

MINUTES – REGULAR SESSION
Board of Park Commissioners & Governing Board of the
LORAIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT

Date: Thursday, December 21, 2023
Time: 1:00 p.m.
Place: Vermilion River Reservation – Mill Hollow Carriage Barn
Present: Commissioners: Kenneth M. Lieux, Chairman
Sherrill M. McLoda, Vice-Chairman
Joseph E. Hribar
Legal Counsel: Dennis M. O'Toole
Director/Secretary: James E. Ziemnik
Park Staff: Jennifer L. Bracken, Assistant Director
Paul J. Hruby, Jr., Assistant Director/Chief Ranger
Bonnie J. Burns, Administrative Services Manager/Treasurer
Michael S. McAndrews, Planning Supervisor
Bryan Goldthorpe, Park Manager, Wellington Reservation
Matt Kocsis, Sr. Naturalist, Schoepfle/Vermilion River Res.
Joani Longbrake, Secretary
Absent: Mariah Deitz, Public Information Officer
Visitors: Lorain County Probate Court Judge James T. Walther
Lorain resident Dawn Walther
Morning Journal reporter Larissa Beriswill

OPENING OF MEETING

Roll call by Director/Secretary: Kenneth M. Lieux – Aye
Sherrill M. McLoda – Aye
Joseph E. Hribar – Aye

Chairman Lieux declared all members present and opened the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Approval of the Minutes of the November 21, 2023 Regular Session. The Minutes were distributed prior to the meeting, enabling the commissioners to read them in advance. Commissioner Hribar motioned and Commissioner McLoda seconded the motion for approval; motion passed unanimously this 21st day of December, 2023.

B. The Director/Secretary advised the Board of the Statement of Accounts.

C. **Resolution 2023-72.** Payment of accounts payable. Motion by Commissioner McLoda for adoption of Resolution for payment of line items on the Cash Disbursements Journal for the period of November 1 to November 30, 2023 and on the Aged Payables reports dated November 30 and December 20, 2023; and ratification of payments on Exhibit A; seconded by Commissioner Hribar. The Chairman then called for the individual line-item votes of the Commissioners to be approved for payment by at least a majority of the Commissioners, and be certified by the Treasurer and Secretary of the Board of Park Commissioners for issuance of checks for payment. The line-item votes of the Commissioners were cast as follows:

Commissioner Lieux: Affirmative for all line items on the Cash Disbursements Journal for the period of November 1 to November 30, 2023 and on the Aged Payables reports dated November 30 and December 20, 2023 and affirmative for ratification of payments on Exhibit A.

Commissioner McLoda: Affirmative for all line items on the Cash Disbursements Journal for the period of November 1 to November 30, 2023 and on the Aged Payables reports dated November 30 and December 20, 2023 and affirmative for ratification of payments on Exhibit A.

Commissioner Hribar: Affirmative for all line items on the Cash Disbursements Journal for the period of November 1 to November 30, 2023 and on the Aged Payables reports dated November 30 and December 20, 2023 and affirmative for ratification of payments on Exhibit A.

RESOLUTION 2023-72:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Park Commissioners of the Lorain County Metropolitan Park District that we deem it necessary and in the best public interest to ratify the payments on Exhibit A and to direct and authorize the issuance of checks for payment of all line items on the Cash Disbursements Journal for the period of November 1 to November 30, 2023 and on the Aged Payables reports dated November 30 and December 20, 2023, as approved for payment by vote of at least a majority of the Board of Park Commissioners. The Cash Disbursements Journal, Aged Payables reports, Exhibit A, and the commissioners' votes are hereby made a part of the Minutes of this meeting on December 21, 2023.

Kenneth M. Lieux – Aye
Sherrill M. McLoda – Aye
Joseph E. Hribar – Aye

ATTEST _____ APPROVED _____
James E. Ziemnik, Director/Secretary Kenneth M. Lieux, Chairman

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. **Resolution 2023-73.** The Board of Park Commissioners authorized the Director/Secretary to enter into new short-term, long-term, and annual facility use agreements (e.g., rooms, swim lanes, basketball and volleyball courts, etc. at the Carlisle Visitor Center, Splash Zone, Amherst HealthPlex, and other Park District facilities) with various individuals, groups and organizations, all with the approval of legal counsel as to form; motioned by Commissioner Hribar, seconded by Commissioner McLoda, passed unanimously this 21st day of December 2023.

