

**DIXON PARK DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
804 PALMYRA STREET DIXON, ILLINOIS  
SEPTEMBER 20, 2017**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

- A. President Ron Pritchard called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.  
Roll Call: R. Pritchard - present  
Vice President - Shane Miller - present  
Commissioner - Rodney Frey - present  
Commissioner and Board Secretary - Keith Aurand - present  
Commissioner - Steve Pritchard - present  
Staff Present: Debra Carey - Executive Director  
Greg Hunter - Park Ranger  
Teresa Smith - Administrative Assistant

**II. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

- A. None

**III. VISITORS**

- A. Andy Shaw from Blackhawk Hills Regional Council was present to share information with the Board on the new Enterprise Zone for Lee-Ogle County. Shaw indicated the new Enterprise Zone no longer includes residential property in Dixon. It includes only commercial property to promote growth and job creation. A sample abatement resolution will be included in the next Board packet.

Shaw indicated that the Blackhawk Hills Regional Council currently has 4 infrared counters on trails throughout the region. The data collected can be used to determine usage on the trails. Consensus of the Board was that Shaw should work with the staff to place 2 of the counters on the trails in the Dixon Park District.

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A. Commissioner Miller made a motion, seconded by Commissioner S. Pritchard, to approve the July 19, 2017 and August 16, 2017 regular session minutes, the July 19, 2017, July 25, 2017, August 16, 2017, and August 31, 2017 executive session minutes, and the July 25, 2017, August 7, 2017 and August 31, 2017 retreat minutes.  
Vote by roll call: R. Pritchard - yes, Miller - yes, Frey - yes, Aurand - yes, and S. Pritchard - yes; motion carried.

**V. APPROVAL/ACCEPTANCE OF FINANCIAL REPORTS**

- A. Commissioner Miller made a motion, seconded by Commissioner S. Pritchard to accept all financial documents as printed.  
Vote by roll call: R. Pritchard - yes, Miller - yes, Frey - yes, Aurand - yes, and S. Pritchard - yes; motion carried

**VI. REPORTS**

- A. Commissioner
1. President R. Pritchard indicated the Emma Hubbs celebration of life service on September 2 was very nice and well attended.
  2. Commissioner Miller - none
  3. Commissioner Frey - none
  4. Commissioner Aurand indicated that he recently spoke with one of the residents who lives near the Dixon Junior Dukes parking lot and they voiced concerns about the dust from the parking lot. Carey indicated the Dixon Junior Dukes group has contracted with North Oil to apply calcium chloride to the lot

and this should be applied this week. Carey will also be working with the YMCA to request that they have a second application of calcium chloride applied to the soccer parking lot.

5. Commissioner S. Pritchard indicated he recently spoke with Ken Novak and he had many positive comments to share about the parks in Dixon.

- B. Executive Director  
Board reviewed Carey's report as printed.

Carey indicated the Park District has been awarded \$8000 from the Polaris TRAILS Grant Program to assist with repairing the bridge on the Joe Stengel Trail. Board consensus is to accept the grant.

The Governor recently signed into law new requirements regarding the process parks use for certifying that a volunteer is not a sex offender. Our current policy meets the new requirements.

Carey shared information from Attorney James Rock regarding the annexation of the Plum Creek property. Annexation requires that the property be adjacent to current property in the Park District. To make the Plum Creek property adjacent to current Park District property the houses on Hand Avenue would need to be annexed into the Park District. Giving the houses on Hand Avenue permanent tax abatement is not permitted.

Hunter shared information on the Middle Rock Conservation Partners (MRCP) Conservation Opportunity Area. MRCP has recently been awarded 501(c)(3) status and they would like a more formal agreement with the partnering organizations. The Dixon Park District currently works with the MRCP and receives numerous benefits from the group including shared knowledge, expertise, human resources and equipment. Board consensus is that the Dixon Park District should continue to partner with the MRCP.

## **VII. OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Fiscal 2016 - 2017 Financial Audit.  
Commissioner S. Pritchard made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Aurand to accept the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Financial Audit as presented.  
Vote by roll call: R. Pritchard - yes, Miller - yes, Frey - yes, Aurand - yes, S. Pritchard - yes; motion carried.
- B. Fiscal 2016-2017 Treasurer's Report  
Commissioner Miller made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Aurand to accept the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Treasurer's Report as presented.  
Vote by roll call: R. Pritchard - yes, Miller - yes, Frey - yes, Aurand - yes, S. Pritchard - yes; motion carried.
- C. Lease with Dixon Public Schools  
Commissioner S. Pritchard made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Frey to approve the lease with the Dixon Public Schools as presented.  
Vote by roll call: R. Pritchard - yes, Miller - yes, Frey - yes, Aurand - yes, S. Pritchard - yes; motion carried.
- D. Mobility Device Policy  
Commissioner S. Pritchard made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Frey to adopt the Mobility Device Policy as presented.  
Vote by roll call: R. Pritchard - yes, Miller - yes, Frey - yes, Aurand - yes, S. Pritchard - yes; motion carried.

- E. Definition of Recreational Vehicle (Electric Bicycle)  
Commissioner Miller indicated that he has seen gas and battery powered bicycles on the trails. He feels with the increased use of this type of bicycle on the trails it is a safety concern. Board consensus is that the only type of motorized bike that should be allowed is the Class 1 e-bike (per SB396). This topic will be added to the next Board meeting agenda.

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Illinois Army National Guard Transfer - Page Park  
The map included in the packet doesn't include enough detail to determine if the 60 foot width required for the road will be maintained if the property is transferred. Carey will contact Prairie Engineers and request that they label the area the Illinois Army National Guard is interested in acquiring so it is clear if 60 feet will be maintained by the Park for the road.
- B. Land Sale Process Example  
Commissioner Aurand requested that a rough estimate on the maintenance cost for each park that is being considered for sale be reviewed by the Commissioners. Carey will provide this additional information for discussion at the next Board meeting.
- C. Draft Tax Levy Ordinance #577  
Carey will provide an updated copy of the Tax Levy Ordinance #577 at the next Board meeting.

**IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board returned to Open session at 8:25 p.m.

**X. ADJOURN**

At 8:28 p.m., Commissioner Miller made a motion, seconded by Commissioner S. Pritchard, to adjourn.

Vote by roll call: R. Pritchard - yes, Miller - yes, Frey - yes, Aurand - yes, and S. Pritchard - yes; motion carried.

Signatures: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ron Pritchard

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Shane Miller

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Keith Aurand

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Steve Pritchard

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Rodney Frey