

**Van Buren County Parks Commission Board  
 Regular Meeting Minutes  
 May 9, 2023**

**Conference Room 303, Van Buren County Administration Building  
 219 E Paw Paw Street, Paw Paw MI 49079**

**1. Call to Order and Determination of Quorum and Attendees**

At 11:02 AM, by Chair Mike Chappell with attendees/absentees/status as follows:

Board Member Attendance Report--Parks and Recreation Commission										
Name	Position	Attendance/Quorum Status	Declared Remote Location			Present Anytime	Present @ Start	+ Late Arrivals	- Early Departs	Present @ End
			Municipality	County	State					
Mike Chappell	Chair	Attended physically				Yes	Yes	✓	✓	Yes
John Small	Vice Chair	Attended physically				Yes	Yes	✓	✓	Yes
Wayne Nelson	Secretary	Attended physically				Yes	Yes	✓	✓	Yes
Joe Parman	Member	Attended physically				Yes	Yes	✓	✓	Yes
Kurt Doroh	Member	Attended physically				Yes	Yes	✓	✓	Yes
Lorna Nenciarini	Member	Did not attend meeting				No	No	✓	✓	No
Dick Godfrey	Member	Attended physically				Yes	Yes	✓	✓	Yes
Paul Garrod	Member	Attended physically				Yes	Yes	✓	✓	Yes
Emily Hickmott	Member	Attended physically				Yes	Yes	✓	✓	Yes
<vacancy>	Member	Did not attend meeting				No	No	✓	✓	No
Count:						8	8	0	0	8
Members Present:							8 of 9	8 of 9	8 of 9	8 of 9
Quorum (Yes/No):							Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

- a. **Board Members Present (8); Board Members Absent (1); Board Vacancies: (1).** A quorum (8 of 9) is initially present, and a quorum remained throughout the meeting.
- b. **Staff and Others Present:** John Faul, County Administrator; Marcy Hamilton, Southwest Michigan Planning Commission (SWMPC).

**2. Approval of Agenda--**The prepared agenda was approved 8-0 on the motion of Doroh, supported by Parman.

**3. Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting held April 11, 2023--**The proposed minutes of the meeting were included in the agenda packet. The minutes were approved by a vote of 8-0 on the motion by Godfrey, supported by Hickmott.

**4. Public Comment—**None

**5. New Business—**

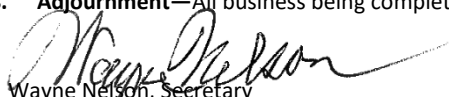
- a. **Michigan SPARKS Grant, Round 2—**Marcy Hamilton of the SWMPC led the discussion on whether and what to apply for in this round of funding. The matter of hiking trail expansions in South Haven and Covert Townships were addressed, and several options were mentioned. On the motion of Nelson, supported by Doroh, the Commission will support the feasible alternative decided upon the by Chair upon consultation with Marcy Hamilton. Approved by a vote of 8-0.
- b. **RAP Grant Program, Round 2—**There was no feasible proposal for which to consider funding application.

**6. Unfinished Business—**

- a. **Board Vacancy and Representation Status—**Daywi Cook, Supervisor of Covert Township, has applied for membership.
- b. **County Fair Board and Museum Leases—**The county's GIS staff is continuing to review the Fairgrounds and Museum leases at the county's property in Hartford Township.
- c. **Kayak Launch Project—**Marcy Hamilton of the SWMPC submitted the new grant application to the state on April 7 and updated the Commission. She will continue to monitor the progress.
- d. **Keeler Township Bus Tour—**Mike Chappell will try to schedule a date certain for this.

**7. General Member Comments—**None

**8. Adjournment—**All business being completed, the meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 12:08 PM, on the motion of Nelson.

  
 Wayne Nelson, Secretary  
 Van Buren County Parks and Recreation Commission