



LAGRANGE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

MINUTES

June 20, 2024 7:00 PM
Maple Wood Nature Center

PRESENT: Eric Maginn, Julia Wolheter, Paul Baker, Michael Holcomb

ALSO PRESENT: Mary Franke, George DeWald, Emily Wolfe, Cassie Delucaney

MINUTES: Mike Holcomb moved, and Julia Wolheter seconded a motion to approve the minutes from the **May 16, 2024**, meeting. Motion carried.

CLAIMS:

Paul Baker moved, and Mike Holcomb seconded a motion to approve **June 2024** docket claims. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Dallas Roof Project Quotes: The Park Board received four quotes for the project. Julia Wolheter moved, and Paul Baker seconded a motion to accept the quote from Michiana Builders for \$29,119.99.
- B. 2025 Budget:
 1. George DeWald shared requests for capital purchases to include in the 2025 budget. Mike Holcomb moved, and Julia Wolheter seconded a motion to approve proposed capital purchases for the 2025 budget. Motion carried.
 2. Mary Franke reviewed 2025 budget requests for 1219, 1179, and 4906 funds. Paul Baker moved, and Julia Wolheter seconded presented 2025 budget requests. Motion carried. Present Park Board Members, Eric Maginn, Julia Wolheter, Paul Baker, and Mike Holcomb, approved by signing all budget fund requests.
- C. Go Foundation Event: Cassie Delucaney was present to share event details and answer any questions regarding a request for proposed event to be held on September 14, 2024. Paul Baker moved, and Mike Holcomb seconded a motion to waive food truck fees. Motion carried. Julia Wolheter moved, and Paul Baker seconded a motion to approve the special event application as presented. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Purchase Request – Limestone
Mary Franke requested approval of \$10,000 to purchase limestone for trails at Pine Knob Park. This is part of the ongoing effort to maintain accessibility levels on our park trails. Purchase will be funded by this year's 1219 budget. Paul Baker moved, and Julia Wolheter seconded a motion to approve limestone purchase estimated at approximately \$10,000. Motion carried.

B. Director's Report

1. Archery Fees – The Board discussed raising the archery trail fees for 2025 to offset increasing costs of target replacement.
2. Beach Rules – The Board discussed current concerns at Dallas Lake Beach and possible solutions. Julia Wolheter moved, and Mike Holcomb seconded a motion to approve revised Beach rules as presented. Motion carried.
3. Mary Franke presented the option to look for a “Park Cell Phone” for the park ranger to use for park business. The park board discussed and is in favor.
4. Mary Franke presented pay considerations for the Park Ranger position and Assistant Park Ranger position. The Park Ranger is on call 24/7/365 and compensation should reflect that. The board approved to present pay increase request to council and commissioners.
5. Discussed how swim lessons are going for the summer.
6. Day camps for summer are going well so far. Wilderness Bound doesn't have enough registered to happen as proposed. Discussed day camp fees for 2025. May be increased to offset increasing expenses of wages, supplies, and food.
7. Budgeted capital purchases for 2024 are complete and there is enough left to make another improvement to the Dallas Lake Lodge in efforts to increase rental usage. Mike Holcomb moved, and Paul Baker seconded a motion to approve a quote from Otto's Fireplace for \$2943.00 to purchase a gas log fireplace insert for the existing, non-working wood fireplace. Motion carried. Gas lines are already accessible. Safety measures include a mounted protective full glass front and a dial timer for operation.
8. LCYC Youth Event at Delt Church Park for this Saturday, June 22 was canceled due to high heat warnings. Date will be rescheduled for late summer/early fall.

ANY AND ALL OTHER BUSINESS:

Respectfully submitted,
Emily Wolfe
EW/ew