

COBB-HIGHLAND RECREATION COMMISSION

Minutes from March 13, 2024

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dan Baker, Ryan Shemak, Steve Holmes, Tom Jenks, John Kreul, Gail Richgels, Laura Anderson, Bret Barr (arrived at 7:21 pm)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Steve Holmes, Al Kosharek, and Al Linscheid

ALSO PRESENT: Tom Michek, Park Manager
Lisa Riley, Bookkeeper
Darrell Kreul

Meeting was called to order by Tom Jenks at 7:10 p.m.

Meeting notice was legally posted on Monday, March 11, 2024.

Public Input – There was no public input.

Review and Approve Minutes – Minutes from the February 7, 2024 meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Dan Baker, seconded by Laura Anderson to approve the meeting minutes. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Report – Bookkeeper Lisa Riley presented the December 2023 and 4th Quarter 2023 financials to the Commission for review. She asked that the January and February 2024 reports be tabled for approval as issues are still being worked on with the conversions. A motion was made by Laura Anderson, seconded by Dan Baker to approve the December 2023 and 4th Quarter 2023 Treasurer's reports, as presented, and table the January and February 2024 reports.

Bret Barr arrived at 7:21 p.m.

Review/Discuss CD Renewal/Redemption – Tom Michek explained we have two CDs coming up for maturity in April and May. A \$30,000 CD at Royal Bank which will mature April 13, 2024 and \$30,000 CD at Highland State Bank which will mature May 21, 2024. Due to the dollar amount of current projects, Tom is recommending that we move the funds to our operating accounts. Another \$30,000 CD at Royal Bank will mature in October. A motion was made by Dan Baker, seconded by Laura Anderson to pull out both \$30,000 CDs when they mature in April and May to use for operating expenses and re-visit funds available in October when the other \$30,000 CD matures. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Maintenance/Equipment

- **Beach Shower House** – Tom Michek provided an update that the beach shower house. Plywood walls have been installed, along with electrical and plumbing roughed in. Ceilings will go into firsts – materials are to arrive next week. Spring is just around the corner, so Tom wants to get the project moving. Midwest Restoration came to take care of any mold by treating with a fungicide process. We have a certificate in hand that the building is clear from any mold. Tom Michek received Payment Request #3 for \$33,237.00 from Otter Creek Construction. Tom asked for approval from the Commission, since work has been stalled on the project. A motion was made by Bret Barr, seconded by John Kreul to approve payment to Otter Creek Construction as requested. Motion carried by unanimous vote. It was discussed that it would be beneficial to add a baby changing table to the wall.
- **Review/Discuss Sidewalk Bids** – Tom Michek informed the Commission the sidewalk was in need of replacement by the high number flush toilet area. He would like to replace with a 6'

wide sidewalk to meet the blacktop. The concrete by the beach house also needs replacing. Bids were received from Wolfy (\$17,072.00) and Matt Downing out of Fennimore (\$12,175.00) to do the work on both projects. A motion was made by Bret Barr, seconded by Dan Baker to accept and approve Matt Downing's bid for \$12,175.00. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

- **New Fish Limits** – Tom Michek explained more to the Commission regarding the new fish limits, as several questions have been received. He would like everyone to be prepared to answer questions they may receive from the public. Blackhawk Lake is a state-owned body of water and the DNR dictates the rules and regulations, not Blackhawk Lake. The reason for the new limits is to help enhance bluegill quality. This is a result of a fish study done in 2021. Fish studies are done every five years, with the next one to be done in 2026. Tom is going to look into getting DNR here to provide some clarification on the limit changes. Blackhawk Lake staff are the ones having to field the questions and frustrations from those fishing here, so having some explanation on specific questions they have already been asked will be beneficial for the staff to respond in the future.
- **Beach Wall Update** – Kevin Wienkes is anxious to get started on this project. The remainder of the costs to complete this project will be covered by the grant monies received from Iowa County.
- **Ash Tree Removal** – Tom Michek informed the Commission they will need to remove approximately 6-8 ash trees down by the beach area, as they are all dead.
- **Campground Area Open** – With the unusual warm weather earlier this year, the main campground has been opened and cleaned. The dump station is NOT on yet, due to the fluctuating temperatures. Just the main shower house is operational.
- **Bright Light by Sign** – Bret Barr asked if the light by the sign could be adjusted. The light is extremely bright and is blinding when a person is leaving the park. Tom will look into potentially adjusting the direction of the light.
- **Brushing** – Tom Michek stated they have gotten a lot of brushing done around the park. Commission members complimented the clean-up efforts.
- **Iowa County Tourism Grant** – Bookkeeper Lisa Riley informed the Commission that Iowa County is doing another round of the tourism grant, funds previously received for the wall. Lisa will get the information to Tom Michek, as applications are due in April. It was suggested to look into funding for improving ADA accessibility in the remodeled shower house and sidewalk areas around the building.
- **Access Ability** – Tom Michek provided an update to the Commission regarding Access Ability, which was discussed at the last meeting. There is way more to being involved with the program than initially thought. He will continue to look into the project for possibly having available for next year.

Next Meeting Date – The next meeting date will be April 10th, 2024 at 7:00pm

Adjournment - A motion was made by Laura Anderson, seconded by Gail Richgels, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:02 pm.

X

Commission Secretary

X

Commission Clerk