



# Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes March 16, 2020

The March 16, 2020 meeting Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission meeting was called to order at 3 p.m. in the Commissioners Room at the Iosco County Building by Chairman Tom Ferguson.

## **ROLL CALL**

Present: Fred Strauer, Bob Moore, Bob Leslie, Gary Blaser, John Moehring, Sue Flora, Jim McArdle, Frank Brewer, Jane Hayward and Tom Ferguson

Absent: None

Guests: John McBain, Roger Kilbury, Ken Foster and Joel Foster

## **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 February 18, 2020 Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission distributed.

**Motion Carried**

## **PUBLIC MATTERS AND CONCERNS**

Mr. Kilbury reported to the Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission that during the recent Groomer Workshop held in Sault Ste. Marie recently he was the winner of a chain saw. As a result of winning the chain saw he wanted to donate it to the Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission for use on the trails. The Commission gratefully agreed that the chain saw would be a great addition to the equipment inventory. Many thanks to Mr. Kilbury for the donation.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

### **SNOWMOBILE/ORV TRAILS**

Mr. Ferguson reported that due to the Corona Virus pandemic many of the meetings that the DNR had scheduled for ORV and snowmobile have been posted or cancelled. Because of these cancellations the trail program will continue as usual. Mr. Ferguson also reported on a meeting held with the USFS staff regarding trails, trail improvement and expansion. All of the programs discussed are in the development stage and a report on the progress will be brought back at a future meeting. Mr. Foster discussed the issues relating to the repair to both tractors. The total repairs amounts to \$9,835.11. The tractors are currently at Bader Brothers in West Branch awaiting repair. It was also discussed that the gates at Footesite at the bridge would be closed immediately as the snow cover has all but disappeared.

### **BIKE/HIKING TRAILS**

Mr. Ferguson indicated that with the coming Spring weather work will begin on the Bike Trail in AuSable Township soon.

### **PARK DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Brian Pelton is working on the design for the signs at the various Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission locations across the county.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

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

The USFS has indicated they will provide updated drawings for the project. Once those are available the Iosco County Road Commission and members of the Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission will meet to go over the project to obtain an estimate on the cost of completing the project.

### **BUILDING CONSTRUCTION UPDATE**

The Footesite storage barn project may be able to move forward when the frost limits are removed from all county roads on Monday,

March 23. With the removal of load limits the contractors can get back to work on the project and get it completed quickly.

**GRANT APPLICATIONS**

The Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission is waiting for a report back from Rob Eggers and Spicer Engineering. One of the applications will include the purchase of the US Gypsum Property on US-23 as well as improvements to the Van Ettan Creek Dam Park and the Handicapped Park in AuSable Township. More information should be available at the April meeting.

**EXPANSION OF IOSCO COUNTY ORV TRAILS**

Molly Pezek and Mike Beck from the US Forest Service met with the County Parks and Recreation Commission Committee on Snowmobiles and ORVs prior to the regular monthly meeting. They indicated that the US Forest Service is close to opening Forest Roads to ORV traffic in the near future. This is good news for those ORV riders on side by side and UHVs. More information will be forthcoming in the next month or two.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**GROOMER WORKSHOP**

Mr. Blaser reported on the Groomer Workshop held at Sault Ste. Marie. A lot was learned and information gathered that will be helpful to the Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission going forward.

**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 10 Nays: 0 **Motion CARRIED**

**NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission will take place on Monday, April 20, 2020. The meeting will begin at 3 p.m. at the Commissioners Room in the Iosco County Building.

Meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

↳ meeting  
Cancelled

Respectfully submitted  
Tom Ferguson