

Big Prairie Township Parks Commission

Tuesday October 6, 2020

Meeting Called to Order: 2 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Clark, Ruchmeier, Ryman, VanDam and VanderGalien present.

Public Input: 0

Approval of Agenda: Motion by VanDam, 2nd by Ruchmeier to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Camp Host: 0

Maintenance Report: Forrester approved removal of 82 trees. BB – 70, Oxbow – 12. Forrester states that clear cutting will take place in the future near the boat launch at Big Bend. Greg to check with Brooke McTaggart on lot line as this area may be part of Big Bend lease agreement with Consumers Energy.

Docks will remain in the water as levels are due to be lowered Nov 1 – May 28, 2021 for Hardy Dam project per Consumers Energy.

Greg to send invoice to Consumers Energy for use of boat launch at Oxbow Park for barge launch and return during construction on Hardy Dam this summer.

Oxbow – Bathhouse – Greg states all work is complete and can issue final check to Josh Hunt, Contractor, Artisan Builders.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Ruchmeier, 2nd by VanDam to approve minutes from 9-22-2020 with the correction of \$690.00 to \$691.00. Motion carried.

Board Reports:

Chairman – 0

Vice Chairman – 0

Secretary – 0

Treasurer – Will move monies from Money Market account to checking account to bring checking account in line for outgoing bills.

Treasurer Report: Sept 18-24, 2020 = \$3,295.65 Sept 25- Oct 1, 2020 = \$10,945.54 Total = \$14,241.19

Motion by Ryman, 2nd by Clark to approve the Treasurer report as presented. Motion carried.

Present and Pay Bills: Motion by VanDam, 2nd by Ryman to pay the bills as followed: Gross Payroll week ending September 17, 2020 - \$15,323.36. Bills - \$15,943.99. Motion carried.

Office Report: Website has been updated allowing guests to view the complete set of rules.

End of year employee luncheon is planned for Thursday October 15 @ 1 P.M., Big Bend Office.

Police report pertaining to a June 2020 incident should be available soon.

Seasonal sites – 4 have been filled.

Old Business: McFarland – was confirmed by victims’ parent that McFarland’s son and Trevor (unknown male also named in the report) were both spewing harm and sexual harm threats to the victims. Additionally, it was stated both teen males continued to intimidate the victims, which were ignored. Allegedly, Trevor had slept overnight in the McFarland camper in which McFarland strictly stated his son was not allowed to associate with.

Board decided, with additional investigating, to uphold the ban of three (3) years as originally stated for the safety of our guests in the future.

A letter will be sent to McFarland/Olson stating the results of further investigation as such.

New Business: Rules and Regulations – secretary suggested the chairman form a small committee of board member(s), parks manager and seasonal camper(s) to work on updating rules and regulations to bring to the park board for approval before going onto the Township Board and Attorney for final approval. Small committee was formed.

Miscellaneous: Jerry Wolf has been spotted within our parks after being banned. Next time this happens the police are to be called and charges pressed for trespassing. Mr. Wolf is fully aware he is not allowed in our parks.

Attorney – secretary to talk with township clerk regarding Mr. Bloom as Park Commission attorney.

Adjournment: Motion by Ruehmeier, 2nd by VanderGalien to adjourn this meeting at 3:25 P.M. Motion carried.

Next regular meeting to be Tuesday October 20, 2020 at 2:00 P.M. – Big Bend Park Office (due to maintenance at township hall.) Notice to be posted at town hall.

Submitted for Approval

Colleen Ryman
Secretary

Approved October 20, 2020