

COBB-HIGHLAND RECREATION COMMISSION

Minutes from March 12, 2014

MEMBERS PRESENT: Al Kosharek, Al Linscheid, Tom Jenks, Bret Barr, Glen Gard, Gail Richgels, Gerry Riley, Jim Eggers

MEMBERS ABSENT: Kris Schoville, Jeremy Simplot

ALSO PRESENT: Dan Welsh, Park Manager
Tom Michek, Assistant Park Manager
Stacey Hermansen, Offc Mngr/Board Clerk
Carol Anderson, Iowa County
Ron Benish, Iowa County LCC

Meeting notice was legally posted.

Meeting was called to order by Al Kosharek at approximately 7:00 pm.

Minutes from January 2014 meeting were reviewed. Motion by Gail Richgels, seconded by Al Linscheid, to approve. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Treasurer's report for January 2014 and February 2014 given by Stacey Hermansen. 2013 adjusting entries were reviewed. Commission treasurer has been stopping by each week to sign checks for payroll and bills. Monthly expenses were presented as a detailed summary of purchases by vendor and will also include current month-to-date checks at future meetings. Motion by Glen Gard, seconded by Al Linscheid, to accept report. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Tom Michek informed the Commission that several members of the Highland Fire and Rescue team attended an ice rescue training last month. The Highland District purchased two ice rescue suits and accessory gear to be prepared for any incident that may require rescue on Blackhawk Lake. When the ice thins, the Highland District will be sponsoring training at Blackhawk Lake to include the Cobb Fire and Rescue as well.

The park's used Kubota mower was auctioned through Wisconsin Surplus for \$11,500. Bids for a new Kubota mower were reviewed. Blackhawk Lake's current 29hp mower has been discontinued, so bids included the new 25.5hp and 39hp models. It was discussed that reducing the horsepower would not be suitable for the landscape here at the park; so it was decided that the 39hp mower would be purchased from Ritchie's Implement in Cobb, as they were the closest dealer for servicing and parts. Motion by Glen Gard, seconded by Tom Jenks, to accept the Ritchie's bid. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Work on the 10 year development plan will remain on hold as the Wisconsin DNR has informed management that expansion approval is not likely at this point in time. However, our status as a DNR lessee will continue as it has for the past several years, and improvements can be made with

approval given on a project by project basis. New building plans will likely have to be state approved plans, but we may move forward with a new cabin or bath facility proposal in the near future.

We had a great response, over 350 customers, to our development plan survey. Gail Richgels took the time to make some tabulations and she shared those comments that were most prevalent throughout the survey. The clean lake, spacious sites and shower facilities were the overwhelming favorites; while water hook-ups, more electric availability, and more shower/toilet facilities were the most requested improvements. Management plans to do a thorough intake of the results and try to accommodate the most prevalent suggestions that are within our budget and development plans.

Blackhawk Lake's new DNR Warden, Alan Erickson, has been working closely with management this winter to get the park up to date on all the boating and recreational vehicle laws that affect our maintenance and boat rental operations. All employees will be required to hold a valid ATV safety certificate and a valid boater's safety certificate. The park will reimburse or pay for these certificates for employees who do not already have them. The park is planning to host the safety courses this spring in the Nature Center for employees and surrounding community members... dates and course fees are yet to be determined. The classes and tests can also be taken on-line.

Also, the park's utility vehicles will now need to be properly licensed to operate on the park roads. The John Deere Gator cannot be registered as a UTV, and therefore cannot be legally driven on the county road within the park. The park will look into purchasing another qualifying utility vehicle in the near future. Management will look into specifications and pricing.

Upcoming maintenance at the park will include tree trimming, playground repairs, camper pads, beach expansion (sand), signage, and grills. We will also be adding a basketball court up by the playground in the main camp. We will not go forward with adding refrigerators to the cabins at this time as the cabins are booked every weekend regardless of added amenities; it may take away from ice sales; and the upkeep/maintenance may be problematic.

The next scheduled meeting will take place on April 9, 2014 at 7pm.

Motion for adjournment made by Glen Gard, seconded by Al Linscheid. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

X

Commission Secretary

X

Commission Clerk