was hired to surface the trails.
 - b. Dave Pohl shared that the Trail Authority is still investigating development and management of having three members from seven counties on the board.

C. Universal Access – Dwight Washington & Pat Jackson

- a. Nothing to report

D. Finance Committee – Tim Machowicz

- a. Kyle Thornton reported that they are on track, and that the 2023 budget has been submitted into administration.

E. Grassland Committee – Chuck Nelson & Jim Graham

- a. Jim Graham reported that we are wait and see to see if the results of the burn have taken care of the cottonwoods in the southern half of the grassland.

F. Southern County Park Search Team – Chuck Nelson, Tim Machowicz, Phil Hanses, and Dave Pohl

- a. Nothing to report

G. Health Committee – Dwight Washington & Pat Jackson

- a. Natalie Elkins clarified the type of birds affected by the bird flu.

V. Old Business

A. Clinton Lakes Improvement Project

- a. Kyle Thornton reported that he is working with the Road Commission to get the posts put in for the new signs to be hung.

B. Clinton Lakes Master Plan

- a. Nothing to report

VI. New Business

- A. Nothing to report

VII. Public Comments – Agenda Items

- A. Nothing to report

VIII. Adjournment –Next Meeting:

Friday, July 8, 2022, at 8:30 am
Motz County Park
4630 Dewitt Road
St. Johns, MI 48879

Moved by Roni Christmas, seconded by Kevin Holt to adjourn the meeting until Friday, July 8, 2022. Motion carried.
Meeting adjourned at 9:01 AM.