

COLOMA TOWNSHIP PARK DISTRICT
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
May 13, 2014

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Coloma Township Park District Board of Commissioners was called to order on Tuesday, May 13, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in the Park District Office located at 508 East 11th Street in Rock Falls, Illinois.

Present: Commissioners Sigel, Bubbers, and Walker
Absent: Stindt (vacation) and Nehr Korn (ill)
Also Present: Michael P. Sterba, Director of Parks & Recreation and
Dave Weber-Wendler Engineering Dixon, Illinois

Commissioner Bubbers motioned to approve the minutes of the Regular Monthly Board Meeting of April 8, 2014 and the adjourned minutes of April 15, 2014 as presented. Commissioner Walker seconded the motion, roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Commissioner Walker motioned to approve the April bills in the following amounts:

Corporate Fund	\$	15,476.25
Liability Fund		28,561.47
Recreation Fund		12,025.64
Retirement Fund		3,879.33
Bond Construction # 31 Fund		7,619.26
Museum Fund		2,872.97
Police Fund		3,176.35
Total	\$	73,611.27

Commissioner Bubbers seconded the motion. Roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried.

The following is a listing of the Work Fare People from Coloma Township, Whiteside County Probation Office, Project Chance, Department of Human Services, Experience Works and Partnership for Employment that has worked for us the past month. Also included are total days worked in April and in 2014.

	Coloma TWP	TS Staffing	Probation Dept.	Whiteside County Housing	Dept. Human Services	Experience Works	Partners/ Employment
Days in April	20	0.00	2	2	9.25	0.00	0.00
Days in 2014	68	0.00	13.5	8	9.25	0.00	0.00

Probation: Cody Hall
Coloma Township: Sherri McLaren Richard Holcomb, Earl Holcomb, Anne Bence, Corina Bell, Paul Drake, Dan Knor
Housing: Monique Leheman, Adam Williams

Director Michael P. Sterba reported that the next meeting of the Rock Falls Recreation Trail Committee – Proposed Walking/ Bike Path/ Hennepin Canal Committee will take place on Wednesday, May 14, 2014 at 12:00 PM at Rock Falls City Hall. I plan on keeping you all updated on the progress of the paths being constructed.

Director Michael P. Sterba reported that Rock Falls is now on the World Map. Both Gary Murphy and Joe Duncan completed some 1620 holes, which is 90 rounds of golf to currently hold the World Record. They started on Saturday May 3rd and ended Sunday a little earlier than they had planned, about 8:30 am Sunday morning. They were totally exhausted but triumphant in their feat. We were fortunate to have WQAD come to the event. They were the only one out of the four stations we contacted to come to the event to do some film of which a short segment was

shown on the 5 PM news as well as the 10 PM news on Sunday. On Monday morning Sterba was contacted by Dwyer and Michaels Radio Show out of the Quad Cities to do a radio interview with the two gentlemen. We have been able to get some very positive recognition out of this whole event and hopefully somewhere in the future we will try to duplicate or surpass their accomplishments. Sterba has invited both gentlemen to our June 10th Park Board Meeting to meet and greet the Park Board. They are also going to bring some souvenirs signed by them for your pleasure. The Mayor has also stated that he is going to have the city do a proclamation in honor of these two gentlemen in setting a new World Record and he hopes to have that proclamation presented possibly at the Park Board Meeting on June 10th. Sterba will keep the Park Board informed in regards to any further updates on the Guinness Book of World Records but as of this point it's very special for Rock Falls.

Commissioner John Sigel stated that the Park Directors evaluation was going to be presented to him tonight at the meeting, but due to the absence of two of the park commissioners the evaluation process would be put off until the June Park Board Meeting.

Director Michael P. Sterba reported that Wendler Engineering has been busy over the last month in securing the contract and the bond documents from the contractor of which we are about ready to have signed. We just need to look them over and make sure everything is in order before we give the ok on the project. The project is scheduled to begin sometime after August 15th and be completed by November 15th.

Director Michael P. Sterba reported that there was nothing new since the last Park Board Meeting in regards to the street lighting in Centennial Park update. Greg Johnson of the City of Rock Falls has been in touch with Sterba after the last Board Meeting where Sterba told Mr. Johnson that the Park Board had approved to go ahead with the project. Mr. Johnson will contact The Park District when he is ready to start the project.

Director Michael P. Sterba reported that he had the opportunity to attend the IAPD Legislative conference on Wednesday April 30th in Springfield. A number of very important issues regarding park districts were discussed at some length with the legislators as well as the executives for IAPD. One of the biggest issues discussed was the possibility of the minimum wage going up. By the time the session was over it was pretty clear that minimum wage would not be acted upon this spring session, however minimum wage will come up again in the fall session. IAPD currently opposes the legislation for the minimum wage increase due to the fact that park districts employ so many young people throughout the state. IAPD does not feel that the current legislation calling for minimum wage to rise above \$10.00 per hour is appropriate. They are looking for a tier system throughout the state where young people under a certain age would receive a lesser minimum wage than possibly heads of household. These details still have to be worked out but at least we know the stance that IAPD is trying to push through the legislature.

