



**Clark County Park District  
Regular Monthly Board Meeting  
November 21, 2019  
6:00p.m.**

- 1. Call To Order**
  - a. Commissioner Richards called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m.
- 2. Roll Call**
  - a. Commissioners in attendance were Jeff Wallace, Randy Blankenship, Jana Williamson, Roy Sweet, Jeff Trefz, and John Richards. Also in attendance were Executive Director Jeff Tippett and Office Manager Danielle Brown. Joey Ewing was absent.
- 3. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 4. Approval of Agenda**
  - a. Wallace motioned to approve the agenda. Blankenship second. 6 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.
- 5. Approval of Minutes**
  - a. Regular Monthly Board Meeting Minutes October 17, 2019
    - i. Blankenship motioned to approve the Regular Monthly Board Meeting Minutes dated October 17, 2019. Sweet second. 6 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.
- 6. Public Comment**
  - a. None
- 7. Director's Report**
  - a. Tippett stated that the wiring harness on the 90 horse on the rock boat burned out, thus you will see later that he is asking for a discussion and vote on a new motor. He took an estimate for a trade in and they will give anywhere from \$1,200-1,700 on it, or the other option is to replace the harness, put a new hood on it, and then we have a motor to put on it if we decide to keep it. Blankenship asked what a new harness costs to which Tippett responded that they got it for \$600. He talked to Howard who said \$200.
  - b. Tippett reported that he finally got the old dilapidated windows out of his office. They have one in and they are getting the other one in tomorrow.
  - c. Tippett commented that the new Kawasaki Mule is parked back there. He asked the Board to please take a look at it and tell him what they think. Richards asked how it has worked out so far to which Tippett responded it is working out great. Blankenship asked if it has the flashing light on top of it yet to which Tippett responded it does not.
  - d. Tippett reported that all of the water is shut down in the park, from the launch to Beuchler.



- e. Tippett commented that they have painted the inside walls of all the pit bathrooms and they are going to go back and paint the floors.
- f. Tippett stated that the OSLAD presentation was given to the grant administrators in Springfield in early November. The grant awarding will be decided within a month. Now we are down to about a couple of weeks we should know what we are doing with the OSLAD Grant.
- g. Tippett stated that the Faye Pickering bathroom out at the dam was vandalized again. This time they did a fine job. They tore the dispensers off the walls, the doors off the hinges, they did a number on it. They are putting it back together but now it is locked. They were trying to keep it open so the bike riders would have somewhere to go to the bathroom. It is just not going to work out. This is the third time they have destroyed the interior of it.
- h. Tippett commented that they took the excavator and dug all around the b pit. Here they found a crack in the wall. They think that is where the water is coming in and going out. It has been tarred and worked on before. You can actually insert a knife into it, it is crumbling a little, they are going to figure that out. They could not find anything on the dump station. So the theory is at this point, there are two equalizer tubes, one at the bottom and one at the top and there are 5 tanks across the top. There is a tube at the bottom and one at the top between each tank. One tank is out of square by three inches. They are thinking that maybe that it leaks around the tube when it reaches the higher mark. He got ahold of Jerry Snearley who visited the day before yesterday. He agreed to clean it all out, power wash it, and go down in there to see what is going on. It is \$45/hour/guy so Tippett asked him what he is going to charge us to which Snearley responded \$45/hour for him. Tippett told Snearley that is fine with him but he has to present it to the Board and make sure that this is the route that they want to go. He doesn't know when he is coming out, he is very busy, an exact date yet.
- i. Tippett stated that OHV sends out a notice that we fill out and send back saying that we are accepting the grant. Now they are sending out all of the paperwork so we can get started on it.
- j. Wallace asked with the bathroom, can we put up any kind of observation cameras or anything like that to which Tippett stated that they can't put them in but they can put them on the outside. Wallace stated maybe sometime in the Spring we can look at doing that, talk about it in trails. Richards suggested a false camera and signs that say video surveillance. Tippett commented that he put a sign up on the rental docks that they are on video surveillance, so they ripped that off and threw it. Blankenship commented that they will take the camera so they will need to make sure that they get it high.

## **8. Payment of Bills**



- a. Brown commented that she would like to discuss one thing. We received an invoice late from Edington's from back in July for \$1,950. It was to put the barge back into the lake. That was not originally printed in the AP, so she is asking them to approve that for a total amount of bills to be paid at \$28,150.03.
- b. Wallace motioned to approve the bills as presented with the addition of the Edington's Wrecker, Inc. bill of \$1,950 even. Blankenship second. Wallace aye, Blankenship aye, Williamson aye, Sweet aye, Trefz aye, Richards aye. 0 nays. Motion carried.

