

Minutes of the 960th meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Columbus and Franklin County Metropolitan Park District, held at 3:00 pm on Tuesday, August 19, 2025 at the Maintenance Shop at Quarry Trails Metro Park at 2600 Dublin Road, Columbus Ohio 43228.

Present

Commissioners: Mr. Alex, Mr. McCue, Mr. Hadden

Staff: Ms. Babcock, Mr. Domiano, Mr. Eutsey, Mr. Gonzalez, Mr. Jackson, Mr. Kaderly, Mr. Kasnyik, Mr. Laughbaum, Mr. Mader, Mr. McGinn, Mr. McGivern, Ms. Meros, Mr. Moloney, Ms. Paisley, Mr. Peck, Ms. Seacrest, Ms. Snyder, Mr. Studenmund, Ms. Watkins, Ms. Willer

Legal Counsel: Mr. Franzmann

Guests: None

Mr. Hadden 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 July Board Meeting

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

Public Comment

None.

Disbursement Resolution No. 6263

Mr. Hadden moved for the approval of the Disbursement Resolution for the July 2025 invoices. Mr. Alex seconded the motion and the Board approved the resolution. A copy of Resolution No. 6263 is attached to these minutes as part hereof.

Staff Reports

Administration

Tim Moloney updated the Board on the work Metro Parks is doing with ODOT on the Jewett Road interchange. We have worked with them on options but it wouldn't be out of the question for an ODOT admin to reach out to the Board.

The Whittier Street bridge was recently reopened by the City of Columbus. Mr. Moloney asked Scioto Audubon Park Operations Manager Dan Kaderly if the bridge was opened on time, to which Mr. Kaderly mused, "not even remotely."

Mr. Moloney discussed potential collaboration with the City of Obetz. They have \$20 million in LinkUs trail development in the upcoming years and he is excited for the potential.

Mr. Moloney mentioned a recently released Columbus Dispatch article about a rash of injuries that have happened on the fireman's pole at the Canopy Walk in Blacklick Woods. Larry Peck joked that with 18 injuries out of the over million people who have visited the Canopy Walk, it averages about the same as the winning percentage for the Cleveland Browns.

Operations

Larry Peck introduced Ryan Mader, Park Manager of Quarry Trails, who introduced the rest of the Quarry Trails staff. Mr. Mader provided an update on another successful via ferrata season, as well as the near completion of a new restroom.

Mr. Peck provided an updated on the Blendon Woods Nature Center. The renovations are nearing completion. Seasonal Ranger training has begun and will continue until next week. Bark Bash is this weekend.

Finance

Richard McGivern provided an update from the Finance Department. Revenue for next year is higher than expected with many contracts ongoing. With seasonal employees ending their contracts, Payroll has returned to regular operations.

Human Resources

JJ Domiano provided an update on the Human Resources department. The Golf Course Superintendent position is posted and the Friends of Metro Parks Intern position will have interviews next week. The county is implementing U Matter, a learning management system.

Resolutions

- #6264 AUTHORIZING ENTERING INTO A SUBLEASE AGREEMENT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER FOR EXPANSION OF GREAT SOUTHERN METRO PARK

The Board approved entering a sublease agreement for 15 years with an option to renew for 15 more years.

- #6265 SUPPORTING THE SUBMISSION AN APPLICATION FOR ACCREDITATION THROUGH THE OHIO COLLABORATIVE LAW ENFORCEMENT ACCREDITATION PROGRAM

The Board approved the submission of an application to the OCLEAP to better serve the public.

#6266 AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF TWO APPLICATIONS TO THE ODNR H2OHIO GRANT PROGRAM

The Board approved the submission of two H2OHIO grant applications for a 50-acre site at Prairie Oaks Metro Park and a 43-acre site at Glacier Ridge Metro Park.

#6267 AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF SITE FURNISHINGS FOR BANK RUN METRO PARK

The Board approved entering into a contract with Emuamericas, Inc. to purchase and construct a shelter through the TIPS purchasing program at a cost of \$84,400.

#6268 AUTHORIZING ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT FOR SITE LIGHTING IMPROVEMENTS AT BANK RUN METRO PARK

The Board approved entering into a contract with Jess Howard Electric Company with the best and lowest bid in the amount of \$264,118.92.

#6269 AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDERS FOR FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS AT BANK RUN METRO PARK

The Board approved a change order for an additional \$36,350 with LARS, LLC, bringing the new contract amount to \$92,023.

#6270 AUTHORIZING THE GRANT OF AN EASEMENT TO OHIO POWER COMPANY FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT QUARRY TRAILS METRO PARK

The Board approved an easement on approximately .22 acres in Quarry Trails Metro Park to Ohio Power Company.

#6271 AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF REAL ESTATE OWNED BY THE COLUMBUS JEWISH FOUNDATION ALONG ALUM CREEK

The Board approved the purchase of approximately 7.12 acres for the preservation of park lands along the Alum Creek Greenway Trail.

#6272 AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF REAL ESTATE ADJACENT TO THE HERITAGE TRAIL

The Board approved the purchase of approximately 54.05 acres.

#6273 AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR PAVING IMPROVEMENTS AT SHARON WOODS METRO PARK

The Board approved entering into a contract with B&C Blacktop in the amount of \$74,500 for paving improvements at Sharon Woods Metro Park.

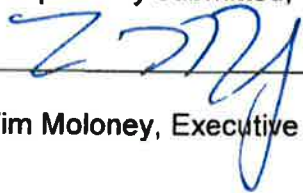
Other Business

None.

Adjournment


The Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 3:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Tim Moloney, Executive Director

Approved by the Board of Park
Commissioners:



Chair
