

Approved

Delta County Parks and Recreation Commission

Minutes

December 16, 2009 – Pioneer Trail Park Office – at PTP - 3:00 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL - 3:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Commissioners Romps, Shirley, Frederickson, Lindquist, Larrabee, Jussila, Rouhomaki and Rivard

ABSENT: Herioux, Bagley (excused)

OTHERS PRESENT: Op. Mgr. Branz, Asst Smith

II. AGENDA APPROVAL: Moved by Jussila, seconded by Fredrickson to approve the December 16, 2009 Agenda. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Moved by Shirley, supported by Jussila to approve the October 15, 2009 minutes with correction of Larrabee as absent, not present. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS – None

V. COMMUNICATIONS – (Received and sent) : Received County board minutes of 12/1/09 re: reappointments to parks board. Jussila and Fredrickson reappointed for another 3-yr term.

## VI. REPORTS:

### 1. **Chairman's Report:**

1) Romps thanked all board and personnel committee for participating in the review of parks Manager – Branz. After giving a recap of the committee meetings and meetings with Branz, Romps opened up the review to comments by the board. Rouhomaki wanted to say that the review had a grade of satisfactory, so he was pleased. Motion was then made by Shirley and seconded by Fredrickson to approve the final review as a whole board and send the review to the County board to be placed in Branz's file. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

### **B. Operations Manager's Report**

1) Park Plan – Discussion was held regarding issues of Fish Dam Park and Rapid River because of the article in the newspaper of changes being proposed without Parks Board knowledge or approval. Mattson wasn't present but sent in a request of the park board for the park plan. He recommended to take Fish Dam Park out of the plan (leaving in the 4-acre boat launch) but not to give up on the ownership of the entire park (in the park system); park board can still have recommendations as to how Fish Dam is handled – trading for equitable land, selling, etc. Commissioner Rivard echoed the same sentiment, as well as other board members – parks board needs to keep control and be involved with the future of Fish Dam Park. Discussion was also held regarding Rapid River Falls Park – reconstructing the swing bridge, horse trails, etc. Motion was made by Larrabee, seconded by Shirley to remove Fish Dam property north of US-2 (the boat launch not included) from the park plan completely and add the two items (swing bridge construction and horse trails under public ideas and concerns for Rapid River Falls Park in the final draft of plan. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

a) 2010 Annual Plan of Work – complete and in the new plan.

2) Gave board calendar schedule for final draft of park plan

\* January 13 – Approval of Final Draft to Public hearing and 30 day posting

\* Jan 20 or 27 – public hearing (see Jan 2010 minutes for changes)

\* Feb 15 – 30 day posting ending

\* Special Park Board meeting – Plan approval to be sent to County

\* March 2<sup>nd</sup> – County Board approval

\* March 3 – Send to DNR – deadline is April 1 for plan approval and grant submission.

3) Financials: Oct and Nov budget statuses were handed out. Numbers are in line.

a) Approval of Bills (pd thru December 2, 2009) Moved by Fredrickson, seconded by Larrabee to approve the bills totaling \$7,451.76. Motion Carried Unanimously.

b) Parks Accounting separated from Airport. Meeting with Gary, Kelly, Treasurer Sandy and Administrator Nora regarding new checking account, line item budget, capital improvement account, retained earnings and appropriation request. All items are in line Parks will have new checking account by next week. All other separation is complete. Parks are now completely an individual department of the County. (Any future board members or employees of the Parks department will now be able to find all of this information in the accounting books of both the County and the Parks).

4) Meeting Dates – 2010 meeting dates were proposed to go back to 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month, moved up the time to start at 2:00 pm. At Pioneer Trail Park Office. Need to change February from the 10<sup>th</sup> to the 17<sup>th</sup> to work with our Park Plan approval. Moved by Jussila, seconded by Lindquist to change meeting dates for 2010 as presented. Motion carried.

5) 2010 Park Rates: Branz presented park and camping rates for the 2010 season. Some increases were requested. Discussion was held. Motion made by Larrabee, seconded by Fredrickson to approve the new 2010 rates as presented. Motion carried.

6) Electrical Rate Comparison. Branz gave out information to inform board of increases in usage – and that we will be able to compare now – (only one year of seasonal)

7) Marketing Plan 2010 – information to be updated regularly, and also in the plan.

8) Branz gave the board information regarding a conference he feels would be important to attend in February. Conference is MRPA Annual and Trade Show. Parks were members of the Michigan Rec and Park Association (Branz paid for annual membership fee out of pocket). Conference in Grand Rapids. Branz offered to pay part of the costs for the conference. After discussion re: Branz's review – the board wanting him to be more aggressive and innovative – this conference is in line with those expectations. Motion made by Larrabee and seconded by Fredrickson to allow Gary to attend the conference, paying for part of the costs and the remainder of the fees to come out of the budget (board meetings have been cut to nine). Motion Carried Unanimously.

9) Conservation District Report

a) Fish Dam Property – nothing to report

b) Fuller Park Cut – Board agreed that cleanup needs to be done regardless if a select cut happens soon. Will relate this information to Mattson.

**VII. OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Host Program – Fuller Park Host program is being completed.
2. Training Book – set up for seasonal help is complete, including Chain saw usage.

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS:**

**IX. PUBLIC COMMENT & COMMISSION:**

**X. ADJOURNMENT:** Motion to adjourn made by Lindquist, supported by Fredrickson.  
Meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Kelly Smith, Asst Manager Starr Romps, Chairman