## 9. Old Business

- a. Discussion presentation of Audit by Sackrider
  - i. The auditor started by stated that his name is Kevin Womack and his partner is Craig Todd. He was the one out here working with Jeff, Danielle, and Ben.
  - ii. He commented that they would start on Page 1, which is the auditor's report. This just explains that this is what they are doing and they express their opinion on the financial statements. The preparation of the statements and the preparation of the accounting controls are still the responsibility of management. They did issue an unqualified opinion, which is the highest opinion that they can issue on a financial statement. They didn't see anything wrong, no wrong doing.
  - iii. He then went on to discuss pages 3-7, it is the management discussion and analysis. If you want a quick summary of what the financial statements are, this is where you would find that, but he is going to skip over that.
  - iv. He asked them to go to page 8, this is the Statement of Net Position at March 31<sup>st</sup>. It shows your assets at the top, you have what is most current and then what is not current. That is going to be your equipment and your land. There is an item for deferred outflows of resources, and beneath that you have got liabilities. The main few things to point out at this time. There are a few different accounts. You will see the Accounts Receivable is new this year for \$3000, they will get into that a little bit more later but there was an Accounting change this year, to move off of cash basis and on to accrual for Advanced Reservations. The small one is Accounts Receivable and the larger one in Liabilities is the Advance Reservations for \$188,000. He would bring their attention to the Net Position and the total Net Position at the bottom is almost \$2.4 Million.
  - v. The next page is the Statement of Activities which is a little bit confusing. Your left hand column will show all of your expenses, \$850,000 for the primary government, then the charges for services, that is what you are charging for camping and other sorts of revenue that you guys are charging, that is \$757,000, which together net a negative \$92,000. But



you guys also bring in under this General Revenue, you will see from \$185,000 all the way up to \$206,000 Revenues that come in. You guys were \$114,000 increase in your Net Position, so that is an end increase in Net Assets on the Financial Statements. He reported that there is a cumulative change effective accounting principle for a negative \$222,000, and he will walk them through that a little later.

- vi. Womack then directed them to the next page, this is the Balance Sheet. There are a few changes to how this is done. You will see Corporate, Recreation, these are the different funds that this Balance Sheet is getting split up into. Corporate is kind of your general fund. Recreation is camping revenues and camping related expenses. IMRF is the Illinois Municipality Retirement Fund, the pension plan, and there are smaller governmental funds at the bottom. If you wanted to get a better understanding of the assets, you could do that there. Also at the bottom, you will see Fund balances and how those are split up. There is \$100,000 unassigned for Corporate, \$537,000 for Recreation.
- vii. Pages 11 and 13, these are both Reconciliation pages, if you wanted to understand the difference between those two balance sheets. The main difference is going to be the Long Term Assets and the Long Term Liabilities are treated, then your Capital Assets and the way your pension is treated.
- viii. That gets us to Page 12, which is going to be a better breakout of your revenues and expenses. You will see your Total Revenues for Total Governmental Funds is \$964,000 and that compares to \$1,017,000 last year. That just shows a little decline in Camping and Boating revenue and a decline in Miscellaneous Revenue. There was an insurance payout last year, but overall, pretty much in line with the last year. Your Total Expenditures were \$783,000, that compares to \$924,000 the year before, and the biggest difference is the Capital Outlay and for this Spreadsheet it is shown as an expense, that was \$205,000 last year so that is a much lower. Your net change in Fund Balances, you had an increase of \$181,000. There was an increase of \$94,000 the year before.
- ix. Womack commented that this gets them to their footnotes, those are pretty boilerplate and a lot of them do not change from year to year, so they aren't going to get into those. If you wanted to they could see how your revenues are treated and how your accounting is treated.
- x. On page 16, the first one that is new is your Accounts Receivable. They have a management comment that they have made on the accounting for the allowance on that type of accounts, that is touched on here. They worked with your management to get a \$7,000 allowance at the end of the year. They have a note on creating a policy to work on that. Note 4 has a



breakout of your Capital Assets, that's worth taking a look at. IF you are looking at the right hand column, you will see that land is \$450,000, your biggest asset is your buildings at \$6.3 Million, Equipment is \$1 Million, so that gets you to \$7.7 Million before depreciation. There is a ton of depreciation, it is about \$6 Million so your Net Capital Assets are \$1.6 Million. You will see in the additions column that there was \$78,000 worth of equipment that was purchased this year, some of that was building improvements, they asked for equipment, and the depreciation was \$162,000 for the year. He would also point them to Note 5. There was a little note that was there last year, that was related to a tractor, the CAT, and that got paid off so you guys are done with notes. Note 6 is a really big note. This is a required disclosure that they are supposed to have and they get most of that information from Swordlin, that is the actuary who looks at your pension liability and also the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund presents them some of those numbers. It is really detail and is required for government financial statements. If you wanted to look at that, they are free to do so, but he thinks they could probably skip through that. The last one is Note 8 and that is the note on the accounting change. Campground Master was integrated this year at the beginning of the year, the switch from cash basis to accrual basis for reservations. There was a restatement in the Net Position, it was \$2.5 Million and it got lowered down to \$2.2 Million. Most of that was booking the Advanced Reservations Liability, payments that were received at the beginning of the year for future camping dates. They broke that down as a liability, lowered your assets, that is a one-time change. Going forward, your financial statements will look the same, you will just have that liability.

- xi. That get us to the Required Supplementary Income Information. The first couple of pages are more schedules on Pension Liability. They get all of that from the actuary and from IMRF as well. On page 29, is a comparison of your fund income and expenses to your budget. The first one is your Corporate Fund, kind of the general fund, your actual revenue is \$119,000, those are actual numbers that you will want to compare. So your General Fund was pretty close to your budget and it was pretty much in line with last year as well. Your Total Expenses were \$126,000 versus the budget of \$122,000. The next page is really your larger fund, that is your Recreation Account. Your Revenue was very much in line with your budget, the only thing worth pointing out would be your new lines in your expenditures. The first one is your Recreation Expense which was \$508,000 versus a budget of \$698,000. He addressed Tippett and stated that it was his understanding that it was Maintenance Staff that he had planned on hiring and couldn't find the people to fill those positions to which Tippett



responded that is correct. Womack stated so that is money that didn't get spent. He then stated that the other one is Capital Outlay, budgeted \$133,000, actual spend was \$79,000. He remembers that was mostly riprap work that was budgeted for but after the boat sunk it got put off. The last Special Revenue Fund, that's the Illinois Monetary, not a whole lot of activity and pretty close to budget.

