

**RACINE COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS, PARKS AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 2021 - SUMMARY MINUTES**

Ives Grove Auditorium  
Ives Grove Office Complex  
14200 Washington Avenue  
Sturtevant WI 53177

While both the building and the meeting is open to the public, in keeping with the CDC's recommendations on social distancing, members of the public are strongly encouraged NOT to attend the meeting in person. Citizens wishing to make a public comment are strongly encouraged to submit such comments in writing to RCPUBLICWORKS@Racinecounty.com before 4 pm on Thursday, October 8, 2020. (Please note: Seating for the public is very limited due to social distancing requirements. Masks are required in all Racine County buildings.) DO NOT ATTEND THIS MEETING if you are experiencing any of these symptoms or if you have been in contact with anyone with these symptoms: shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, cough, chills, nasal congestion, sore throat, fatigue, loss of sense of taste or smell, fever greater than 100.4 F.

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**Committee Present:** Robert Grove, Tom Kramer, Jody Spencer (arrived at 6:22pm),  
Brett Nielsen, Eric Hopkins (arrived at 6:10pm)

**Committee Present via Conference Call:** Tom Hincz

**Committee Excused:** Thomas Pringle

**Youth in Governance  
Representatives:** Roselyn Pachero (excused), Robert Barkley Jr. (excused)

**Staff Present:** Julie Anderson, Public Works & Development Services Director  
Dave Prott, Highways & Parks Superintendent

**Others Present:** Dave Giordano, Root-Pike WIN  
Brian Gunderson, Watershed Protection Committee

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**1. Call to Order, Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair Bob Grove.

**2. Review and possible approval of the draft summary minutes for the January 14, 2021 meeting.**

**Supervisor Tom KRAMER moved**, seconded by **Supervisor NIELSEN**, to approve these minutes as presented at 6:01 p.m. **Motion carried unanimously. VOTE: 4/0**

**3. Public Comments**

NONE

**4. Review, discussion, and possible action regarding a draft Agreement and Resolution for a non-cash lease agreement to utilize a portion of Racine County Case Eagle Park in Rochester by The Watershed Protection Committee of Racine County (a nonprofit agricultural educator group) for the years 2021-2024.**

Anderson presented this item to the Committee and reviewed the in-depth discussion that took place at the January 14, 2021 meeting. Staff agrees that the use of this previous farmland lease site would be preferred over having Racine County staff mow the sites a few times each year to control weeds. Staff does NOT support any composting sites in this park or as part of this lease.

Brian Gunderson was present and clarified to the Committee that the Watershed Protection Committee would like to use the four (4) parcels of land that comprised the previous farmland leases at this site, for a total of 51.6 acres of land for the four (4) year period. Discussion followed about some possible tree and invasive plants removal which the park staff will review on site. Mr Gunderson was instructed to not remove any trees from the site and to allow the County to evaluate the situation.

Staff recommends that a non-cash farm lease be prepared, along with a Resolution, for review and approval of the full County Board.

**Supervisor Tom KRAMER moved**, seconded by **Supervisor NIELSEN**, to forward this Resolution for first reading at the County Board on March 23, 2021 and to include the four (4) parcels which comprised previous farmland leases, with the understanding that this is a non-cash lease.

**Motion carried unanimously. VOTE: 5/0**

5. **Review, discussion, and possible action on a draft Resolution to authorize seeking of grants and authorizing an environmental and wildlife restoration project for a portion of Cliffside Park in Caledonia by Root Pike WIN.**

Dave Giordano was present to present this item. Anderson indicated that a similar project was brought to the Committee a couple of years ago but the project didn't fully meet the grant specifications once more site investigation occurred. The wetland restorations proposed in Cliffside Park would be funded by grant money. This area is critical to the migration of birds that use the Lake Michigan flyway. The wetlands would serve as a stopover along the coastal route. The project would be multi-year, starting with design in 2021. There would be no cost to Racine County for this work, and the project would only move forward if grants were obtained. There is already one grant that has been secured for \$137,240 which will be a great start for this project.

The packet included the grant and the full project scope. This will be attached to the Resolution as well.

**Supervisor Tom KRAMER moved**, seconded by **Supervisor NIELSEN**, to authorize the project and to move a Resolution to the County Board for first reading on March 23, 2021.

**Motion carried unanimously. VOTE: 5/0**

6. **Review, discussion, and possible action regarding closure of a County Highway for a July 4, 2021 parade in the Village of Raymond.**

Dave Prott presented this item to the Committee. This closure would be for a portion of County Trunk Highway "U" in the Village of Raymond. There is coordination between the Village and the Racine County Sheriff Office for these type of temporary closures.

**Supervisor Brett NIELSEN moved**, seconded by **Supervisor KRAMER**, to approve this request from the Village of Raymond.

**Motion carried unanimously. VOTE: 6/0**

7. **Review, discussion, and possible action on a Resolution authorizing and approving the concession stand reservation policy at Einer Fischer Park, indemnification agreement and an amendment to the parks fee schedule within the 2021 budget.**

Anderson and Prott presented this item. The new beach house opened at Fischer Park late in 2020, and with the pandemic ongoing, there was no use of the concession stand at the park. In 2021, it is anticipated that there will be use of the concession stand. Staff is recommending a reservation fee of \$12 per non-profit group to use the concession stand, and a \$100 refundable deposit in case the users don't clean up the concession stand after they use it.

The concession stand is only equipped to handle the sales of pre-packaged items such as snacks, bottled water and soda. There are regulations that will have to be followed for each non-profit group that uses the concession stand for fundraising purposes.

Staff recommends that the Resolution be sent to the County Board for action so we are ready to accept reservations of the beach house concession stand for the 2021 season.

**Supervisor Brett Nielsen moved**, seconded by **Supervisor HINCZ**, to approve the Resolution for the operation of the Fischer Park concession stand. First reading at the March 23, 2021 County Board meeting.

**Motion carried unanimously. VOTE: 6/0**

8. **Staff update on status of Quarry Lake Park Project 2021**

Prott and Anderson provided a brief update to the Committee about the Quarry Lake project. The bids will be going out soon for demolition and construction. The staff will keep this project as a recurring agenda item (monthly) to provide updates to the Committee. Staff will also be using the Racine County Parks webpage and Facebook social media page to get information out about park closures, as we anticipate various closures as the work gets started this spring. The project is anticipated to be complete for the opening of the 2022 park season. The Karen A Nelson dog park is not anticipated to be affected by the work in the "lower portion" of the park, but the public should watch for updates as the project moves along.

(There was no action taken on this item).

**9. Communications and Referrals**

NONE

**10. Miscellaneous Public Works business**

- Next scheduled PWPF meeting: Thursday, March 25, 2021.
- The April 8, 2021 PWPF meeting is cancelled.

**11. Adjournment**

There being no further business, **Supervisor Tom KRAMER moved**, seconded by **Supervisor NIELSEN**, to adjourn at **6:49 p.m. Motion carried unanimously. VOTE: 6/0**