

Minutes of the 969th meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Columbus and Franklin County Metropolitan Park District, held on Tuesday, April 21, 2026 at 3pm at the Northern Shelter at Highbanks Metro Park, 9466 US 23 North, Lewis Center, Ohio 43035.

Present

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

Staff: Mr. Bruch, Mr. Cowden, Mr. Domiano, Ms. Dyer, Mr. Eutsey, Mr. D. Kaderly, Mr. M. Kaderly, Mr. Kaysnik, Mr. Kelly, Mr. Laughbaum, Mr. McGivern, Mr. Moloney, Mr. Peck, Mr. Rosenbeck, Mr. Studenmund, Ms. Willer

Legal Counsel: Mr. Franzmann,

Guests: Mr. and Ms. Litt, Mr. and Ms. Miner

Mr. McCue 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 March Board Meeting

Mr. McCue made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 2026 Board Meeting. Mr. Alex seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

Public Comment

Mr. Miner asked the board to consider surface changes to the gravel trails. Matt Kaderly, Park Manager of Highbanks, explained that the extreme weather we've been having has washed away the crushed gravel on the hilly portions of the trails, leaving only the larger rocks intact. The park has been working with a consultant out of Cuyahoga County to help slow erosion on the rugged terrain.

Disbursement Resolution No. 6308

Mr. McCue moved for the approval of the Disbursement Resolution for the March 2026 invoices. Mr. Alex seconded the motion and the Board approved the resolution. A copy of Resolution No. 6308 is attached to these minutes as part hereof.

Staff Reports

Administration

Tim Moloney provided administration updates. He has been working with Columbus Recreation and Parks on the development of plans for the Hellbranch Headwaters Park

project. He has met with Pleasant Township to make a joint purchase of a water rescue boat for assistance at our lakes and creeks.

Mr. Moloney declared the opening celebration of Great Southern was a resounding success. It was a great day for all involved.

The Executive Director introduced the Board to our new Finance Director, Jessica Dyer, who will be replacing Rick McGivern after he retires at the end of April.

Operations

Larry Peck introduced Highbanks Park Manager Matt Kaderly, who in turn introduced his staff in attendance. The park has been very busy with projects ranging from a new playground at Oak Coves, roof repairs on the barn near Dragonfly Day Camp, and solar powered entrance.

Mr. Peck noted that the district has several projects that are being bid on, including pre-cast restrooms at Prairie Oaks and Quarry Trails, as well as phase two of the Homestead improvement plan.

Finance

Rick McGivern welcomed incoming Finance Director, Jessica Dyer and updated the Board on current bid openings. An audit is scheduled for later this month.

The Board thanked Mr. McGivern for his seven years of dedicated service.

Human Resources

Human Resources Director JJ Domiano provided updates from his department. 26 external applicants have been onboarded. HR has participated in more job fairs than ever and received more than 60 applications for the Columbus City Schools Internship Initiative. Interviews will be completed by April 24.

Resolutions:

- #6309 AUTHORIZING THE RENEWAL OF INSURANCE COVERAGE TO
 ACRISURE
 The Board approved the purchase of insurance coverage from Acrisure via the
 Public Entities Pool of Ohio in the premium amount of \$304,781.
- #6310 APPOINTING AND ESTABLISHING THE SALARY OF FINANCE
 DIRECTOR/TREASURER
 The Board appointed Jessica J. Dyer to the position of Finance
 Director/Treasurer with an annualized salary of \$134,992.
- #6311 AUTHORIZING THE GRANT OF AN EASEMENT FOR HIGHWAY

PURPOSES TO THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR
PARK PROPERTY AT ROCK FORK METRO PARK

The Board granted the permanent easement of .027 acres and temporary easement of .04 acres to ODOT.

#6312 AUTHORIZING ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT FOR THE DRIPPING ROCK
TRAIL BRIDGE REPLACEMENT AT HIGHBANKS METRO PARK

The Board approved entering into a contract with Axis Civil Construction LLC in the amount of \$724,600 for bridge improvements.

#6313 AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM THE INNISWOOD
FOUNDATION FUND AT THE COLUMBUS FOUNDATION TO PROVIDE
FOR THE PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT AT INNISWOOD METRO GARDENS

The Board requests the transfer of \$135,000 from the Inniswood Foundation Fund of the Columbus Foundation for a truck, passenger van, and dump trailer.

#6314 AUTHORIZING ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT FOR ROADWAY AND
PARKING LOT IMPROVEMENTS AT VARIOUS PARKS UTILIZING THE
STATE OF OHIO COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM WITH THE
OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

The Board approved entering into a contract with Decker Construction Company in the amount of \$383,977, utilizing the Cooperative Purchasing Program with ODOT, for paving improvements.

#6315 AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR THE MANUFACTURE
AND PLACEMENT OF PRE-CAST RESTROOMS AT MULTIPLE METRO
PARKS

The Board approved the expenditure of funds for the manufacture and installation of two pre-cast restrooms.

#6316 AUTHORIZING ENTERING INTO A DESIGN/BUILD CONTRACT FOR
WETLAND RESTORATION SERVICES AT PRAIRIE OAKS METRO PARK

The Board approved entering into a design/build contract with MAD Scientist Associates, LLC and G6 Infrastructure, LLC for an estimated cost of \$601,080.

#6317 AUTHORIZING ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT FOR PAVING
IMPROVEMENTS AT BANK RUN PARK

The Board approved entering into a contract with Strawser Paving Company in the amount of \$575,891.

#6318 AUTHORIZING ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT FOR SITE IMPROVEMENTS
PHASE TWO AT HOMESTEAD METRO PARK

The Board approved entering into a contract with Boss Excavating & Grading Inc. in the amount of \$839,885.

#6319 AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF REAL ESTATE OWNED AFN

ABSPROP002 LLC, FOR PROPERTY NEAR GREAT SOUTHERN METRO
PARK
The Board approved this resolution.

Other Business

None.

Adjournment


The Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 3:37 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Tim Moloney, Executive Director

Approved by the Board of Park
Commissioners:



Chair