- xii. The next page will get them into the required disclosures for budgetary accounting, budgetary rules.
- xiii. The last few pages are the combined fund, these are numbers that you have already seen. Most of it is the nongovernmental funds, it's a breakout of that.
- xiv. The last page is some statistics that they did on assessed valuation, tax rates, how the taxes got broken down over the fund, and how the collections actually were.
- xv. Womack stated that they have two letters that he will get through quickly. The first one is in planning and performing. What that is saying is that they did not do an audit of the internal controls, they did an audit of the financial statements. But as they went through the internal controls, if they saw any material weaknesses or significant deficiencies, they tried to get those down, just for help for you. There is a policy procedure that requires signing invoices whenever expenditures are done. They did notice a few invoices that did get signed. That doesn't rise to the level of material weakness but they thought that they would identify. Then on the second page there are two recommendations that they have for the park. The first one has been there for a couple of years. There is a policy and procedures manual that it is from 2010. They know that a few changes have been made since it was created, so that was worth kind of getting up to date so that what you are doing are in line with the procedures passed. The last is on the change of accounting principles for the allowance for doubtful accounts in accounts receivable. What they are saying here is there have been some Accounts Receivable that have been booked and some of these are actually worthy of looking at to see what is collectable. They thought that this would be worth carrying a policy that old Accounts Receivable are automatically written off whether that be one year or two years, which they could decide.
- xvi. Todd added that it relates to the change in Campground Master and that is all new so there has never been a policy allowing for doubtful accounts. They are just recommending that they look at that and develop some kind of a policy, whether it be any AR over a year old, we are going to set up an account for, or two years, whatever you guys decide, just so going forward



you guys have that policy in place, so there is no question as to what your allowance is.

- xvii. Womack then addressed the second letter. He stated that most of it was boilerplate, they did note that there was a change in accounting policy for revenue recognition, they mentioned it several times. They didn't note any transaction from throughout the year that showed a lack of guidance to evaluate. They have two paragraphs that they inserted where they talk about estimates that management has that are sensitive. The first one is depreciation and the lives of those buildings and equipment simply because that is such a significant fixed asset on your balance sheet, it is sensitive. They worked with management to set up a schedule and that is something that they review and they are comfortable with that number. The second one is the net pension asset and that is all created by your actuary who reviews all of the pensions. They reviewed that as well and they were pretty comfortable with them. They didn't encounter any significant difficulties in dealing with management. They worked with Jeff, Danielle, and Ben who helped get them through this without any difficulties. They have two adjusting entries in fixed assets, we helped record those fixed assets and helped record the depreciation and then the schedule is reviewed by management. To their knowledge, there were no disagreements with management with accounting principles. They had a management representation letter that was signed out. They didn't have any other findings or audit issues and then the last one says that some of the supplementary income was not audited by them, that is the budgetary to actual amounts, they are not required to write an opinion on that but they do do some procedures. It's just an explanation there.
- b. Discussion and Vote Golf Course Proposal
- i. Richards asked if anyone felt that they needed further discussion on this.
  - ii. Wallace motioned that with all that they have learned about this, to not entertain it at this time. Richards second. Blankenship abstained because his son was thinking about putting a bid in on it, Williamson aye, Sweet aye, Trefz aye, Richards aye, Wallace aye. 5 ayes, 0 nays, Blankenship Abstained. Motion carried.
- c. Discussion and Vote Dump Station Tanks Repair
- i. Tippet commented that he gave them a brief synopsis of what was going on with the tanks at the dump station as well as at the B pits. What he is asking the Board is that if he can have a tentative amount of \$10,000 so he can just move forward as it goes along. If it goes over \$10,000 then he will be back to talk to the Board if he needs more money to come out of contingency.



- ii. Blankenship asked if this guarantees a fix to which Tippettt responded that they have not gotten that far. They may end up pulling those tanks out, he knows that is a long shot. What happened is that where they think it is leaking straight down there is two foot of stone underneath that tank. That's why they aren't seeing any gray water around the outside yet. The next step would be to pressure wash the insides and suck them dry. He has already had them emptied, completely, and go in there and check all of these seals and see what's going on with those. Blankenship stated that it seems like a big undertaking.
- iii. Wallace asked what kind of costs have been incurring because they have had to have them pump out so much to which Tippettt responded that it is \$185/load, he supposes that they have probably run 10-12 loads more than they needed to. Wallace commented so right there you are talking about \$2,000 in expense that we normally wouldn't have had this year. Tippettt added that they had the excavator that they have had about a week now to open it up quickly.
- iv. Williamson clarified so this is what they will do to find out exactly where the problem is to which Tippettt responded that he thinks they are going to get an educated guess, more than exactly.
- v. Blankenship asked how to they propose they fix it if they do find it to which Tippettt responded they won't know until he gets in there and sees what's in there. Do we have a gasket in there? Is it tarred in?
- vi. Williamson asked how much rock did he think was underneath there to which Tippettt responded about 2 feet. They really don't know until they get in there.
- vii. Wallace clarified so right now he is just looking at his team and Snearley to figure out what's going on to which Tippettt responded they have already opened it, they are all open. Now it is probably Snearley's turn to power wash it and go down and see what's going on. Williamson commented and right now there is nobody else that does that type of work to which Tippettt responded Dashiell no longer does it. Williamson asked if this comes close to a wet basement type of thing like in homes to which Tippettt responded that he doesn't know. Williamson went on to say that they have a situation going on like this, he is just thinking Esker. Blankenship commented that water is different than sewage to which Williamson responded that she knows that it is and she is just thinking about that rock. Tippettt commented only if they have to pull the tanks out and they will be back in here meeting if they have to pull the tanks out.
- viii. Blankenship commented that the other thing that he sees is that anything over a certain dollar amount, they are supposed to take a bid



