

**MINUTES**

**LAKE COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING**

**FEBRUARY 9, 2023**

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Board President, Chris Dilts, called the Lake County Parks and Recreation Board Meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in the large conference room of the Lake County Parks Corporate Office, 8411 E. Lincoln Highway, Crown Point, Indiana.

II. ROLL CALL

Secretary to the Board, Jim Basala, called the roll and the following Board members were present: Christopher Dilts, Carl Ploense, Jesse Rippe, Rita Gillis, John Salzeider and David Uzelac. Board Attorney, Louis Casale, was also in attendance.

Staff members present: Jim Basala, Chris Landgrave, Sasha Mateer, Craig Zandstra, and Marsha Rodriguez

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 9, 2023 BOARD AGENDA

In a motion by Mr. Salzeider, seconded by Mr. Ploense, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Board Agenda of February 9, 2023.

V. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 12, 2023 BOARD MINUTES

In a motion by Mr. Ploense, seconded by Mr. Uzelac, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Board Minutes of January 12, 2023.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

None

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Cumulative Park Building Fund Resolution

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 2023-02 OF THE LAKE COUNTY PARK AND RECREATION BOARD**

**WHEREAS**, the Lake County Park and Recreation Board (hereinafter the "BOARD") on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2023 adopted Resolution Number 2023-1 establishing a Cumulative Park Building Fund, a copy of which is attached hereto and marked Exhibit "A"; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Indiana Law, after Notice by Publication as provided by law, a public hearing was held on this 9<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2023 at 5:30 pm, at which date and time taxpayer were allowed to appear and be heard regarding said Resolution Number 2023-01; and

**THE BOARD**, hereby resolves as follows:

1. The BOARD reaffirms and adopts Resolution Number 2023-01.
2. The BOARD hereby authorized and order the Notice be given to taxpayers pursuant to Indiana Law in the form that is provided in Exhibit "B" attached hereto.
3. That the CEO/Secretary of the BOARD is hereby authorized and directed to take such action and execute such documents on the BOARD'S behalf, to establish the Cumulative Park Building Fund as provided therein.

Passed by majority vote of the BOARD this 9<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2023.

Staff recommends Gluth Brothers Roofing Company, Inc., be awarded the bid for the roof replacement at \$59,188.

## VIII. ACCEPTANCE OF CLAIMS

Claims to be accepted:

1107 Operating Fund	\$ 139,691.74
1116 Non-Reverting Land	6,595.95
1117 Non-Reverting Operating	38,722.30
9450 Grant	<u>72,965.00</u>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 257,974.99</b>

Mr. Dilts asked if everyone had a chance to review the claims that were emailed to them. Mr. Uzelac made a motion to accept the claims. Mr. Salzeider seconded the motion. Mr. Dilts asked if there was any discussion. There being none, Mr. Dilts called for the vote, and the Board unanimously approved the claims for payment.

## IX. REPORTS

### A. Committee Reports

#### 1. Policy and Personnel/Budget and Finance

Mr. Basala reported that there currently aren't any budget discussions, but should be within in the next few months.

#### 2. Goals and Objectives/Land Acquisition

Mr. Basala reported the owners of Indian Ridge are interested in doing a land swap. Some of our property, for some of their property. They are wanting to sell to developers and need additional access. We currently own property east of their border, which is all farmland. Board Attorney, Louis Casale, investigated if we can do a land swap. The only way to exchange or sell property is to replace it with property of equal dollar value. An e-mail will be forthcoming to the Board with their proposals and once received an executive meeting to discuss the process can be made. Any exchange of property would have to be approved by the Department of Natural Resources and then by the National Park Service.

Mr. Basala stated that the Pennsy Trail Phase IV will be receiving bids on Monday.

### B. Division Reports

#### 1. Recreation and Special Facilities

Ms. Mateer, Division Superintendent, reported to the Board that there has been a lack of school and day care field trips at Bellaboo's. The staff and programmers recently gathered together, and brain stormed ideas on how to promote to the schools again, about the field trips that they offer. With Covid hitting, a lot of the school budgets were affected, and we haven't seen the totals as in the past years.

Ms. Mateer also reminded the Board, The Maple Syrup Program at Deep River County Park will be coming up next March 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and March 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> from 10 am to 4 pm. Park Manager, Dyan Leto recently had the opportunity to promote the park and program on WJOB. Ms. Mateer also stated she overheard that The Chellberg Farm at the National Park, would not be putting on their program this year. It may possibly mean having a larger program this year.

Ms. Mateer wanted to thank her staff, (plow drivers and technicians). With the large snow fall this past week, many came in and cleared areas before the employees came in the following day.

#### 2. Park Operations

Mr. Cioroianu, Division Superintendent, reported that the carpenters are continuing rehabbing the Lemon Lake, park manager house. New windows are being installed soon along with some painting at the end of the month. The mechanics are continuing to do general maintenance on the larger equipment as well. Stating that they had compact track loader training this past Wednesday. The compact track loader was approved by the Board to purchase. Fifteen employees from different departments came out to go through training. The tractor has been taken to Gibson Woods where it will used tomorrow.

Mr. Cioroianu stated that he recently spoke with a disk golfer who frequents Lemon Lake. He has family members that have Autism, and is interested in doing an Autism fundraiser, by means of a pop-up disk golf tournament. The suggestion of Cedar Creek Golf Course was made, since currently the course is not being used. They met with the park manager, and they will be having it the last Sunday of February. Mr. Basala mentioned that March is National Autism Month as well. Mr. Cioroianu also mentioned that his division as well, worked hard plowing and keeping the park roads open and clean during this past snowfall.

### 3. Planning and Natural Resource Management

Mr. Zandstra, Division Superintendent, reported that Oak Ridge Prairie had an active weekend with the recent snow fall. There was a large public turnout renting cross country skis, as well as using the sledding hill.

The Veterans Memorial Trail currently is on Phase 1, which runs from 113<sup>th</sup> to Delaware. There are additional Federal funds from NIRPC that will help pay for the engineering. They will be paying 80 percent and we will pay 20 percent. Staff plans to have a future discussion with the city of Crown Point, discussing a bridge over Broadway, in hopes that they will assist with the project. There are also additional Federal funds available from NIRPC that will go towards Phase III, which runs from Iowa St. east to County Line Road. The Phase II acquisition is currently being wrapped up and hoping with additional funds can start Phase III. Ultimately, the Veterans Memorial Trail will tie in with the existing trail from Hebron, at County Line Road.

### 4. Administrative Services

Mr. Landgrave reported that our revenue and expense report will show that financially we are still doing very well.

## X. GENERAL DISCUSSION

## XI. ADJOURNMENT

In a motion by Mr. Uzelac, seconded by Mr. Ploense, the Lake County Parks and Recreation Board meeting adjourned at 5:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM BASALA  
Secretary to the Board

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