

The Oceana County Parks & Recreation Commission meeting was called to order by Chairperson McKeen on Thursday, August 1, 2024 at 3:02 pm.

Present: Chairperson McKeen, Mr. LundBorg, Mr. Erickson, Mr. Wyns, Mr. Bengston, Mr. Mikkelsen. Mr. Warner (arrived at 3:14 pm.), Mr. Wilson, Mr. Spitler and Mr. Hiddema.

Absent: None

Also Present: Ms. Stacia Erickson, Black Lake Campground Host

Approval of the August 1, 2024 Agenda

Moved by Mr. Wilson and supported by Mr. Erickson to approve the August 1, 2024, meeting agenda as amended. Voice vote - all ayes. Motion carried.

Approval of the June 6, 2024, Minutes of the Regular Meeting

Moved by Mr. Bengston and supported by Mr. Spitler to approve the June 6, 2024, minutes as amended. Voice vote - all ayes. Motion Carried.

Public Comment on Agenda items

No public comment.

Financial Report

- **Fund 408 Revenues & Expenditures** – as of June 30, 2024, Revenues were \$66.99; Expenditures were \$149.00, with a Fund Balance of \$22,860.65.
- **Fund 288 Revenues & Expenditures** – as of June 30, 2024, Revenues were \$151.13; Expenditures were \$0.00, with a Fund Balance of \$37,823.23.
- **Fund 208 Revenues & Expenditures** – as of June 30, 2024, Revenues were \$2,432.77; Expenditures were \$3, 170.73, with a Fund Balance of \$29, 677.38.

Motion made by Mr. Bengston and supported by Mr. Wilson to accept the Financial Report Revenues & Expenditures as presented. Voice vote - all ayes. Motion carried.

Roll call vote: Mr. Erickson – yes; Mr. Bengston – yes; Mr. Mikkelsen – yes; Mr. Wyns – yes; Mr. Warner – yes; Mr. Hiddema – yes; Mr. Spitler – yes; Mr. LundBorg – yes; Mr. Wilson – yes; Chairman McKeen – yes.

Claims for Payment

Fund 208 – Parks & Recreation Commission for August 2024

Prepaid Claims - \$4, 035.25

To Be Paid Claims - \$0.00

Moved by Mr. Bengston and supported by Mr. Wilson to approve the Fund 208 Claims for Payment in the amount of \$4, 035.25.

Roll call vote: Mr. Erickson – yes; Mr. Bengston – yes; Mr. Mikkelsen – yes; Mr. Wyns – yes; Mr. Warner – yes; Mr. Hiddema – yes; Mr. Spitler – yes; Mr. LundBorg – yes; Mr. Wilson – yes; Chairman McKeen – yes.

Fund 408 – Parks & Recreation Capital Projects Fund for June 2024

Prepaid Claims - \$369.41

To Be Paid Claims - \$0.00

Moved by Mr. Hiddema and supported by Mr. Mikkelsen to approve the Fund 408 Claims for Payment in the amount of \$369.41.

Roll call vote: Mr. Erickson – yes; Mr. Bengston – yes; Mr. Mikkelsen – yes; Mr. Wyns – yes; Mr. Warner – yes; Mr. Hiddema – yes; Mr. Spitler – yes; Mr. LundBorg – yes; Mr. Wilson – yes; Chairman McKeen – yes.

Correspondence

- Letter from District 10 Health Department regarding water sampling process.
- John Wade informed Mr. McKeen about the difficulty of accessing the boat ramp at Stony Lake Park, requesting that it be reconfigured for improved access. Although Mr. McKeen invited Mr. Wade to attend the meeting to discuss the issue further, he was not present. The matter was then discussed among the attendees.

Chairman's Report

- Attended WMSRDC watershed quarterly meeting.
 - Mr. McKeen stated the Big Sandy Bend project is not funded by NOAA and they are in the process of trying to find funding.
- Attended Benona Township July meeting.
- Attended Pentwater Lake Association meeting.
- Attended three ORC meetings.
- Attended three Oceana County Commissioners meetings.
- Met with Pentwater Township and DNA Mears SP management to discuss the road end turn around at Mears State Park.
- Suzie Knoll has resigned from the Conservation District. Dr. Laura Ackerman has been hired as the new District Director.
- Attended the County Department head quarterly meeting.

Parks Reports

- Black Lake – Mr. Bengston provided an update on the District 10 water sampling process, assuring Commission members that there are no violations and that Black lake has submitted its water samples for the year. Ms. Stacia Erickson asked Mr. Spitler to request the OCRC to fill a few potholes in front of the Black Lake Campground entrance. She also informed the Commission that the campground is dealing with a large mosquito population and expressed a desire to spray for them. Additionally, Ms. Erickson mentioned that fishermen have reported a depletion of fish in Black Lake. In response, Mr. McKeen noted that the Parks and Recreation Commission stocked the lake with 500 Bluegill 4 or 5 years ago, usually done in the spring, and they will consider purchasing more fish in 2025. Ms. Erickson also reported that sand has been delivered and she is currently working on leveling it out. She expressed interest in purchasing a hose and rake for the campground, to which Mr. McKeen offered to donate a rake.

Motion made by Mr. Mikkelsen to purchase insecticide and sprayer for Black Lake Campground to not exceed \$200.00, supported by Mr. Bengston.