on, so let's try to keep the dollars down on it for now. Tippet commented that \$20,000 and \$500 they are supposed to get quotes on. Richards commented that Esker probably won't have the permits or the license to work on sewage. Williamson stated that she doesn't know without calling him. Tippet commented that right now Snearley is the only one he knows who works on septic. Blankenship commented that Jason Hendrix would put in a septic. Richards commented that Lankster and Gore did his and they did a really nice job. Tippet commented that if they want him to go through all of that, then he will. Blankenship commented that he doesn't think that they are going to have a choice since he thinks it is going to run into \$20,000, there is a possibility. And if we try to move it in chunks, it's going to look like we did it on purpose, whether they did or not.

- ix. Richards asked if they could allow for a diagnostic to find out what is wrong with it and then go out to bid? Blankenship stated yes they could.
- x. Trefz clarified that there are 5 tanks to which Tippet responded there are 5 4,000 tanks to which Trefz commented it could be any one of them. Tippet is thinking it is just the one, and the middle one is the one off center of course. Blankenship asked if there is a way to grab it and slide it around to which Tippet responded that he doesn't see a point in it until they know that's the one that is leaking. Richards commented that they have spent \$2,000 to remediate the problem in less than half the season.
- xi. Wallace made the motion to allow up to \$10,000 towards remediation of the dump station tank repair. Blankenship second. Williamson aye, Sweet aye, Trefz aye, Richards aye, Wallace aye, Blankenship aye. 0 nays. Motion carried.
  - 1. Sweet asked for further discussion during the vote to clarify remediation, does that mean go in and find the problem, to him that means to go in and fix it. Wallace commented that what he was meaning was to go in and find a remedy to fix it, use remediation. Trefz stated that if they can fix it for under that, they can. Wallace stated that they know they have a problem and they have to fix it, he is just saying that much money to remediate the problem. He's not saying spend this money to do this or to do that, just towards the remediation.
- d. Discussion and Vote Storage Fees Campground
  - i. Tippet stated that the reason he is bringing this to them, and they have some documentation from Lorna Geiler, they voted last December to allow storage on the campground site for a fee of \$30/month. They could leave their RV, camper, or anything that would fit in the footprint



of their camper if they were to pull that out. That went well, they probably have 10 or 12 people who paid their storage fees and went on their merry way, all is good and well. Then we had 6 that didn't pay, so we started working on them, so then we ended up with 2 that just refused. The reason he was coming to them was to see what they wanted to do about that, which meant that he had to know where the attorney stood on this. What she is saying is that if you remove a camper, you do it under the Illinois Vehicle Code and you have the Sheriff put an abandoned tag on it, they take possession of it. If it is just stuff that they left like their picnic table, their tent, or their storage cabinet and they don't pay for storage on it, which violates their lease on storage, because they don't have it, then we hold it for three years and then we dispose of it.

- ii. The last thing is that we are going to have to fix the lease a little bit. There is some wording that is going to have to be changed and we have to evict people now, which is a good thing. If you don't pay your AR or what you owe the park, if you incur a bill and don't pay it, we can evict you. Just like we can evict anybody, it is our property.
- iii. In the time that it has taken him to get this in front of the Board, the last two people finally paid their bills and took care of all of their bills and leases. He has no complaint. He just wanted to know if the Board wanted to follow, and he will put it in policy, Lorna Geiler's direction, what she told us to do. If this should come up again, so he is not bothering the Board again, so they don't have to vote again.
- iv. Richards commented that he thinks it would cost us more than \$150 to confiscate and store stuff when these people don't pay to which Tippet commented that in that storage lease, they can charge them again. Blankenship asked if you can charge for the labor cost to move it to which Tippet responded it doesn't say anything about it.
- v. Sweet asked if they let him institute what the attorney asked them to put in there, then they eliminate the gray area and they don't have to revisit this, and then the people know that this is out there, there is a rule and there is teeth for the consequences.
- vi. Richards suggested they could do a policy that they would no longer have a reservation if they are in violation of this policy they can disqualify them from an annual or even a daily, he thinks that could do it. Tippet commented the first right of refusal, they lose their reservation, everything. Wallace asked if there is anything that he and Lorna have talked about that would help the situation any? I guess there are people who are late and are resistant, I guess he sees what he is saying.



