

**Van Buren County Parks Commission Board  
 Regular Meeting Minutes  
 August 8, 2023**

**Donald Hanson Board of Commissioners Room, Van Buren County Administration Building  
 219 E Paw Paw Street, Paw Paw MI 49079**

1. **Note: The meeting location was moved from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Conference to accommodate the number of attendees**

**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	Did not attend meeting				No	No	✓	✓	No	
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	Attended physically				Yes	Yes	✓	✓	Yes	
Dick Godfrey	Member	Attended physically				Yes	Yes	✓	✓	Yes	
Paul Garrod	Member	Attended physically				Yes	Yes	✓	✓	Yes	
Emilly Hickmott	Member	Attended physically				Yes	Yes	✓	✓	Yes	
Daywi Cook	Member	Attended physically				Yes	Yes	✓	✓	Yes	
						Count:	9	9	0	0	9
						Members Present:	9 of 10	9 of 10	9 of 10	9 of 10	9 of 10
						Quorum (Yes/No):	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

- a. **Board Members Present (9); Board Members Absent (1); Board Vacancies: (0).** A quorum (9 of 10) is initially present, and a quorum remained throughout the meeting.
- b. **Staff and Others Present:** John Faul, County Administrator; Ron Sefcik, Hartford Twp Supervisor.

- 2. **Approval of Agenda**--The prepared agenda was approved 9-0 on the motion of Godfrey, supported by Doroh.
- 3. **Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting held July 11, 2023**--The proposed minutes of the meeting were included in the agenda packet. The minutes were approved by a vote of 9-0 on the motion by Doroh, supported by Parman.
- 4. **Public Comment**—None
- 5. **New Business**—
  - a. **Publicity**—Chair Chappell would like to have a printed and/or digital publication with a listing of VBC park and recreational facilities. Attendees were asked to think of relevant ideas.
  - b. **Covert Township Grant Status**—Daywi Cook gave an update of the township’s current grant and planning projects.
- 6. **Unfinished Business**—
  - a. **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.
  - b. **Michigan SPARKS Grant, Round 2**—Development of the grant application was finalized, and the application was submitted to the state on June 27. Initial response might come in September.
  - c. **Kayak Launch Project**—No update on the application resubmission submitted in April. A decision is expected by December.
  - d. **Keeler Township Ideas**—There was general discussion on the potential Keeler Township projects, focusing on the County Road 690 business corridor in the sister Lakes area.
- 7. **General Member Comments**—
  - a. Daywi Cook mentioned that Covert Township is seeking a contractual individual to be the Covert Township Park Manager.
- 8. **Adjournment**—All business being completed, the meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 11:51 AM, on a vote of 9-0 on motion of Doroh, supported by Nelson. .

  
 Wayne Nelson, Secretary  
 Van Buren County Parks and Recreation Commission