

**THE MORGAN COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MET IN A REGULAR SESSION ON MONDAY, JUNE 5, 2023 AT 10:30 A.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT WERE BRYAN COLLIER, DON ADAMS, AND KENNY HALE. LINDA PRUITT, COUNTY AUDITOR; DEB VERLEY, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT; JOSH MESSMER, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR; AND JIM WISCO, COUNTY ATTORNEY, WERE ALSO PRESENT.

**MINUTES**

Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the May 1, 2023 minutes. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

**REMC AGREEMENT**

Kenny Hale stated that he met onsite with REMC regarding the availability of internet at Burkhart Creek Park. They will need electricity to the pole and a box. A new box could cost \$10,000. There will be a monthly cost of \$180 per month. Kenny Hale made a motion to move forward on the agreement with REMC for internet. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

**DIRECTOR UPDATE**

Volitta Fritsche, Morgan County Parks Director, Ms. Fritsche stated that they are moving forward on the goals they set last year. The faceboards have been re-stained on the blacksmith shop and trade center, the cabin is prepped and ready to chink, they are working on scraping and painting the gazebos. The bathrooms are automatically opened at 7 am and close at 8 am. Kenny Hale noted that they keep breaking the hooks and eyes at the Burkhart restrooms.

Ms. Fritsche stated that is has been working so much better to have three mowers.

Don Adams stated that the library has a “friends of the library” support group and it would be nice to see something similar for the parks. There are a lot of people that like to help out in some way. Ms. Fritsche stated that they do have a section on the website to volunteer and they have a good base of volunteers at Waverly. When someone needs to work off community service hours, they sometimes work at the park. They meet the third Thursday. They need a plan for the town center landscape and volunteers will be working on cleaning this out on June 10<sup>th</sup>. Don Adams stated that he would like to see a fishing derby or painting contest at Waverly. Many other ideas were mentioned. Ms. Fritsche stated that there are so many things that they could do for activities, but right now it’s all they can do to keep the infrastructure going. Bryan Collier stated that many great ideas were mentioned and asked if these were written down in some kind of strategic plan so someone else could pick up the ball. Ms. Fritsche stated that they don’t have it written down, but they could do this. Mr. Collier stated that the point is – where does it go from here? It needs to grow from just being a great idea. Mr. Collier asked stated that they don’t have a true reflection of the costs that go into the parks because of all the volunteer resources, but if those volunteers are lost, they are in trouble. Mr. Collier asked that they see what budgets are for other parks. Kenny Hale stated that it would be at least \$500,000 per park. Don Adams stated that Greenwood has a \$7 million budget for parks and they have 14 parks. Ms. Fritsche stated that she would contact Martinsville and Mooresville.

**WAVERLY UPDATE**

Kenny Hale stated that the last two evenings they have had issues at the Waverly on the trail with vehicles getting stuck. By the time the sheriff arrived on the first call, the vehicle was gone. On the second report, the vehicle was still stuck, but the driver had abandoned it. There was crop damage to a neighboring field as well as damage to park grounds. The vehicle has been impounded. They are looking into getting barricades set up to help avoid this issue in the future.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Kenny Hale made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

Morgan County Parks & Recreation Board

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Bryan Collier

Attest:

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Don Adams

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Linda Pruitt, Morgan Co. Auditor

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Kenny Hale