- vii. Blankenship motioned to accept the attorney's guideline to deal with anything we have to evict, abandon, or store. Richards second. 6 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

## 10. New Business

### a. Discussion and Vote New Rock Boat Outboard Engine

- i. Tippettt stated that this 90 Horse motor is just going out. It might be worth, he may want to talk about taking it off and fixing it in the case that we get a pontoon boat that doesn't have a motor or something like that. They talked to B&R Barge, Lake Sara, and Basa Marine, those are the three that he has talked to and he asked what do we do? We have an underpowered motor that's just not doing the job for the rock barge. They all had pretty much the same recommendation. Get a bigger motor, you need more horsepower and get a bigger prop on it with a different pitch. They designed a system, Lake Sara gave us three quotes on three different motors, B&R gave us one quote he is talking about a Suzuki but doesn't want to commit until he could come out and see the boat and see what he would have to do to the boat, and Base Marine said he would submit a quote, basically regurgitated everything that they said, and never sent it in. We have a quote there for \$10,000 on a Mercury 150 Horse. They all have three year warrantees, they all have the same prop and pitch, it is just a matter of what we want and what we want to spend. He is asking the Board to approve it. It would come out of the erosion fund. The reason he can ask them to do it now is so that he can lock that price in, before they see increases in pricing, even if they put it in a crate and put it in the back, they will leave it there until they put it on this Spring.
- ii. Richards commented that the difference in pricing seems like it is because the controls and cable harness essentially already have the hook up for a Mercury motor so that is why it's cheaper to which Tippettt responded that is correct.
- iii. Wallace asked if all of the controls that they already have seem to be okay to which Tippettt responded, they appear to be. Until he actually gets here to get a good look at them, but by serial number and part numbers, they will just change over.
- iv. Sweet asked if he is still planning to lease this barge out to which Tippettt responded no. They were not contacted again by the Army Corps of Engineers for Lake Shelbyville. Sweet commented that the gentleman that was in here wasn't from the Army Corps of Engineers was he, he was just an independent contractor to which Tippettt responded the gentleman who leased it before, yes.



- v. Sweet asked if he has any idea that he would like to do that again to which Tippet responded that he thinks it was a good revenue stream, as long as the boat comes back the way it went out.
  - vi. Sweet asked if this motor is something that is taken off every winter and stored inside? Does the barge come up and it just stays on the barge where you just get it out of the water? Tippet responded yes.
  - vii. Wallace asked if they are going to take it out of the water every year to which Tippet answered yes and it is \$4,000 to put it in and pull it back out. They are exploring a drop deck trailer.
  - viii. Blankenship commented that he found one but he doesn't know if it is long enough. It is around \$13,000 for the truck and the trailer. It's a 1980 R Model Mack, he thought it was pretty reasonable if it would adapt to what he needs. Richards commented that it would pay for itself in three years. Blankenship commented that it would, if you aren't driving it down the road that much then the wheel bearings aren't going to give you any trouble. If they are liquid, they won't anyways. Then you have the aspect of hauling a bulldozer. Tippet commented that there is more than one use, there's no doubt about that.
  - ix. Wallace asked Tippet if it is his recommendation to go with the low bid for the Mercury from Lake Sara to which Tippet responded yes. Blankenship commented that he liked the \$200 for the wiring harness. Richards commented that outside of the wiring harness, this motor has been a problem for months and months and keeping the barge out of the water. Tippet commented that it has broken down three or four times this year. Richard commented that it has kept it from throwing rock anyway.
  - x. Wallace motioned to accept the low bid from Lake Sarah Marina for a total of \$10,676 for a 2020 Mercury F150L with the prop, the adapter harness, and all of the labor and three year warrantee. Richards second. Sweet aye, Trefz aye, Richards aye, Wallace aye, Blankenship aye, Williamson aye. Nays. Motion carried.
- b. Discussion North Lake Subdivision Silt Removal due to Erosion
- i. Tippet stated that he was approached by Mr. Wyman and Mike Behny from North Lake Subdivision. Wyman has lost his dock to silt build up. In just the past couple of years it has really flown in there. He needs some help and he has asked if the Board would consider giving him some help in removing some of it, he is going to do some of it but he obviously can't do all of it. He is wondering if the Board would be interested in entertaining giving him some help with the silt removal so that he can get his dock back and those folks can continue using the water back there.



- ii. Sweet asked what caused the erosion to which Tippett responded that he has a creek that runs back there on the far east side of his property. It runs in from all of the farmers' fields. It broke open and started feeding in towards his property and letting in all kinds of erosion that wasn't coming in before. It filled in this whole area. He knows as this use to be his brother's house. Wallace commented that this was originally Slipher's dock to which Tippett responded yes.
- iii. Blankenship asked if there is anyway to fix the problem to keep it from doing it again to which Tippett responded that there are two, the Army Corps of Engineers and the EPA, and they both agreed that we can take the silt out and berm it up on the land. It just can't be allowed to go back into the water, that is the only restriction that they had, is that it doesn't go back into the water. For the moment, that is all that we can do.
- iv. Sweet asked if this is something that we can do with the backhoe or are we going to have to rent some big piece of equipment, what are you going to do? Tippett responded that they need a 60 foot long armed track machine excavator. Sweet commented that he stated that he wants help with this, what constitutes help? Tippett stated that is what he is asking the commissioners. Monetary value he is thinking is \$2,000-\$5,000.
- v. Richards asked if he is considering taking this out of the erosion control fund to which Tippett responded yes. Richards asked if this could be something that they could possibly make a sole line item in the erosion control budget for land owners or property owners to get up to so many dollars, set back so many dollars in the erosion control fund that maybe we could potentially use as a match or something like that to which Tippett clarified for silt removal to which Richards responded yes. Richards stated that this problem is not going to go away and he would like to keep it within a reasonable parameter where, like the community parks thing, where we decide that we will do up to a certain dollar amount for the year. If nobody asks about it, it stays in erosion. He would consider something like that, he thinks it would be worthwhile.
- vi. Wallace commented that he can't remember when Slipher's built the dock, and he was down there at one point. So they cleaned it all out and they used a, was it a 60 or 80 foot to which Tippett responded that Terry Monk said it was a 60 foot. Wallace commented it has been cleaned out once since then, so it is a continuing problem to which Tippett responded it was cleaned out 14 years ago.
- vii. Sweet mentioned that earlier they had talked about Tippett getting with Tom Hintz to talk about vegetation that he is well read on. Has that conversation happened to which Tippett responded that our problem is