RESOLUTION 2023-73:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Park Commissioners of the Lorain County Metropolitan Park District that we deem it necessary and in the best public interest to authorize the Director/Secretary to enter into new short-term, long-term, and annual facility use agreements (e.g., rooms, swim lanes, basketball and volleyball courts, etc. at the Carlisle Visitor Center, Splash Zone, Amherst HealthPlex, and other Park District facilities) with various individuals, groups and organizations, all with the approval of legal counsel as to form.

ATTEST _____ APPROVED _____
James E. Ziemnik, Director/Secretary Kenneth M. Lieux, Chairman

- B. **Resolution 2023-74.** The Board of Park Commissioners acknowledged the Regular Audit from the Auditor of the State of Ohio for the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2022 and directed the Director/Secretary to maintain the Regular Audit in the records of the Lorain County Metropolitan Park District; motioned by Commissioner McLoda, seconded by Commissioner Hribar, passed unanimously this 21st day of December 2023.

RESOLUTION 2023-74:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Park Commissioners of the Lorain County Metropolitan Park District that we deem it necessary and in the best public interest to acknowledge the Regular Audit from the Auditor of the State of Ohio for the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2022 and direct the Director/Secretary to maintain the Regular Audit in the records of the Lorain County Metropolitan Park District.

ATTEST _____ APPROVED _____
James E. Ziemnik, Director/Secretary Kenneth M. Lieux, Chairman

- C. **Resolution 2023-75.** The Board of Park Commissioners adopted the 2024 Budget Plan and authorized the Director/Secretary to do all things necessary for its implementation; motioned by Commissioner Hribar, seconded by Commissioner McLoda, passed unanimously this 21st day of December 2023.

RESOLUTION 2023-75:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Park Commissioners of the Lorain County Metropolitan Park District that we deem it necessary and in the best public interest to adopt the 2024 Budget Plan and authorize the Director/Secretary to do all things necessary for its implementation.

ATTEST _____ APPROVED _____
James E. Ziemnik, Director/Secretary Kenneth M. Lieux, Chairman

- D. **Resolution 2023-76.** The Board of Park Commissioners authorized the Director/Secretary to include employee dishonesty and faithful performance of duty coverage in the Park District's public risk insurance policy in lieu of posting a surety bond when a Commissioner is appointed and/or reappointed to the Board, all with the approval of legal counsel as to form; motioned by Commissioner McLoda, seconded by Commissioner Hribar, passed unanimously this 21st day of December 2023.

RESOLUTION 2023-76:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Park Commissioners of the Lorain County Metropolitan Park District that we deem it necessary and in the best public interest to authorize the Director/Secretary to include employee dishonesty and faithful performance of duty coverage in the Park District's public risk insurance policy in lieu of posting a surety bond when a Commissioner is appointed and/or reappointed to the Board, all with the approval of legal counsel as to form.

ATTEST _____ APPROVED _____
James E. Ziemnik, Director/Secretary Kenneth M. Lieux, Chairman

- E. Reports, requests and comments of the Director/Secretary
- F. Questions, requests and comments from the Commissioners to the Management
- G. Questions, requests and comments from the public to the Commissioners and to the Management
- H. Reports, requests and comments of Legal Counsel
- I. Lorain County Probate Court Judge James T. Walther reappointed Joseph E. Hribar to a new three-year term as Commissioner (January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2026) and administered the Oath of Office.
- J. There being no further old or new business, the Chairman entertained a motion for adjournment. Commissioner McLoda motioned and Commissioner Hribar seconded the motion for adjournment. There being no objections or dissenting votes, the meeting adjourned at 1:22 p.m.

ATTEST _____ APPROVED _____
James E. Ziemnik, Director/Secretary Kenneth M. Lieux, Chairman