

Minutes of February 7, 2007

The regular meeting of the Calhoun County Parks Trustees Board was held Wednesday, February 7, 2007 in their office located at 13300 Fifteen Mile Road, Marshall, Michigan.

Present: Commissioner Charles E. Monaweck, Chairperson
Commissioner Chester E. Travis, Vice-Chairperson
Commissioner Scott Brown, Member
Dennis Randolph, Managing Director
Joanna Johnson, Assistant Managing Director
Kevin Henning, Finance Director
Pixie Coats, Human Resource Director
Angela Kline, Assistant County Highway Engineer
Also Present: Eusebio Solis Jr., Calhoun County Commissioner
Tom Frank, Albion Township Supervisor
Sharon Drumhiller, Tekonsha Township Supervisor
Nelson Shedd, Village of Tekonsha Resident
Dave Veramay, Clarence Township Resident
Clarence Millard, Newton Township Resident
Joe Bramble, Convis Township Resident
Gardy Berezonsky, Marengo Township Resident
Jim Russell, Sheridan Township Resident

Chairperson Monaweck called the meeting to order at 10:55 a.m. He asked for a motion to approve the minutes if there are no additions or corrections.

Moved by Commissioner Brown and supported by Commissioner Travis to approve the regular meeting minutes of January 3, 2007. Voice vote: Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

Received a memo from Joanna Johnson requesting Board approval for the sale of approximately 10 acres of Kimball Pines parkland to the Road Commission for the purpose of building Kimball Pines Parkway.

Received a letter from Rehmann Robson confirming the understanding of services being provided to the Calhoun County Park Trustees Fund of Calhoun County.

NEW BUSINESS

Moved by Commissioner Travis and supported by Commissioner Brown to approve Resolution 2007-01 for the sale of approximately 10 acres of Kimball Pines parkland to the Road Commission for the purpose of building Kimball Pines Parkway. Voice vote: Motion carried.

Commissioner Brown asked to be brought up to date on the sale of the 10 acres. Mr. Randolph explained the Kimball Pines Parkway project to Commissioner Brown.

Commissioner Monaweck asked about the house property. Mr. Randolph said that when the Casino comes in, the property would be worth much more. He would like to maintain the house a little longer or at least until the casino breaks ground.

Moved by Commissioner Travis and supported by Commissioner Brown to approve the letter from Rehmann Robson confirming the understanding of services being provided to the Calhoun County Park Trustees Fund of Calhoun County. Voice Vote: Motion Carried.

Mr. Henning commented that the Park Trustees are required to have an audit done on the finances. The audit expense amount is \$2,300.00 with additional services cost of \$525.00 and we receive no money from the County to pay for this. The total amount of the audit is \$2,825.00. Mr. Henning stated that we have a growing deficit of almost \$3,000.00 every year, even if we do nothing.

Commissioner Monaweck asked where we stood with the County regarding the parks considering the position the County is in and the position we are in, as to what we are going to do with Parks. Mr. Randolph stated that he had a meeting with Mr. Purcell back in December and requested \$10,000.00 but agreed that \$7,500 would be enough. We have not heard anything, so right now we are on our own. Mr. Randolph stated that his concern is that if the Parks go back to the County, they won't get taken care of. He commented that he has a conflict with this situation trying to balance the funds and keeping the parks up. Commissioner Monaweck stated that he has a conflict also; the perception of the public is that we are financing these parks when we should be repairing our roads. Commissioner Monaweck said that it is time that there are some tough decisions made. Commissioner Monaweck hates to see the parks go back to the County because he thinks the citizens would suffer. The Road Commission can't continually support something they don't own. We have to stretch our finances as it is and he feels it's time for someone to step up to the plate and say either yes or no on the parks.

Commissioner Brown said that he is looking forward to having a Board retreat. Commissioner Brown commented that he understood the Road Commission was to receive \$7,500 from the County.

Mr. Randolph noted we haven't received notice on the \$7,500 yet.

CITIZEN'S TIME

Mr. Veramay stated that the Parks Master Plan has to be updated and this will cost us \$7,500.00. This is what those dollars are for, and not parks maintenance.

Commissioner Solis commented that the decisions made in the past for the County are

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having an impact on us now. He stated that he takes offense to Mr. Randolph saying that the County doesn't value the parks, when the decisions that were made were simply a financial decision. Everyone is making cuts.

Chairperson Monaweck announced that the next regular meeting of the Calhoun County Park Trustees Board is scheduled for Wednesday, March 7, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. following the 9:00 a.m. Calhoun County Board of Road Commissioners meeting. There being no additional business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Charles E. Monaweck, Chairperson

Pixie Ann Coats, Deputy Clerk