the rise and fall of the water level in the lake, our lake is never at a constant level, it makes our vegetation hard to control, to have at all. Right now we are short on vegetation throughout the lake so says IDNR. They are worried about the vegetation. That is how the whole deer thing came about.

- viii. Wallace commented that he thinks part of the problem is that there is a creek down there so when it comes up it washes all of that down. This is what you see at the north end of the lake, if you walk down there it is all silted in. Tippett commented that this has just happened over the past two years. Wallace commented that you can pretty much walk across there now and he use to be able to bring a boat in so there is a lot of natural stuff, the filling in, it is just going to keep happening. His thought process is where the creek comes in, he doesn't know if there is a way to trap the silt to keep it from coming in. Tippett stated that we probably need like what Paris Lake has, a rock check. Wallace commented that he feels that it will continue to fill in if this isn't addressed. Tippett commented that this would be something where we would have to get all of the farmers involved if they are wanting to do something like that. Richards asked if that creek could be redirected back to its old track to which Tippett responded that he believes that is where they are talking about, they were just going to scoot out, cut it out, and flip it and fill in, remember he told them about the creek that started its own refill, fill all of that in and push it back up against the bank and that should help. Richards asked if that is something where they cut a new channel in the creek, widen or deepen to which Tippett responded that they will actually fill it in on one side. Sweet stated that it actually has to be approved by the Army Corps doesn't it to which Tippett responded that is why he called them right away and explained what is happening. The guy seemed to know the area and told Tippett this is what you do, you pull it out, you put it up on the shore and fill in that creek side you are talking about. Richards asked if they can use what they pull out of the lake to fill to which Tippett responded yes they are going to have to. There is no way to get that silt up out of there. You would have to truck dirt in to put there so it could wash back into the lake, so just flip the dirt and make that your berm. Richards asked if there is anything else that they would have to do to that, like a seawall or anything to which Tippett responded that he said to just dish it out, berm it in, and let it dry. He is sure that some of the folks would take dirt from down there, which presents another problem, getting the trucks down there to get it out.
- ix. Tippett commented that they went and looked at the dredging machine over at Tally's Auto, and we could ask them, whoever owns that if they



would look at it. It's just a big pump and they could just pump that over the top of the hill, they could stack it up there, too. Blankenship commented but if you don't use it, then you have to figure out a way to get dirt back down there to fix the problem. Tippet commented that they have to fix the problem but the problem is that it is 200-300 feet wide and at least twice that long and underneath Wyman's dock, there is no water there, it is all dry. It has been like that all summer long. Rich Neal's dock is the same way and Mike Behny on the corner, he is clearly a couple hundred yards away, he has to raise his motor up all the way and he had to push his boat in a few times just to get his boat into the dock. It was 6 feet deep when he started coming out here.

- x. Wallace commented that this is something that this lake is going to face, his sedimentation.
- xi. Sweet commented that his concern is where do you draw the line? His concern is, as we all know, it's not just an isolated problem just listening to him, it is out there. He is concerned about if we start it, where do we stop it.
- xii. Richard stated that he feels that they need to set a definite dollar amount to it, I couldn't hurt us, and then require a buy in from the property owners, almost like the state does with us, a one to one matching up to so many dollars. That way everyone has some skin backing and they aren't just asking for free money. He thinks that would stop the frivolous complaints and things like that. If people are not able to use their docks, they are going to want to pay to get that done, it is a huge investment for everybody overall.
- xiii. Blankenship commented that if there is 300 feet, if we spend \$3,000 and they spend \$3,000, how long does that buy the machine to which Wyman responded that it is basically \$250/hour with the operator, it is just shy of \$6,000 to get a long reach transported in. He got quotes from S & G, Kevin Kuhn, and Black Diamond Excavators. He stated that himself, Rich Neal, and Mike Behny, they are not looking for free money, the match thing, they are all raffling money. The quotes they got, it came to be a little more significant amount than what they expected, they are talking \$6,000 just to get the machine here. Sweet asked how many feet he was looking to do to which Wyman responded that it is just basically 50 feet out. Wallace commented so with the other individuals, you have that whole cove coming in there. So you guys are going to come in and work all along in here. Wyman stated that he didn't want the Board to think they were just looking for free money, they are going to get it done one way or another, it's just getting that machine in there.



