

Minutes of the 959th meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Columbus and Franklin County Metropolitan Park District, held at 3:00 pm on Tuesday, July 15, 2025, at the Beech Maple Lodge at Blacklick Woods Metro Park, 6975 E. Livingston Ave Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068

Present

Commissioners: Mr. Alex, Mr. McCue

Staff: Mx. Bain, Mr. Berkebile, Mr. Blunt, Ms. Boniface, Ms. Brierley, Mr. Domiano, Mr. Eutsey, Ms. Heist, Mr. Kasnyik, Ms. Lochbaum, Mr. Malone, Ms. McClintock, Mr. McGivern, Mr. Moloney, Mr. Peck, Ms. Rice, Mr. Studenmund, Ms. Willer

Legal Counsel: Mr. Franzmann

Guests: None

Mr. Alex asked if all of the notice requirements of Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code and the rules of the Board regarding open meetings had been met. Mr. Moloney confirmed that all of those requirements and rules had been met.

Minutes of the June Board Meeting

Mr. Alex made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 2025 Board Meeting. Mr. McCue seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

Public Comment

None.

Disbursement Resolution No. 6257

Mr. Alex moved for the approval of the Disbursement Resolution for the June 2025 invoices. Mr. McCue seconded the motion and the Board approved the resolution. A copy of Resolution No. 6257 is attached to these minutes as part hereof.

Staff Reports

Administration

Tim Moloney provided an update on negotiations with Camp Wyandot. We are at the 90% completed mark and look forward to a resolution soon.

Mr. Moloney spoke about the Big Darby Accord update program. Metro Parks has conserved more acreage since the accord came to be without their help.

Mr. Moloney met with the Grange Insurance Audubon Center to discuss updating our current MOU. The Executive Director anticipates that they will come to a future Board Meeting to ask for financial assistance. Board Member Alex stated that he is interested in providing programmatic assistance at the GIAC instead of financial assistance for programs.

Mr. Moloney concluded his administration report with an update on a potential expansion of parkland along the Hayden Run corridor.

Operations

Larry Peck introduced Blacklick Woods Park Manager, Jess McClintock, who in turn introduced her staff. Blacklick Woods has been very busy. Attendance was over 1.4 million last year. They are currently working on nature center renovations and interpretative displays. The Ash Grove Picnic Area is getting repaved soon.

Tim Moloney praised the Blacklick Woods staff, saying "I challenge anyone to find a better kept park. It is as clean as it was when Walter Tucker opened it 75 years ago. Jess does an amazing job."

Mr. Peck said there was 19,000 people at Blacklick Woods during the Independence Day Weekend, as well as 10,000 at Red, White, and Boom at Scioto Audubon on July 3. Everyone is doing a great job.

Finance

Rick McGivern provided an update on the Finance Department. He introduced Christy Lochbaum, the new Purchasing Manager and gave details about Resolution 6258. Money for the Inniswood Metro Gardens rose trellis was transferred from a Columbus Foundation trust, dedicated to new projects at Inniswood.

Human Resources

J.J. Domiano presented updates on the HR Department. The CSIs are doing HR training as well as completing projects in the parks.

Mr. Domiano said that Metro Parks currently has 453 staff members. Retention of said staff is great and he is impressed with the work everyone has been doing this summer.

Resolutions

#6258 AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM THE INNISWOOD FOUNDATION FUND AT THE COLUMBUS FOUNDATION TO PROVIDE FOR A ROSE TRELLIS AND OTHER IMPROVEMENTS AT THE INNISWOOD METRO GARDENS

The Board requests the Governing Committee of the Columbus Foundation transfer \$196,000 from the Inniswood Foundation Fund to the Metro Parks.

#6259 AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION TO THE CLEAN OHIO GREEN SPACE CONSERVATION FUND FOR PROPERTY IN FRANKLIN COUNTY

The Board approved applying for a Clean Ohio Green Space Conservation Grant to aid in the acquisition of property adjacent to Walnut Woods Metro Park.

#6260 AUTHORIZING ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT FOR REPAIRS TO THE HONDA WETLAND OBSERVATION TOWER AT GLACIER RIDGE METRO PARK

The Board approved entering into a contract with Axis Civil Construction, LLC in the amount of \$178,580 for repairs to the Honda Wetland Observation Tower.

#6261 AUTHORIZING ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT FOR PAVING IMPROVEMENTS AT MULTIPLE METRO PARKS

The Board approved entering into a contract with Breck's Paving for paving improvements at three parks in the amount of \$540,450.

#6262 AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS TO CONSTRUCT WATERLINE IMPROVEMENTS AT BANK RUN METRO PARK

The Board approved a variety of expenses associated with the waterline improvement at Bank Run Metro Park at an estimated cost of \$1,400,000.

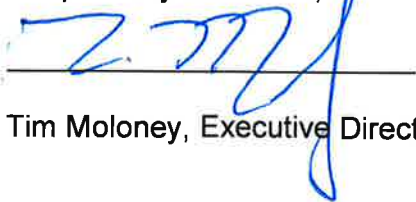
Other Business

None.

Adjournment

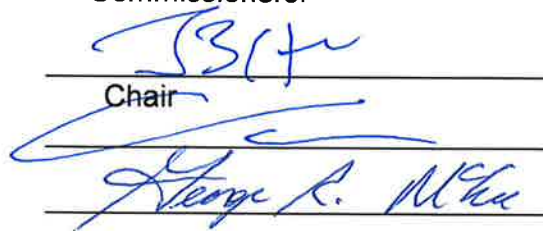
The Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 3:17 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

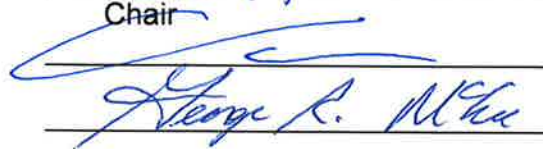


Tim Moloney, Executive Director

Approved by the Board of Park Commissioners:



Chair



George A. M'Hea

