

at 44% already. Ms. Price explained that was because it is only representative of the preliminary budget numbers, which were enough to get us through the first quarter, until the final budget was approved. Comm. Wisehart asked about the vehicle repairs on page three, the high cost for the repair of the salt spreader. Ms. Daniel explained that it looked like that number was switched with the number for the repair of the dash of the large Massey-Ferguson tractor. The salt spreader repair was definitely the lower number. He also asked about the \$2,600 on page four for Hoffman Forest. Ms. Price explained that it was for the topographical survey needed for the bid packet for the project.

Comm. Murray noted on the Capital Projects Fund that we are still carrying a balance. Will that be moved into another fund? Ms. Price explained yes that once the ADA doors are finished and payment to Hobbs Lock & Key, Ms. Ferback can move the money back to the general fund with Board approval. Then it can be allocated to another capital project in the future.

(4) Commissioner Murray moved to approve Resolution 2026-06 Schedule of Payables as presented.

Second: Commissioner Kresser

Action: Motion carried unanimously with three affirmative votes.

(B.) 2026 Final Budget

Ms. Price explained that Ms. Ferback was at an accounting conference, and she would be presenting the 2026 Final Budget for her. Comm. Murray asked if all the items in the Capital Improvement and Acquisition Funds were in the proposal. Ms. Price explained that they were. She added that there was \$600,000 in the Acquisition Fund for future land acquisitions and \$500,000 for Capital Improvements based on the Strategic Plan. Discussion ensued and Ms. Price reported that there is a projected carryover of \$2.545 million at the end of 2026.

(5) Commissioner Murray moved to approve the 2026 Final Budget as presented.

Second: Commissioner Kresser

Action: Motion carried unanimously with three affirmative votes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Gary Toll was in attendance and asked several questions from the Board. He asked if Erie MetroParks had a mitigation bank, since the work done at Hemminger Ditch had to be mitigated and the funds went to Toledo. Ms. Price explained that we are a part of NCRCPD, also known as the North Coast Regional Council of Park Districts, and we are currently out of mitigation credits.

Mr. Toll asked about the trees that were marked with red spots in the North Woods near Perkins Ave. He asked if those were from Ohio Edison or were they going to be taken out for the roundabout. Ms. Price explained that they were probably for line clearing work for Ohio Edison. Discussion ensued. Mr. Toll then asked about the boardwalk going all the way to Sheldon's Marsh as he had heard. Ms. Price explained the difference between the Sandusky Bay Pathway and the multi-modal use path running along the north side of Cleveland Rd.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Price sent her report via email in the board packet.

Ms. Price added the following:

-The ESB boardwalk is coming off the Strategic Plan- she will be seeking fundraising and State funding for the boardwalk.

-Staff & volunteers planted coastal grasses at Wakefield MetroPark.

-She is seeking formal approval for the final engineering plans from Contractor's Design Group for the Osborn Perimeter Path. She explained the timeline to the Board.

(6) Commissioner Murray moved to approve the final engineering plans for the Osborn Perimeter Path as presented.

Second: Commissioner Kresser

Action: Motion carried unanimously with three affirmative votes.

Ms. Price also gave a presentation on 2025 district highlights from staff reports.

(7) Commissioner Murray moved to approve the Director's Report as presented.

Second: Commissioner Kresser

Action: Motion carried unanimously with three affirmative votes.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

(A.) Annual Donation Report (Acknowledge and File)

Ms. Price explained that this was an annual report that highlighted cash, labor, and in-kind donations. It is a required report and submitted to the Probate court each year.

(8) Commissioner Murray moved to acknowledge and file the Annual Donation Report as presented.

Second: Commissioner Kresser

Action: Motion carried unanimously with three affirmative votes.

(B.) Commercial Special Use Permit (M & M Birding)

Ms. Price explained that M & M Birding is a startup Birding Company that would like to conduct birding tours at Erie MetroParks for individuals and small groups. As this would be a commercial activity, it is being brought before the board for approval. She also explained that some parks will charge \$100 for a commercial special permit per year. Discussion ensued and the Board agreed that as long as they obtain their liability insurance naming Erie MetroParks as a third-party insured, paid the fee, be mindful of Erie MetroParks programming schedule, and work around the programs (park programs?) and parking, etc., the Board would approve the permit.

(9) Commissioner Murray moved to approve the special permit for M & M Birding as presented, with provisions.

Second: Commissioner Kresser

Action: Motion carried unanimously with three affirmative votes.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

Travel & Training Summary NONE

Special Permit Summary (acknowledge and file)

There were several new special permits to acknowledge and file this month.

(10) Commissioner Murray moved to acknowledge and file the Special Permit Summary as provided.

Second: Commissioner Kresser

Action: Motion passed unanimously with three affirmative votes.

Credit Card Summary (acknowledge and file)

Ms. Price asked the board to acknowledge and file the Credit Card Summary as presented.

(11) Commissioner Murray moved to acknowledge and file the Credit Card Summary provided.

Second: Commissioner Kresser

Action: Motion passed unanimously with three affirmative votes.

Other (Misc. items from Board or Administration) NONE

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Murray moved to enter Executive Session to consider the following matters: The purchase of property for public purposes, personnel matters- compensation ranges.

(12) Second: Commissioner Kresser

Roll Call: Commissioner Wisehart: aye

Commissioner Murray: aye

Commissioner Kresser: aye

Action: Motion passed unanimously with three affirmative votes.

The Park Commissioners entered Executive Session at 1:57 PM and returned to Regular Session at 2:35 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

With there being no further business brought before the Park Commission,

(13) Commissioner Murray moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:36 PM.

Second: Commissioner Kresser

Roll Call: Commissioner Wisehart: aye

Commissioner Murray: aye

Commissioner Kresser: aye

Action: Motion passed unanimously with three affirmative votes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The foregoing is a true and accurate account of the March 20, 2026, meeting of the Park Commission and has been formally adopted by the Commissioners as such and shall be placed in and become part of the Official Proceedings of the Board of Park Commissioners.

APPROVED:

Troy Wisehart, Chairperson

Date

ATTEST:

Melissa Price, Executive Director

Date