- xiv. Blankenship asked how, how wide is this machine and how wide of a trail is it going to make to get there? Wyman commented that he just put in a brand new rock path down there. If he tears up anything it is going to be the relief on his septic tank, but they said that they have mats that they can lay down.
- xv. Wallace asked how many people are putting in on this to which Wyman stated there are three of them, there is a fourth gentleman who doesn't live there all of the time. Tippet commented that you have the guy who is building there, too.
- xvi. Sweet commented, so let's say we create an amount, let's say we put \$10,000 in this, then we are going to have to come up with a way to let everybody know that is around the lake. Then there will have to be an application, just like what we do with the small parks. There will have to be some kind of an application submitted and then they can base the need with the Army Corps or whoever, is that what you see to which Tippet responded yes.
- xvii. Blankenship asked if they can do that like the parks, the parks are a government entity. Can they make an agreement with them. Tippet asked can they go on contract with a landowner, for own property. Blankenship commented that he thinks that they should get with the attorney before they vote on something that they can or can't do. He is for helping.
- xviii. Tippet commented that tonight he is just asking if this is something that they would like to move forward with. He doesn't see anything happening until springtime anyway. Richards stated that he thinks it is a great idea to contact the attorney and create an application like Sweet suggested. Blankenship commented that he doesn't know if they can do that legally.
- xix. Wallace commented that his only problem with this is, and it is nothing against the land owners, this lake is silting in. The dredging is never going to stop. They are already throwing a lot of the money that normally would be used towards, they started taking money 15 years ago for erosion control, that took money away to fix some of the things around here. Now if they start taking money away, he knows it is coming out of erosion control, he is just not real agreeable to using user fees and taxation to take care of siltation.
- xx. Richards commented that this is one of the biggest problems facing this lake though, erosion and siltation and things like that, and they should use all of their assets to keep the lake viable. It will silt in one day and it will no longer be a lake and there will probably no longer be a park or a park board at that point.



- xxi. Wallace stated that he tried to come up with a little bit of a solution last year but that didn't work real well.
  - xxii. Richards stated that he thinks it is their charge to keep the lake recreational and to keep it viable, and keep it moving forward into the future.
  - xxiii. Sweet commented that he still thinks that the approach they should take is wider than dredging. He thinks they need to look at, they need to get Tom Hintz out here to talk about vegetation, all of the stuff that he knows about. He will bore you to tears, he will be saying words that they won't have a clue as to what they are, but the man knows. He recommends that they let him come out. They are not going to stop it, but they can slow it down.
  - xxiv. Richards stated it's an abatement process and Blankenship commented that if they don't attempt to stop it, then they are throwing the money away digging it out.
  - xxv. Wallace asked if the Soil and Conservation Office can help them in any way to which Tippet responded that he has not contacted them. Wallace commented that they were a part of all of this in the beginning and surely they can give them designs for silt traps or how to slow it down.
  - xxvi. Richards comment that they have a caveat there, they absolutely have to remediate the way that creek flows before they can go out dredging or anything. Blankenship commented that is what he is getting at.
  - xxvii. Tippet stated that he will start looking into this and develop a plan moving forward. Richard commented yes, talk to the attorney, develop an application form, set some guidelines and boundaries on that. Once they do that then they can have a discussion about the dollar amount and such. Williamson commented and talk to Soil and Conservation.
- c. Discussion Deer Population in Park
- i. Tippet stated that it has been brought to him by several farmers and some other folks that there are just too many deer in the park. It is causing some destruction to properties, crops, and so on. So he started contacting those who he thought would be in the know about it, and he got some different and carrying opinions. The IDNR biologist is one of the people who says we have too many deer, Mike Mounce. IDNR Wildlife biologist says we have too many deer, do something about it. Do simple things. We should stop the "Earn a Buck" program, which is only good for about 6-7years, and then it does just the opposite, we have had it in place for about 9 years right now, so next year it probably won't happen. They talked about allowing shotgun out here, for the two weekends, so we can thin out the deer. The IDNR Wildlife wants to meet with him the



first or second week in December. They are going to go through the park, look at the deer, and he is going to give him some ideas on how to thin this down a little bit. He said we are never going to win this, but if you think it is hurting the surrounding neighbors, then you should do something about it.

- ii. Wallace commented that in his opinion, it is a whole thing. It is damaging the crops, which in essence would make our rental property less valuable to people, as far as our rental crops and to the people around us. He doesn't think that the deer population is healthy for the deer. He knows a gentleman up in Edgar County up by Grandview and he has found 5 deer this year that had the "blue tongue." There is just too many deer. It's good to see that the biologists, wildlife, conservation police are all in agreement. Not only in the park, but also all around the county, and probably the state as a whole, is out of hand. He likes to see the deer when he pulls in, when you come in at night you can see them bedded down, but it's just.
- iii. Sweet asked how many shotgun hunters are out at Lincoln Trail this year, none. They don't allow it. They are going to recommend that they allow them to hunt them out here with shotguns? He is just posing some questions here. Are we going to lease it out? Are we going to turn it over to these outfitters? Are we going to let people from out of state, it is a big thing right now. If we say open it up to shotgun, that is just the start of it.
- iv. Richards commented that they need designated areas for that because he doesn't really want someone right by his house hunting. Williamson asked how many have been in here hunting right now to which Tippett responded 38. Williamson asked how many have turned in a deer does he think to which Tippett responded 30.
- v. Wallace commented that when people come from out of state to hunt, they want a buck. Allen Walters commented that a couple of people comment on Facebook, and a couple people messaged him on Messenger and when he told them if they hunt at the park, they have to shoot a doe first and they quit talking to him. It has cost him a lot of money.
- vi. Blankenship asked about cougars or panthers to which Tippett commented not to get off subject, but a guy just brought him a video of a bobcat out by the dam. He was sitting in his blind about 30 yards, it was a big one too.
- vii. A gentleman stated that they need to get more hunter participation. Me and my wife have hunted back here and he has turned in 2 of the deer that have been killed. He just lives in North Lake and you come over here



and there is just nobody here. Maybe they are at the 4 wheeler trails and the dam more, but still all in all, there is not the participation. He looks at the website and Facebook and there has been one mention about it since August, about it being available. Maybe something to look at is to make it more known that if you are a taxpayer in Clark County there is that opportunity. He knows one other guy, if you aren't going to allow guns in the park, maybe allow bow hunting during shotgun season. Tippet commented that we do allow guns, we allow bird hunting, and coon hunting. Richards commented that a number 8 shot doesn't go near as far as a Sabat to which Tippet responded that is true. Richards commented that they are affective to kill up to 200 yards if you are aiming right at it.

