ERIE METROPARKS
Board of Park Commissioners

Minutes Wednesday, August 12, 2026

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CALL TO ORDER
Commissioner Wisehart called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM in Margaret M. Murray Conference Room, Roger Johnson Nature Center, Osborn MetroPark, Huron, Ohio.

ROLL CALL
Park Commissioners Present: Troy Wisehart, Chairperson
Margaret Murray, Vice Chairperson
Kurt Kresser, Vice Chairperson

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
(1) Commissioner Murray moved to waive the reading of and approve the draft minutes of the July 15, 2026, meeting.
Second: Commissioner Kresser
Action: Motion carried unanimously with three affirmative votes.

FINANCIAL REPORTS
July Fund Activity Summary, Citizens Bank Checking Account Reconciliation, Citizens Bank MMIA Reconciliation:
Members of the Park Commission have received copies of these reports.

(A.) Resolution 2026-13: August Schedule of Payables
Ms. Ferback distributed copies of the Schedule of Payables and the Capital Projects Fund Budget & Year-to-Date Expenses Report via email. Ms. Ferback wanted to bring the following to their attention. On page six, the payment to Tusing Builders was for the new roof on the 5-bay garage at Osborn MetroPark. The payment on page nine to Chad Leimeister is for his business, Tree Experts, for removing some hazardous trees up by the Northwoods at Osborn MetroPark. The void and reissuance on page six were for Pelz Lettering, for a payment that was lost in the mail.

Ms. Ferback asked the Board if they had any questions at this time. Comm. Murray inquired about the unencumbered cash carryover that was listed as $4,688,219.39 in the General Fund Income Statement. She noticed that the carryover number seemed extremely high considering the number of projects that had been approved. Ms. Ferback explained that there are many projects still in the work that have not been finalized or paid for yet. She and Ms. Price explained that the actual cash carryover is more accurately approximately $2.4 million. Ms. Ferback stated

that she would check with other park districts as to how they reflect the numbers and would report back to the Board.

(2) Commissioner Murray moved to approve Resolution 2026-13 Schedule of Payables as presented.

Second: Commissioner Kresser
Action: Motion carried unanimously with three affirmative votes.

PUBLIC COMMENT
No public wished to address the Board during the meeting.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT
Ms. Price sent her report via email in the Board packet.
Ms. Price added the following:
-The Erie County Budget Commission meeting has been moved to Tuesday, August 18th at 9:00 AM. Comm. Wisehart and Comm. Murray would both like to attend. If only one commissioner could attend due to Sunshine Laws and quorums, then Comm. Wisehart asked Comm. Murray to be the Park Board representative. Ms. Price explained that she and Ms. Ferback were preparing for the meeting.
-The hot water tank at The Coupling MetroPark needs replaced, and Ops staff are getting quotes for replacement.
-The Coupling MetroPark launch update. Ms. Price passed out updated drawings for option #1 that was previously discussed. She explained that the quote is for approximately $100,000, and we had asked the Board for $65,000. She asked the Board if they would like to move forward with option #1. Comm. Murray expressed that this option makes the most sense and we have the funds, so:

(3) Commissioner Murray moved to increase the amount of the budget for The Coupling MetroPark launch to $100,000.

Second: Commissioner Kresser
Action: Motion carried unanimously with three affirmative votes.

-Birmingham School MetroPark- Ms. Price explained that staff were in the process of getting three quotes for the restoration work on the Birmingham School Arch. The first mason, AA Wilken Masonry, has not responded. The second, Erin Ebner Steve Schmidt, provided a quote of $9,500 to repair the back of the arch and an additional $8,500 for repairs to the front. Staff are waiting for the third quote. Comm. Wisehart tabled the discussion to the September meeting, until after we receive the third quote. The Board asked Mr. Malone to seal off around the arch to prevent any further damage. Discussion ensued and Ms. Price added that she would reach out to Mr. Bettcher to see if he would like to assist in the funding of the repairs, as he had asked Ms. Price if they were anything he could do to help Erie MetroParks.
-The roof on the Roger Johnson Nature Center- While chasing down another issue, staff flew a drone over the roof of the nature center and noticed several problems including the warping of the roof/ shingled areas. Staff contacted Turner Construction, A Star Roofing, etc. and they all met and went up on the roof to assess the damage. It was determined that in EMP's plans, there was supposed to be soffit vents to release the water/ moisture from building and there were some

roof boards that were not properly secured. EMP is waiting for an answer to see who is going to pay for the retrofit. Ms. Price asked the Board if they would like her to get an estimate from an outside reputable company in case, we need to get legal counsel involved and would have an estimate of what the retrofit would cost. The Board asked Mr. Malone to secure a quote from Tusing Builders for the retrofit the correct way. They also asked Ms. Price to look into the invoices paid and see that they have the soffit installation listed.

(4) Commissioner Murray moved to approve the Director's Report as presented.
Second: Commissioner Kresser
Action: Motion carried unanimously with three affirmative votes.

OLD BUSINESS

(A.) Mark Malone- Edison Woods MetroPark, Smokey Rd. House renovation- new restroom proposal

Mr. Malone explained that the soil test is scheduled for tomorrow morning. He clarified that there would be a cost for Geophyta for the soil test and a cost for the Erie County Health Department as well totaling $655.00. The results will let us know if it is possible to construct a new restroom at that site.

NEW BUSINESS

None

INFORMATION ITEMS:

Travel & Training Summary (NONE)

Special Permit Summary (acknowledge and file)

There were three special permits to acknowledge and file this month.

There was a discussion on special permits due to the recent use of shelter #4 for a political fundraiser. Ms. Price explained that we are in the process of revising what needs a Special Permit, and of those which would require a Certificate of Liability insurance, naming Erie MetroParks as a third party insured. Comm. Wisehart thanked her and asked that she present a revised Special Permit process for the next board meeting.

(5) Commissioner Kresser moved to acknowledge and file the Special Permit Summary as provided.
Second: Commissioner Murray
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.

(6) Commissioner Kresser moved to acknowledge and file the Credit Card Summary provided.
Second: Commissioner Murray
Action: Motion passed unanimously with three affirmative votes.

Disposal of Surplus Personal Property & removal from inventory

Ms. Price asked the Board to acknowledge and file the Inventory Surplus list as presented, so those items could be removed from inventory and disposed of.

(7) Commissioner Murray moved to acknowledge and file the inventory surplus list as 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.

(8) 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 1:43 PM and returned to Regular Session at 2:08 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

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

(9) Comm. Kresser moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:09 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The foregoing is a true and accurate account of the August 12, 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