

# CHISAGO COUNTY PARK BOARD OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, June 17, 2021

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At 3:00 pm, Thursday, June 17, 2021 Chair Wille called the meeting of the Chisago County Park Board of Directors at the Government Center in Center City. The following members present: Dan Kaiser, Frank Storm, Gregg Carlson and Jolene Wille. Also present: County Commissioner Mike Robinson, Joe Tart; Park Director and Diane Sander; Support Specialist. Absent: Jill Sicheneder.

## Meeting Summary:

- Unanimously the Board approved the agenda
- Unanimously the Board approved May 20, 2021 meeting minutes
- Unanimously the Board approved have August meeting location at City of Taylors Falls, SIRT Trailhead.

Meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Carlson.

Motion by Dan Kaiser to approve the agenda. Second by Frank Storm and carried unanimously.

Motion by Gregg Carlson to approve the May 20, 2021 minutes. Second by Dan Kaiser and carried unanimously.

## **SIRT – Interstate State Park Segment A&B Final Update**

Director Tart reported a final walkthrough was conducted on Segments A and B with review of the remaining items for the project with WSB and Peterson Companies. Peterson Companies has replaced many shrubs and perennial plants at the Taylors Falls Trailhead. A few trees along the trail corridor will be replaced in conjunction with selected native seeding. Director Tart will submit seventh reimbursement for the grant project. Final reimbursement will be completed after final invoices have been received from WSB. Discussion was held on the replacement trees and if there is a warranty period since installation occurred during draught conditions. Discussed continued on various watering options.

## **Swedish Immigrant Regional Trail (SIRT) - Interstate State Park, Segment C**

Director Tart reviewed the public engagement process for Interstate State Park Segment C and displayed postcard and trail signage. Postcards will be sent out soon and signs will be placed at Tern Ave and Taylors Falls Trailhead area in addition to signs along the trail. WSB is in the process of tally results for the feasibility report. Preliminary results include: 29 responded to survey, Military Road/West Street Option 1 was first choice and second choice was Government Street Option 3. Mixed comments, people for and against trail. WSB will also provide breakdown of cost for each option.

## **Eagle Scout Project**

Eagle Scout project is located at the North Branch Trailhead. The project received funding to pay for concrete. City of North Branch donated a bike repair station. Trailhead locations include: North Branch, Wyoming, Taylors Falls and Lindstrom. A sign will be installed listing project sponsorship. Director Tart will work on project requests or volunteering to be done through an online form in the future.

## **2021 Shelter Reservation Update**

2019 – 55 reservations

2020 – 30 reservations

2021 – currently 44 reservations

Staff is currently working on upgrades and painting at each park. Discussion followed about cost and budget for installing electricity at Checkerboard Park with possible options available (e.g. from Maintenance Shop).

## 2021 Ki-Chi-Saga Park Athletic Usage/Fish Lake Park Usage

Director Tart reviewed athletic reservation and invoicing process. Three tournaments have been scheduled. Fish Lake passes, as to date: Seasonal Passes 166 tickets, Daily Passes 889 tickets with an estimated 216 boats/kayaks using the launch. Discussion was held on the Rush City Aquatic Center.

## Land Parcel Donation

Donna Peehl has contacted the Parks Department about a possible land donation of 42 acres. The parcel is located at PID#08.00311.00 in Shafer Township, Sec. 31, T. 34, R. 19. Currently land has been cultivated with woodland/wetland areas. Ms. Peehl has indicated she would like an organization to establish a nature reserve. Director Tart has scheduled an upcoming meeting to find out more information about this opportunity.

## Administrative Updates

- LCCMR Work plan updated and close out grant project on June 30, 2021
- General Business Activities include: Budget management, paying invoices, tracking expenses/revenue
- Contract Management: Receiving quotes and evaluate projects
- Grant Management: selecting engineering consultant
- Finishing up 2022 Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) items – 5 year projection
- Shelter Reservation Process
- Fish Lake Park Collections
- Staff Supervision: Work orders and timesheet review
- Operation and Capital Budgets

## Proposed Operation Budget for 2022 increase of 2.6% (\$9,400.00)

- Services and Charges Increased: fire extinguisher inspections, gas, beach monitoring, stormwater fees
- Rental and Service Agreements: increase in portable toilets, trash haulers, Culligan
- Equipment Maintenance and Repairs: aging vehicles and equipment
- Repairs and Maintenance Supplies: increase in lumber, steel, gravel, etc.
- Machinery and Rental Equipment: increase in rentals for trail miles, woodchipper, lifts, stump grinders
- Contracted Services: landscaping, erosion control, crack filling, ADA compliance, mud jacking, gravel

Parks Department purchases come from over 30 local businesses. Discussion held on accountability of Sentence to Service (STS) Crew.

## Staff Report

*Park and Trail Maintenance* - Completing numerous projects this month: stain shelters, repairing concrete slabs, adding additional playground mulch to all sites, cleaning up landscaping beds, painting picnic tables and benches, trimming up overgrown evergreen trees and hanging branches, replacing signage, patching holes along SIRT.

*Water Resources* - Conducting swimming beach, well monitoring and treated Fish Lake Park Swimming Area to reduce submerged vegetation, to reduce people panicking when their feet get caught in weeds.

*Auction* – Coming up and reviewing equipment list for sale

## Summer Park Board Meeting Update

Director Tart reviewed upcoming meeting schedule/locations and communication protocol if meeting location changes. **Motion** by Gregg Carlson to have August meeting at City of Taylors Falls, SIRT Trailhead. Second by Dan Kaiser and carried unanimously.

**Adjourn** – Motion by Dan Kaiser to adjourn the meeting. Second by Frank Strom and carried unanimously.