- viii. The gentleman stated if you are going to allow gun hunting, shut the whole park down, you aren't even allowed to go back in there. Blankenship commented that we would have to close it. The ATV Trail are closed until January 19<sup>th</sup>. Walters stated that the ground that he farms back there where they are having fence issues, you might see a vehicle back there once a week, maybe. That's open territory.
- ix. Tippet commented that this year they are giving the hunters the option to leave their stands in the woods for the season, thinking maybe that is part of what's deterring them, having to pack that stand in and set it up and then you have to pack it back out.
- x. Blankenship commented that you might be able to have certain areas with gun hunting. Nobody wants a slug coming at their house. Richards stated that he doesn't mind gun hunting in open spaces, that's why they should have designated areas. South of the dam would be fine. There are also special events through IDNR that you can get to hunt, like youth hunting, it is definitely something we can do. There's a Warrior's Hunt for disabled veterans and people with disabilities. That's also an opportunity that we could open up. You can get a special 2-3 day season. You can get a youth shotgun season or a youth bow season, handicapped or something like that.
- xi. Sweet commented that one of the biggest problems that he see is, probably the biggest problem, he and his grandson are going out hunting in the morning. They aren't going out to shoot a doe. Hardly anybody is, there are going to be a few guys who will. He would say 8 out of 10 people are going out to get a buck. Unless you can entice them to take that doe, you know. Richards commented that he doesn't know and that a lot of those people who are on the handicapped hunts or the youth hunts are first time hunters, they are pretty jacked up



about taking anything. He totally understands what Sweet is talking about, it's more of a hassle to kill a doe, drag it out, and skin it.

- xii. Walters asked if Lovell planted beans down by the trails to which Tippett responded yes. Walters commented that the deer shorted him to which Tippett commented that there is a controversy to that because he didn't spray them either so he had a whole lot of grass down there too. Walters commented that over here, we didn't spray either. They sprayed when they *I cannot understand him*. They looked at Clint's and their beans looked identical to that. Tippett commented that he is claiming 6 acres that he lost or 36 acres, quite a bit, and then him. Walters commented then they had the corn.
- xiii. Tippett commented that he will get back with the IDNR and bring it back to the Board.
- xiv. Wallace commented that once again they have asked for the opinion of the biologists and they feel that we have a problem, so he thinks that we got to get them thinned out, and the way you do that is by hunting.
- xv. Richards commented that they do get down on the shore. He sees them all the time on the lake just laying there to which Tippett added which is not good. Richards commented they are messing with the aquatic vegetation. Tippett stated that Doug Brown said to cut back the Russian Olive and they will stay back because they feel safe there. Blankenship commented that you will never get rid of that, it is unreal. Richards commented that you can cut it back but you will be doing it every year. Does the township have something that kills that, Dallas told him that they have something that kills that. Blankenship commented that you have to be careful about what you put by the lake because it will get in the water. Sweet responded that they might. Richards commented that it is very difficult to control and cutting it back isn't going to do any good, you are going to have to kill it.
- xvi. Wallace asked if they think it will happen this season to which Tippett responded no.
- xvii. Williamson commented so basically all that we can do right now is encourage the Clark County residents to come out and hunt, but meanwhile we can look to see if there is a possibility of setting up a program that would be more timely for next year.
- xviii. Blankenship asked if there is a designated area for bow hunting to which Tippett responded south of the concession stand and on the other side of the dam.

## 11. Committee Reports

- a. Camper's Committee – 11/7/19
  - i. Ewing was not there to give the report.



- b. Lake Management
  - i. None
- c. Finance-Master Plan 10/22/19 & 11/18/19
  - i. Williamson reported that the Finance committee did meet at 6:00 Monday Evening, she, and John, the Accountant and Jeff were all there. Leuken took them through the financial report. To her, it was pretty cut and dry. She tries to look at the total amount of funds and she thinks that it is pretty phenomenal. She sits here this evening and listen to these issues and things that they are going to be dealing with and it takes a lot of funds. She did go back and ask Leuken if he had any thoughts on the golf course and he gave his opinions and views. He has had some experience both pros and cons and she will be honest, it helped her to understand to hear him. Richards asked about the Master Plan and if it was about the golf course to which the response was yes.
- d. Policy
  - i. None
- e. Trails
  - i. None

**12. Executive Session 5ILCS 120/2 C-1, C-3, C-11, C-21**

- a. Wallace motioned to table Executive Session. Blankenship second. 6 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

**13. Vote to Open/Close Executive Session Minutes 8/15/19**

**14. Adjourn**

- a. Sweet motioned to adjourn the meeting. Williamson second. 6 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.
- b. Meeting was adjourned at 7:24 p.m.