

**JACKSON COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
1992 WARREN AVENUE  
JACKSON, MICHIGAN 49203**

January 15, 2014

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mike Way, Chairman at 8:00 a.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Cmr. **Alexander, Beaman, DuBois, Gaede, Polaczyk, Rand, Seitz, Snyder, Torres and Way**  
Ex-Officio: **Scott Robbins**, County Parks Director  
Staff: **Mike Hoskins** and **Becky Humphrey**  
Visitors: **Adam Brown**, and **Mike Overton**, County Administrators

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2014**

**Chairman**

Cmr. Polaczyk nominated Cmr. Way for Chairman of the Parks Board Commission.  
**Moved by Polaczyk, supported by Torres** nominated Cmr. **Way** for Chairman. Motion carried.

**Vice Chairman**

Cmr. Rand nominated Cmr. Polaczyk for Vice Chair of the Parks Board Commission.  
**Moved by Rand, supported by Snyder** nominated Cmr. **Polaczyk** for Vice-Chair. Motion carried.

**Secretary**

Cmr. DuBois nominated Cmr. Jan Seitz as Secretary for the Parks Board Commission.  
**Moved by DuBois, supported by Way** nominated Cmr. **Seitz** for Secretary. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Moved by Snyder, supported by Torres** to approve the January 15, 2014 agenda with the addition of adding JPS Property-Intercity Trail Connector under New Business. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Moved by DuBois, supported by Rand** to approve the December 18, 2013 Minutes as changed from changing the work septic to sewer in Cmr. Alexander Commissioner Comments section regarding Swain's Lake. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – None.

**DECEMBER 2013 FINANCIALS**

**Moved by Rand, supported by Polaczyk** to receive the December 2013 Financial Reports. Motion carried.

**Moved by DuBois, supported by Torres** to approve the December 2013 Claims Report. Motion carried.

## COMMUNICATIONS

1. Letter from Jule Stafford, Grants Management, MDNR  
Re: Sparks County Park/Inter-City Trail Connector Development
2. **Jackson County Parks Association** Minutes of October 28, 2013
3. **Cascades Park Foundation** Minutes of November 20, 2013
4. **Cascades Inc.** (No Meeting)
5. **Revive the Pride** (No Meeting)

**Moved by DuBois, supported by Seitz** to receive the communications. Motion Carried.

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT

**Intercity Trail Connector** – Four properties must be acquired to connect the Cascades Park with the Falling Waters Trail, commonly referred to as the intercity trail connector. Two of the properties are privately owned by Ms. Mary Flannery and the other two are owned by the Jackson Public Schools.

Flannery Properties – The appraisal company received permission to get on the property and has been out to assess the property. The appraiser wrapped up his assessments and the Interim Parks Director, Adam Brown, met with the power of attorney for Ms. Flannery, Dr. Thomson, to discuss the property's purchase and assessment. The property was assessed at \$120,000. Dr. Thomson requested that to make the house more marketable we add more property. We agreed to add more property along the road and further back to match the back property line of the eastern adjacent property.

We tentatively agreed on a price a little lower than the assessment to recognize the loss of some of the land originally included. Dr. Thomson wanted to review the proposal with his legal advisors. We will be working with an engineering or planning firm to split the property with the City of Jackson so that the purchase can be finalized.

Jackson Public School (JPS) Properties – Adam Brown met with Jackson Public Schools superintendent Dan Evans and his legal counsel. We negotiated a price of \$40,000 for both properties. Approval by the Parks Commission is needed, and we would like to finalize it in February by taking it to the Board of Commissioners.

**Grass Lake Concession Agreement** – We are waiting on Grass Lake to provide comments on the proposed contract we sent to them.

**Golf** – Golf Course Ad Hoc Committee expects to meet the week following the Parks Commission meeting.

**Cascades Ad Hoc Committee** – The next meeting is on January 16, 2014 at 4 PM. A white paper is being drafted for review by the Ad Hoc Committee. The ad hoc committee expects to meet only 1 or 2 more times before passing on the report to the Board of Commissioners.

**Swains Lake** – The bid opening is on January 10 at 2 PM. We hope that the bids come within the project budget. We need approval of the low bid.

**Swains Lake** – We are currently working with the Parks Association to secure 100% funding for the cabin project.

**Director Initiation** – I have met with ....

All full time Parks Staff

Phil Fischmeister – Cascades Golf Course Manager

Mike Way and Geoffrey Snyder – Park Commissioners

Mary Baird and Rick Sigers – Jackson County Parks Association

Jerry Klima – Parks Police Officer

Joni Johnson, Pam Mastrangelo and Kathy Tharp – Human Resources

Leadership Team

Ric Scheele – Facilities Director

Mindy Bradish-Orta – President /CEO Jackson County Visitors Bureau and Chamber of Commerce

Joe Michalsky – Director of Engineering, Jackson County Road Commission

**Moved by Snyder, supported by Polaczyk** to recommend that the Parks Director reject the current bids for the Swain’s Lake Bathhouse and get with the Engineer to send the bid package out to a wider audience for a rebid. Motion carried.

**Moved by Snyder, supported by DuBois** to proceed with the purchase and the securing of the funding for the log cabin for Swain’s Lake not to exceed a cost of \$10,000.00. Motion carried.

**Moved by Rand, supported by Torres** to receive the Director’s report. Motion carried.

## **OLD BUSINESS -**

### **Sewer in Pulaski Township**

Information from Cmr. Alexander: Pulaski Twp. Decided when opening the ballots in February, they are looking for a 50% +1 vote if they are going to proceed with the feasibility of continuing with the sewer project.

## **NEW BUSINESS –**

### **JPS Property**

**Moved by DuBois, supported by Snyder** to recommend to the Board of Commissioners to accept the price of \$40,000 for the JPS properties for the Intercity Trail Connector and to execute the agreement with Jackson Public Schools. Motion carried.

### **Jackson City/County Parks and Recreation 5 Year Plan**

**Moved by Snyder, supported by Polaczyk** to have the Parks Director proceed with updating and amending the Jackson County Parks and Recreation 5 Year Plan. Motion carried.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT** – None

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS** –

**Cmr. Gaede** – I appreciate Adam Brown with what he accomplished and did in the interim of getting a new parks director.

**Cmr. Rand** – Adam, Thank you. Adam did a remarkable job and exceeded with what was accomplished in the interim of selecting a new director.

**Cmr. Snyder** – Accolades to Adam and commend the hiring committee in the selection of the new parks director.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned to the call of the Chair at 9:23 a.m.

**Mike Way, Chairman**

Jackson County Parks & Recreation Commission