

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF  
THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE  
RIVER TRAILS PARK DISTRICT,  
COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, HELD VIA VIRTUAL BOARD MEETING  
IN SAID DISTRICT ON THE FIFTEENTH DAY OF APRIL 2021 AT 7:00 P.M.**

I. The President called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and directed Carole Dohse, Accounting and Administrative Assistant to call the roll. Upon roll being called, the following Commissioners answered present: Edward W. Rechner, Nancy Parra, Jennifer Rezek, Leah Lussem, and Gail Dieterich. Also present were Director Bret Fahnstrom, Superintendent of Finance Steve Cummins, Superintendent of Parks Tom Pope, and Grounds Manager Mike Hanley.

II. Visitors Present: None

III. The Agenda for April 15, 2021 was submitted for approval. Commissioner Lussem moved to approve said agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Parra and upon the roll being called, the Commissioners voted as follows:

AYE: Ed Rechner, Nancy Parra, Leah Lussem, Jennifer Rezek, Gail Dieterich  
NAY: None  
ABSENT: None

IV. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of Minutes for the Regular Meeting of April 1, 2021
- b. Approval of Voucher List of Bills for March 16 - April 12, 2021

Commissioner Dieterich moved to approve Consent Agenda items as presented. Commissioner Rezek seconded the motion, and upon the roll being called, the Commissioners voted as follows:

AYE: Ed Rechner, Nancy Parra, Leah Lussem, Jennifer Rezek, Gail Dieterich  
NAY: None  
ABSENT: None

V. Communications

- a. Staff Report - Parks. Superintendent Pope noted the soccer fields were lined and the pool cover was taken off with the help of the Recreation team. Mike Hanley is celebrating 5 years with the Park District. Current Park Department projects include replacing park paths, installing kilowatt readers, and enhancing the natural landscaping of the parks to mention a few.
- b. 2021 Election Results (Unofficial). Director Fahnstrom congratulated Jennifer Rezek for being an officially elected Commissioner. Commissioner Rezek will take the oath of office at the May 6<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting when the results should be official.

- c. Miscellaneous Communications.
  - i. Board Apparel & Pictures. Director Fahnstrom talked about the Commissioners having an individual photo taken for the River Trails website and ordering shirts for all of the Board members.
  - ii. Director Fahnstrom reminded the group that the next Board meeting will be held in person at Rob Roy as well as a virtual option available for visitors.
  - iii. Director Fahnstrom said that he and Commissioner Lussem held an hour and a half of Commissioner training time together. Commissioners Rezek and Lussem will be attending the upcoming Board Boot camp; District specific financial training will be held afterwards.

**VI.** Old Business            None

**VII.** New Business

- a. Aspen Trails Park Approval. Director Fahnstrom walked the Board through the bid process for the Aspen Trails Park Project. Following discussion, Commissioner Dieterich moved to approve as presented the recommendation to award the Aspen Trails Project bid to Clause Brothers, Inc. with alternates B, C, and F for a total of \$742,658.79. Commissioner Parra seconded the motion, and upon the roll being called, the Commissioners voted as follows:

AYE:        Ed Rechner, Nancy Parra, Leah Lussem, Jennifer Rezek, Gail Dieterich

NAY:        None

ABSENT: None

- b. 2021-2025 Capital Replacement Plan. Director Fahnstrom presented the 2021-2025 Capital Replacement Plan which presents a thorough inventory of capital needs with associated costs planned for the next 5-year vision. The plan will be reviewed annually. Following discussion, Commissioner Rezek moved to approve the plan as submitted. Commissioner Lussem seconded the motion, and upon the roll being called, the Commissioners voted as follows:

AYE:        Ed Rechner, Nancy Parra, Leah Lussem, Jennifer Rezek, Gail Dieterich

NAY:        None

ABSENT: None

- c. Board Manual Policy Manual Review – Part 2. Director Fahnstrom noted the manual went through legal review and presented the enhanced changes in the next area of the document under modification. After the full manual has been reviewed and updated, the Board will adopt an ordinance to officially document the Policy Manual.
- d. Call for a Special Meeting – Annual Park Tour. Director Fahnstrom said he will send out an email to determine a date for the Board members to tour the parks which will include Burning Bush and a few others.

- e. Gail Dieterich. It was with much gratitude and appreciation to recognize Commissioner Gail Dieterich at her last Board meeting. Director Fahnstrom expressed his appreciation to Gail as a dedicated Board member for the past 6 years. Commissioner Dieterich showed the group the service plaque she received to commemorate her time serving the River Trails Park District community. Gail thanked everyone for the fond memories and said she enjoyed her tenure on the Board. Commissioner Rechner thanked her for her service and the good insight she always provided.

**VIII.** Commissioner Comments.           None

**IX.** Executive Session.   None

**X.** Action as a Result of the Executive Session    None

**XI.** Adjournment. There being no further business to discuss, Commissioner Dieterich made a motion to adjourn and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Rezek. The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

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President

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Secretary