Director Michael P. Sterba reported that the Rock Falls Chamber of Commerce will host their annual Golf Outing on Friday, May 16th at the Deer Valley Country Club. Anyone interested in attending should please let Sterba know so he can make the appropriate reservations.

Director Michael P. Sterba reported that IDNR will host the Youth Recreation Corps Grant Program for youngsters 14-18 years of age. The Park District participated in this program last summer but it got started very late, around the 4th of July. This year we are hoping the program will start in early June. We plan on possibly getting 5 workers for this program with three going to the maintenance department and two going to the recreation department. We will not take anyone in the 14-15 age groups because they are too young to help us do the services that we need to provide. We will not hear about the possible success of our grant application until after May 15th.

Director Michael P. Sterba presented copies of the 2014 Employee Wage Policy Summary as it affects the six full time people currently employed by the Park District. Discussion of the Employee Wage Policy Summary will take place at a future board meeting due to the fact that two of our park commissioners were not available for the meeting.

Director Michael P. Sterba reported that The Park District has not yet received a check from the Illinois Department of Revenue in regards to our Personal Property Tax Distribution for the month of April.

Director Michael P. Sterba presented copies of a letter from IMRF containing the 2015 rate for the Coloma Township Park District.

Director Michael P. Sterba reported that Don Koehler of the Elks Club might be here tonight to discuss a possible donation to the Park District of an ADA Handicap Wheelchair Swing to be installed in Story Book Village. Since Mr. Koehler could not attend the meeting, Director Sterba presented materials regarding the ADA Handicap Wheelchair Swing for Centennial Park. After a discussion among the Park Board, Commissioner Bubbers motioned to allow the Elks Club to purchase a Handicap Wheelchair Swing to be installed in Storybook Village in Centennial Park. The Park District agrees to install the swing if the Elks Club provides the apparatus. Commissioner Walker seconded the motion. Roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Director Michael P. Sterba presented copies of a check for \$250.00 from U.S. Bank. The check represents the sponsorship of the Park District's Summer 2014 Recreation Brochure.

Director Michael P. Sterba reported that IDNR has informed the Park District that they will be installing some Fish Structures in the river off of Riverside Park. The Fish Structures are there to help promote the Flathead Fish population between the dams. The structures will be put in deep water approximately 10-15 feet if available. The state is planning on putting up some 30 structures between Dixon, Sauk Valley College, Sterling and Rock Falls. The structures are not very big. They are only about 4 inches tall weighted down with some concrete with a 24 inch PVC pipe sitting on top so that the flathead fish can go inside and lay their eggs and spawn their fish. Please see the enclosed document for the Park Board's review. After a short discussion among the Park Board, Commissioner Bubbers motioned to allow IDNR to put fishing habitat structures in the Rock River off of Seward Riverside Park as requested by the State of Illinois. Commissioner Walker seconded the motion. Roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Director Michael P. Sterba reported Rock Falls High School had their annual Golf Outing scheduled on Saturday August 9th at Deer Valley Country Club. Anyone interested in attending should please let Sterba know so he can make the appropriate reservations.

Director Michael P. Sterba reported that The River Chase and Summer Splash are scheduled this year on the weekend of Saturday and Sunday June 27th and 28th. They are putting these two events together to try to make a major recreation/entertainment event for the City of Rock Falls.

Director Michael P. Sterba presented copies of the City of Rock Falls Proposed Walking/Bike Path Alignment along the Rock River. Dave Weber a representative from Wendler Engineering is here tonight to answer any questions that the Park Board might have. Dave Weber then made a presentation on the history of the development of the proposed walking/bike path along the Rock River. Of course the bike path is planned on going through park district property both at the West end of Riverside Park and continuing through the park all the way to the Upper Dam. After a lengthy discussion among the Park Board Members Commissioner Bubbers motioned to tentatively approve the bike path alignment with the curve being taken out that is located near the playground in Seward Riverside Park. The Park Board felt that the new alignment of the path would be more beneficial to the park than the proposed drawing. Commissioner Walker seconded the motion. Roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Wendler Engineering stated that the bike path would be 8 feet wide with a 2 foot shoulder on each side. He stated that phase one would include a preliminary design and alignment of the bike path, phase two is the final engineering and design, and phase three is the engineering staking and final construction of the project. Pending the terms of the federal grant which is through the US Department of Transportation the project is estimated at approximately \$4,000,000. The grant is an 80/20 split with 80 percent coming from the Feds and 20 percent coming from the local sponsor.

Director Michael P. Sterba presented a check from the Rock Falls Little League which includes payments for Wallingford Park utilities, Diamond Dry and Sparkle reimbursement for the 2013 season.

Director Michael P. Sterba presented copies of the Winter/Spring Men's 35 and Over Basketball League Cost Analysis for the Park Board's review.

Director Michael P. Sterba presented copies of a letter from the Whiteside County Clerk stating the expected 2014 Tax Revenues and Rates for the Coloma Township Park District.

