



LAGRANGE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF  
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD  
MINUTES  
June 15, 2023 7:00 PM  
Delt Church Park – Greenwood Pavilion

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**PRESENT:** John Egli, Eric Maginn, Ardala Hepler, Paul Yoder, Julia Wolheter, Paul Baker

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mary Franke, Emily Wolfe

**MINUTES:** Paul Baker moved and Eric Maginn seconded a motion to approve the minutes from the May 25, 2023 meeting. Motion carried.

**CLAIMS:**

Paul Yoder moved and Ardala Hepler seconded a motion to approve June 15, 2023 docket claims. Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

A. 2024 Budget

Mary Franke revised one item – increased amount for a new lawnmower. 2024 Budget requests due tomorrow, June 16, to Auditor. Julia Wolheter moved and Eric Maginn seconded a motion to approve 2024 request with stated revision. Motion carried.

B. Mike Metz Fen LWCF Project

Received building permits for shelter and vault toilet. Work will begin soon.

C. Tetrick Property

The Park Board signed a letter of support for purchasing property. Mary Franke has gained the support of the Commissioners and Council. Mary Franke is working with the DNR and will submit a request for a Benjamin Harrison Trust Grant. The Tetricks are planning to have property surveyed. Mary Franke may meet with the Tetricks next week.

D. Rogers Pavilion/Pickleball

Mary Franke shared that the small pavilion at David Rogers Park has been declared surplus. When pavilion is removed, Nipsco electric service will be turned off.

E. Suzanne Arnold Memorial Bench

Board decided to purchase a bench.

F. Sexual/Misconduct Policy

The Attorney suggested changes based on Park Board concerns from last meeting. The Park Board discussed. Eric Maginn moved and Paul Baker seconded a motion to approved policy with revisions to include: First contact is Park Director, Second contact is County Human Resources Director. Notified contact person will contact Park/County Attorney, Park/County Attorney contacts Park Board President.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **A. Director's Report**

1. An Amish Disaster Preparedness Group donated time to the Parks Department. Groups were sent to Pine Knob, Maple Wood, and Delt. We are so grateful for all they did! At Pine Knob, the old tractor bridge was removed and replaced. At Maple Wood, they cut and split wood to fill up at least half of the wood shed. At Delt, they cleaned and stained. It's possible they will join us tomorrow at the LCYC Delt Youth Event.
2. Youth Event is tomorrow, Saturday, June 17 at Delt Church Park from 10-2. The board offered to help where needed.
3. Hawpatch Trail – the county is getting close to finalizing the railroad property purchase. The trails group will start meeting with private property owners to collect letters of intent to sell portions of land for trail use.

## **ANY AND ALL OTHER BUSINESS:**

- A. The final invoice was received for the Delt Church Park Greenwood Pavilion Project. With change orders, the final price was just under 1% over signed contract price. The final overall project cost was \$373,087.10. Approved funds equal \$360,000. Appropriated funds = \$347,516.00. Still need \$25,571.10 in funds --- \$12,484 is already approved but needs re-appropriated and \$13,087.10 needs approved and appropriated from Park Non-reverting fund. Paul Baker moved and Julia Wolheter seconded a motion to appropriate funds to finalize payment of Greenwood Pavilion project. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Emily Wolfe, for Ardala Hepler  
EW/ew