Roll call vote: Mr. Erickson – yes; Mr. Bengston – yes; Mr. Mikkelsen – yes; Mr. Wyns – yes; Mr. Warner – yes; Mr. Hiddema – yes; Mr. Spitler – yes; Mr. LundBorg – yes; Mr. Wilson – yes; Chairman McKeen – yes.

- Cedar Point Park – Mr. LundBorg reported that the park has been very busy due to the nice weather, which has limited his construction activities. He has installed a four-inch black pipe through the swale to help prevent erosion. He is also working on putting up the sign racks up and he would like to add “No Grilling” signs on the deck.
- Crystal Valley Park – Mr. Spitler reported that 3rd and 4th grade girls used the softball field for practice in June and July and are interested in using it for games next year. He also mentioned that a large tree on the southeast side of the property fell during a storm in June and is now on a neighboring property. Custom Tree Service provided a quote of \$1500.00 for its removal. The commission agreed that the tree should be removed as soon as possible, given that a significant portion of it is on the neighbor’s property.

Motion made by Mr. Spitler, to have Custom Tree Service to remove the tree at Crystal Valley Park for \$1500.00, supported by Mr. Erickson.

Roll call vote: Mr. Erickson – yes; Mr. Bengston – yes; Mr. Mikkelsen – yes; Mr. Wyns – yes; Mr. Warner – yes; Mr. Hiddema – yes; Mr. Spitler – yes; Mr. LundBorg – yes; Mr. Wilson – yes; Chairman McKeen – yes.

- Doolittle – Mr. McKeen reported that the Conservation District used the park for two programs and they are starting the Knee-High Naturalists in September.
- Gales Pond – Mr. McKeen reported that he recently visited the area a couple of times. The neighbor across the road expressed concern about a large black cherry at the edge of the parking lot. Over the last 4 to 5 years, the tree has shown signs of weakening and will need to be removed soon.
- Mill Pond – Mr. Hiddema reported that the current garbage cans are starting to rust out at the bottoms and will need to be replaced soon.
- Marshville Dam – Mr. Wyns reported that two items remain to be finished. Installation of the boardwalk and viewing platforms scheduled in September. Planting of the wetland area with trees and shrubs in the Spring of 2025. Both items are covered under grants from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation – 2022 America the Beautiful Challenge Program – sub – award through the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.
- Stony Lake – Mr. Mikkelsen reported that in June, two carloads of people decided to spend the night in the park. At 6 a.m., a storm came through and knocked down four trees, trapping the visitors in the park. Custom Tree Service responded and had the trees cleared by 6 p.m.

Old Business

- The walkthrough with Pam Blough at Gales pond and Doolittle has been pushed back until September.
- Eight new Parks Rules signs have been received. Pete has two for Cedar Point Park, Paul has one for Black Lake and Garry has one for Gale’s Pond. The remaining signs for the park’s are in the airport storeroom.
- 45 yards of sand have been delivered to Black Lake beach. An additional 15 yards was needed at \$10.00 per yard. We will need a motion for \$150.00 in additional spending to approve the bill for a total of \$450.

Motion made by Mr. Mikkelsen, to purchase an additional 15 yards of sand at \$10.00 per yard for a total of \$150.00 at Black Lake Campground, supported by Mr. Warner.

Roll call vote: Mr. Erickson – yes; Mr. Bengston – yes; Mr. Mikkelsen – yes; Mr. Wynn – yes; Mr. Warner – yes; Mr. Hiddema – yes; Mr. Spitler – yes; Mr. LundBorg – yes; Mr. Wilson – yes; Chairman McKeen – yes.

- Cedar Point wood lot clean up rescheduled for late fall. Per Tom Riggs at Custom Tree Service due to it being to wet at this time.
- Updates:
 - Parks Five-Year Plan – The Parks 5-year plan was accepted and approved by the County Commissioner's. The document has been filed with the DNR for future grant Applications.
 - Crystal Creek Dam – Mr. Hyslop and Mr. Erickson have a joint call with Mr. Tiffany.
 - ADA Parks Report – As projects come up they will be reviewed. Mr. Wilson reported that Colfax received a Community Foundation grant and has an ADA accessible beach and picnic area.

New Business

- 2025 Oceana County Park Budget – Mr. McKeen presented a proposed budget to all the Parks and Recreation Commission members for review and discussion. After the discussion, it was decided that Mr. McKeen will submit a budget of \$78,000.

Motion made by Mr. Mikkelsen to submit the 2025 Oceana County Parks budget in the amount of \$78,000 to the Board of Commissioners, supported by Mr. Bengston. Voice vote – all ayes. Motion carried.

- Black Lake public area shelter – The shelter will be about 24' x 32' and Mr. McKeen would like to get a quote from some contractors

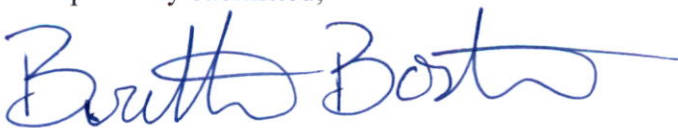
Public Comment

There were no public comments at this time.

There being no further business, Chairperson McKeen adjourned the meeting of the Parks & Recreation Commission at 4:43. pm.

The next meeting will be held on September 5, at 3:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Brittany Bostrom
On behalf of Pete LundBorg, Secretary
Oceana County Parks & Recreation Commission