Director Michael P. Sterba presented the Tentative 2014/2015 Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the Park Board's review. The Ordinance will be held over for the next 30 days for public inspection. After a short discussion among the Park Board members Commissioner Walker motioned to approve the Tentative 2014/2015 Budget and Appropriation Ordinance and to hold it over for 30 days for public inspection. Final action on the budget document will take place after a public hearing at the June 10th park board meeting. Commissioner Bubbers seconded the motion. Roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Director Michael P. Sterba presented the bid specifications for crack repair and seal coating for the Tennis Courts at Centennial Park. Sterba proposes to put the Tennis Courts out for bid and to bring the bids back at the June Park Board Meeting. That will give us some time through the months of June and July to plan on when the contractor can come and do their work. We hope to have the courts completed by the Todd McThenia Tennis Tournament in mid - August. After a short discussion among the Park Board members Commissioner Bubbers motioned to put the tennis courts out for bid for crack repair and seal coating and to have the bids due back at the June 10th Park Board meeting as presented. Commissioner Walker seconded the motion. Roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Director Michael P. Sterba reported that currently we are still negotiating with Sam Akiti on his property. He has made a counter offer to the Park District which we have of course denied. We had reiterated our original offer to which he has not responded. Also I have contacted the City of Rock Falls Fire Department and Chief Gary Cook stated that the house that is on the property would not be able to be burned down as a test site by the Rock Falls Fire Department. The reason for this is that EPA requires a number of things to be done before any house can be burned down anywhere in the country. First of all, you have to have an asbestos survey done by a qualified individual. And second of all you must get permits from the State Fire Marshall and others in regards to burning the house down. These procedures take roughly 6 months to get done and he stated that the City of Rock Falls is not interested in burning any structures down within the city limits.

Director Michael P. Sterba reported that last year the Park District participated in the Sauk Valley College Americorps Student Program. Sterba recommends we do that again this summer to provide the Park District additional quality help as well as help train an individual in providing a valuable service to his/her community. Commissioner Walker motioned to have the Park District participate in the Sauk Valley College Americorps Student Program for the summer of 2014. Commissioner Bubbers seconded the motion. Roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Commissioner Sigel then brought up the discussion about the Jacob Cantlin plaque in the Commissioners Garden. Sigel stated that both he and Director Sterba met with Tom Boesen and Ann Eddinger grandchildren of Mr. Cantlin. John stated to Tom Boesen that the Park District would pay for a new bench in honor of Mr. Cantlin and also pay for a portion of a plaque to be installed up near the flagpole stating the accomplishments of Mr. Cantlin in regards to him being the father of the Park District. The other bench still available belongs to Mr. Kenny Boesen who is also a grandson of Mr. Cantlin. Mr. Tom Boesen and Ann stated that they would get the wording that was agreed upon by the family back to Sterba so he can begin the process of ordering the appropriate plaque. The Park District will pay up to \$2,000 for the Jacob Cantlin plaque to be located near the flagpole. Anything over \$2,000 the family will have to pay the difference.

Director Michael P. Sterba reported that he received a thank you letter in regards to the Easter Egg hunt in Centennial Park. The Marrandino family was very pleased with the Easter Egg hunt and how it was handled.

Director Michael P. Sterba stated that we received a thank you letter from the Rock Falls Community Development Corporation in regards to our attendance at the annual meeting at which time the Holiday Inn announcement was made.

Director Michael P. Sterba reported that we received a letter from States Attorney Trish Joyce stating that Cordell Kiersey will be going back to court for his vandalism committed at Centennial and Sieglinger Parks. Sterba will keep the Park Board informed of the restitution to be paid upon his conviction.

Director Michael P. Sterba presented copies of the Summer 2014 Recreation Brochure for the Park Board's review.

Director Michael P. Sterba reported that the Rock Falls Little League opening ceremonies were recently held at Wallingford Park. Part of the opening ceremonies was to invite the original members of the 1954 Rock Falls Little League teams. Enclosed please find a copy of a photograph of the gentlemen that attended the opening ceremonies.

Director Michael P. Sterba presented a check from the Rock Falls Civic Fund for \$1,475.84. The check represents the Park District's second quarter distribution. The Rock Falls Civic Fund is a sub agency of the Whiteside County United Way.

Director Michael P. Sterba reported that the Rock Falls Optimist Club is working on a Wall of Honor for its members at Optimist Park. Sterba will keep the Park Board informed of any new developments in regards to this new project.

Director Michael P. Sterba presented his monthly Director's report to the Board.

IPRA also sent us their monthly Board Meeting Minutes for our review.

The Park District has received the weekly newsletter from the Rock Falls Chamber of Commerce for our review.

Commissioner Walker motioned to adjourn the Park Board Meeting. Commissioner Bubbers seconded. Roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 10, 2014 at 6:00 PM at the Park District Office located at 508 E. 11th Street Rock Falls, Illinois 61071.

Adjournment at 8:30 PM

Minutes Submitted by
Michael P. Sterba
Director of Parks & Recreation

Date

Donald E. Stindt, Secretary
Coloma Township Park District
Board of Commissioners

