

**Sandusky County Park District
Board of Park Commissioners Meeting
May 21st, 2025 Regular Meeting
9:30am at Fremont Rotary Lodge, Don W. Miller Memorial Park
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The Board of Park Commissioners met at Fremont Rotary Lodge, Don W. Miller Memorial Park on May 21st, 2025 at 9:30AM.

Roll Call

Commissioner Fails called the meeting to order at 9:30 am. Christina conducted the roll call showing Commissioners Fails and Moore, and Lawrence were present, Director Andrew Brown and Administrative Supervisor-HR Coordinator Christina Warden was in attendance.

Recognition of Visitors/Public Participation/Correspondences

Communities Foundation Email

Visitors – None

(1) Motion to accept minutes of the April 16th, 2025 Regular Meeting was made by Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Lawrence and passed unanimously with a vote of 3-yes and 0-no.

Finances

(2) A motion to approve the financial reports was made by Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Mr. Moore, and passed unanimously with a vote of 3-yes and 0-no.

Expenditures were approved as presented.

Credit Card Report: Credit card report was available at the meeting.

Audit Committee Report: The Park District's audit for the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023 has been completed. Auditor Matthew Duskins submitted the draft Agreed Upon Procedures (AUP) report and signed Representation Letter to the Park District. These documents were reviewed by the Board during the meeting; however, the draft report remains confidential until officially released by the Auditor of State's Office.

The AUP Acknowledgement Form was signed by Board President Fails and submitted as required.

Departmental Reports

Copy of Operation Report included in the Proceedings of the Board of Park Commissioners Journal. Program Report Missing.

New Business

(3) Resolution 2025-15: ODOT MetroPark Road Improvement Program: The purpose of this resolution is to continue the Park District's eligibility to receive money from the ODOT MetroPark Roadwork Fund, fiscal year 2026-2027. This resolution is required by ODOT and needs to be passed every two years. A motion to approve Resolution 2025-15 was made by Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Mr. Moore, and passed unanimously with a vote of 3-Yes, 0-No.

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(4) Development Request – Redhorse Bend Property: The Park District received a request from onCORE Origination, in partnership with Navisun, to lease 15-75 acres at Redhorse Bend for a commercial solar project. The proposal included lease payments of \$3,000-\$3,500 per acre over a 25+ year term.

The Redhorse Bend property is protected by a conservation easement held by Black Swamp Conservancy. The easement prohibits commercial development and new infrastructure, including solar arrays, in order to preserve the lands natural and scenic character. A motion to deny request was made by Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Lawrence, and passed unanimously with a vote of 3-Yes, 0-No.

(5) Ratifying the Authorization for the Director to apply for Federal Funds for Rotary Lodge: The Park District has applied for Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) for Fiscal Year 2026 through both Senator Moreno's Office as well as Senator Husted's for Phase 3. Senator Moreno's Office has put our project in their list of CDS projects they want to fund. We will have to see what happens at the federal level but this is a good sign.

Phase 3 of the Fremont Rotary Lodge project includes construction of a 1,135 sq. ft. enclosed, temperature-controlled pavilion connected to the existing lodge, a 1,105 sq. ft. covered patio, new ADA-accessible parking and driveways, and additional auxiliary parking. These improvements will significantly expand year-round use and improve accessibility for larger events.

A motion to ratify the authorization for the Director to apply was made by Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Mr. Moore, and passed unanimously with a vote of 3-Yes, 0-No.

(6) Resolution 2025-16: Additional Seasonal Employees for 2025: The letters to the County Auditor are attached for your reference. A motion to approve Resolution 2025-16 was made by Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Lawrence, and passed unanimously with a vote of 3-Yes, 0-No.

(7) Resolution 2025-17: Ratifying Prior Execution of Right-of-Way Authorization – Joint Ownership in Huron County: Firelands Wind, LLC, a subsidiary of Apex Clean Energy, has requested permission to install and maintain an underground transmission line beneath the North Coast Inland Trail in Huron County as part of the Firelands Wind Project. The affected segment is jointly owned by Sandusky County Park District, Metroparks Toledo, Wood County Park District, Erie MetroParks, and Lorain County Metro Parks. The Director, consistent with ongoing collaboration among partner agencies, executed the Metro Parks Crossing Agreement on behalf of the Park District. The agreement allows this underground installation while preserving the trail corridor for public use. This resolution formally ratifies the Director's execution of the agreement and authorizes all actions needed to implement its terms. A motion to approve Resolution 2025-17 was made by Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Lawrence, and passed unanimously with a vote of 3-Yes, 0-No.

(8) Resolution 2025-18: Concession Prices and Updated Fees & Charges: This resolution establishes updated pricing for concession items sold by the Park District at the White Star Beach Concession Stand for 2025. Additionally, it replaces Resolution 2024-46 and authorizes the Director to maintain and adjust prices as needed to reflect costs, support operations, and ensure reasonable value to the public.

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A detailed price list is included with the resolution, and changes are designed to align with current cost recovery goals and operational needs. A motion to approve Resolution 2025-19 was made by Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Lawrence, and passed unanimously with a vote of 3-Yes, 0-No.

Board Initiated Business:

The board inquired whether the SCUBA Concession late payment had been made yet -not as of yet, due date June 1st, 2025.

The board asked for a Wolf Creek Plan Update – nothing new at this time.

(9) Adjournment: Next regular meeting is scheduled Wednesday, June 18th, 2025 at 9:30 a.m.; Fremont Rotary Lodge, Don W. Miller Memorial Park. A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Lawrence, and seconded by Mr. Moore.

With no further business, the Board adjourned at 10:38 am.

Board of Park Commissioners

Absent
George B. Moore

Bradford J. Lawrence
Bradford J. Lawrence

James B. Fails
James B. Fails

Andrew Brown
Andrew Brown, Director/Secretary

6-18-2025
Date