

## Call to Order

Commissioners Hickey and Jacobson were not in attendance.

Motion to approve agenda was approved.

Matters of the public: There were 15 people who spoke. The majority of them were addressing issues that pertained to the prior meetings. Such as, the elimination of DEI, the many violations of the Open Meetings Act, the lack of transparency and due diligence across the board, the hiring of Eric Anderson at double the cost of the former attorney and concern for how this chaos is affecting the park district staff.

- Two people spoke in favor of what the board has been doing and noted the support statement from the Grafton Township Republican Central Committee and McHenry County Republican Executive Committee.
- One person spoke against purchasing the former Health Bridge fitness center.
- During this portion of the meeting, Commissioner Cagle asked Commissioner Tiesenga to please pay attention to the speakers because he was not looking at them and having side conversations while people were speaking. Commissioner Tiesenga put Commissioner Cagle on notice for that action.

Moved on to the unfinished business part of the agenda. Commissioner Cagle brought back the full-time compensation structure that had been tabled in a prior meeting. She indicated that the new attorney, Eric Anderson, had failed to inform them that tabled items need to be placed on the next agenda.

- All the commissioners voted yes to implementing the new compensation structure and making it retroactive to May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025.

The next agenda item was to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Cagle informed Commissioner Tiesenga that under state law he is required to read the Consent Agenda items aloud. He proceeded to read the wrong items and Executive Director Jason Herbster provided him with a copy of the correct items.

- A. Voucher expenses for month ending 5/31/25 were \$627,091.63.
- B. Interim voucher expenses ending 6/30/25 (not sure because audio cut out)
- C. Treasurer's report ending 5/31/25 was \$170,483.38.
- D. Regular meetings minutes from 5/15/25
- E. Committee meeting of the whole minutes from 6/05/25
- F. Special meeting 6/13/25

- \* All commissioners voted to accept the Consent Agenda.

Bid approval for new radiant heaters at The Racket Club. The cost is \$37,266.00, which is under budget. All voted in favor.

Commissioner Cagle invited Gregg Kobelinski to speak. He is head of the Lake Advisory Committee, which was formed to address the ecology of Crystal Lake. He described how the committee operates and what they do. He gave a history on taking care of the milfoil weeds on the lake and the harvester that was purchased.

Any citizen of Crystal Lake can be a member of the Lake Advisory Committee.

Gregg was hoping that the CLPD Board would reconsider the Inner Government Agreement (IGA) that they voted to repeal at a prior meeting. The agreement uses fees from boaters to enhance the ecology of the lake and there is no cost to tax payers.

Prior to the Park Board meeting, Gregg had asked Commissioner Tiesenga if he would reconsider the IGA and apparently Commissioner Tiesenga agreed and Gregg is "taking him at his word."

Gregg stated that the ecology committee is not dissolved and will be working with the SPOA and combining forces. Essentially putting the two committees together.

Next agenda item was the Open Meetings Act (OMA). Commissioner Cagle pointed out that she fears the board is violating the OMA and she asked if they could reach out to the States Attorney to receive more training. Commissioner Johnson agreed and felt it would help them communicate better.

Commissioner Tiesenga stated that he doesn't need more training.

Next agenda item was Letter of Agreement for Attorney Eric Anderson. Commissioner Cagle spoke and stated that there was no due process in the hiring of Eric Anderson. She stated that Eric stated that his role is to "support board leadership." Commissioner Cagle disagreed with him and said his role is to "provide wise legal counsel to the full board and park district. To all of us and constituents." She also said that "Eric doesn't define his role, we do."

Commissioner Cagle went on to say, "the appointment of Eric Anderson appears to the public to be an inside job at twice the rate of the former attorney." It's not transparent.

Commissioner Cagle directly asked for Eric Anderson's resignation. There should be an RFP and due process done to hire another attorney.

Commissioner Johnson also stated that she was confused how Eric Anderson was a park board commissioner and then he instantly became their attorney. She said she would like to understand it better.

Eric Anderson's response was that he cannot work for a lower rate. He doesn't want to get "in the way of the board." It's a "zero sum game" for him. Commissioner Tiesinga told Eric, "you're not in our way."

Next agenda item was FOIAs. Commissioner Cagle stated that they haven't had any guidance. She wanted to discuss them. ED Jason Herbst stated that they are filling them and they have been extensive in the last couple months. He stated that he always gives as much information as possible.

Nothing has been provided from the board members regarding the FOIA requests for personal emails and text messages.

Commissioner Cagle motioned to discuss the FOIA's in open session and Commissioner Tiesenga said move on.

Next agenda item was discussion of Health Bridge. Commissioner Cagle toured the facility and said it was beautiful and has a lot of potential. Maybe liquidate the current Park District building and Grand Oaks.

There might be a presentation on Health Bridge at the July meeting. Commissioner Johnson would like to know if the Park District can handle buying Health Bridge and she'd like to explore it more.

Last agenda item was matters of the board. Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> event at Main Beach was a great event. Swim lessons are going great. All camp attendees take swimming lessons.

Amy Olson stated all park projects are coming along great and we are getting close to being finished.

Commissioner Nisenson asked if we can get a higher interest rate on deposits at Home State Bank.

**Next Park Board Meeting – Monday, July 21 at 6:30pm**