



# Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes June 15, 2020

The June 15, 2020 meeting Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission meeting was called to order at 3:14 p.m. electronically in accordance with the Governor's Executive Order 2020-75 (COVID-19) by chairman Tom Ferguson.

## **ROLL CALL**

Present: John Moehring, Sue Flora, Frank Brewer Gary Blaser, Jane Hayward and Tom Ferguson

Absent: Jim McArdle, Fred Strauer, Bob Moore, Bob Leslie,

Guests: None

## **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

It was moved and supported to accept the agenda as presented. **Motion Carried**

## **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

It was moved and supported to accept the minutes of May 22, 2020 Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission distributed. **Motion Carried**

## **PUBLIC MATTERS AND CONCERNS**

None at this time.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

### **SNOWMOBILE/ORV TRAILS**

Mr. Ferguson reported that due to the Corona Virus pandemic all work on ORV and snowmobile trails has been suspended effective March 31, 2020. With a portion of that order rescinded the Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission will be able to make one pass on grading, return to brushing and signing, however, no funds have been release beyond that point. It is anticipated that the DNR will be notifying the Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission regarding resumption of full time grooming. There is concern that the trails will need a great deal of work to put them in shape for the snowmobile season as well as maintaining them for the ORV season throughout this summer.

### **BIKE/HIKING TRAILS**

Mr. Ferguson stated that he has been working with Spicer Group on a change order that will need to be approved soon. The cost of the change order is in the neighborhood of \$35,000.00, however, it will not impact the bottom line of the project. Work has been ongoing with daily reports being received from the Spicer Group offices.

### **PARK DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Nothing new at this time.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

### **LIBERTY ROAD TRAIL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

The project has been placed on hold until the state releases funding and approval for work to take place again.

### **BUILDING CONSTRUCTION UPDATE**

Mr. Ferguson shared photos of the progress to date on the barn. The doors will be installed on Tuesday and electrical work will be started shortly thereafter. The Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission will hold their July 13 meeting at the Footesite Barn facility. This will be a potluck with hot dogs being provided.

### **GRANT APPLICATIONS**

The Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission is still looking at the US Gypsum property along US-23 in Alabaster Township. Following discussion it was moved and supported to proceed with the grant application process as well as asking Spicer Group to pro-

vide a feasibility study of the property that would provide the cost to operate and maintain the park once it is acquired by the Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission. Motion **CARRIED**. It was also moved and supported to proceed with the development of a grant for the VanEttan Creek Dam Park property. Motion **CARRIED**.

**EXPANSION OF IOSCO COUNTY ORV TRAILS**

Mike Beck from the US Forest Service has not reported back regarding any expansion of the trails since the COVID-19 issue has slowed down the process of getting this project approved.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**REOPENING ORV TRAILS/MAINTENANCE**

The Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission has received permission to make one grooming pass along the ORV trails in Iosco County. In addition signing and brushing can resume. Ken Foster has estimated that it may take as much as 150-200 man hours to put the trails back to where they need to be. Mr. Ferguson will reach out to the Michigan DNR asking for an timeline when regular trail grooming can resume.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS AND CONCERNS**

None at this time.

**Any Other Matters**

**PAYMENT OF BILLS AND PER DIEMS**

It was moved and supported to approve the Bills as presented. Roll Call: Ayes 6 Nays: 0 **Motion CARRIED**

**NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission will take place on Monday, June 15, 2020. The meeting will begin at 3 p.m. at the Commissioners Room in the Iosco County Building unless the social distancing rules keeps the county building closed. If that is the case the meeting will again be held via Zoom.

Meeting adjourned at 3:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted  
Tom Ferguson