

**Minutes of
Trumbull County MetroParks Board
Thursday, November 21, 2024**

A meeting of the Trumbull County MetroParks was called to order by the Chair, Randy Fabrizio, on Thursday, November 21, 2024, at 4:15 p.m. at Kent State Trumbull Room 163 in Link Building. Those in attendance included the following:

Randy Fabrizio, Chair
John Brown
Nicolette Darkangelo
Kurt Sauer
Steve Maas
Zachary Svette, Executive Director

Also in attendance: James Hetzler, Judy Hetzler, Dominic Cardingle, Eric Marsh, Kay Anderson-Warren Township Trustee, Denny Malloy, Trumbull County Commissioner, Nick Molinterino, Sherry Molinterino, Clyde Poulson, Ed Anthony, Township Trustee, Faye Smith, George Gordon, Byron Shutt, Linda Morris, Dave Shaffer, Bonnie Karr, Jason Miller, Julie Shutt, Bob Coupland, Tribune Chronicle, Sean Knepper and Marcus Hollenbank, Trumbull Soil and Water, Scott Rowe, Ryan Yoho, Warren Township Trustee, Ray Schucker, Marina Noble, Kosta Hazinakis, Deb Roth.

Marcus Hollenbank, Storm Water Specialist and Sean Knepper, Forestry Specialist, from Trumbull County Soil and Water gave a quick presentation on restoration, invasive and native species within the riparian zone. They also talked briefly about successes on other dam removals in relation to the riparian zones.

Public Comments

Ed Anthony - Spoke on resolution to ratify the dam removal, the alternatives that were submitted and having no meeting on those alternatives.

George Gordon – Braceville and Flooding in support of Removal should help Eagle Creek.

Julie Shutt – Spoke on the her property on Eagle Creek Road and how goodwill and working together with solve this issue. That the dam is the gem of Leavittsburg and she presented a flyer to the board. She also stated she wants to keep water level the same.

Kay Anderson – Asked how many Braceville Residents were in attendance, cited that certain people created division between the townships, director of WRRSP no questions answered, \$40,000 study done and there is 4 years worth of information.

Judy Hetzeler- Grew up on the river and talked about what has happened on the river in the past. She was worried about water level and sediments.

Scott Row – Lives on Eagle Creek and is concerned about flooding and safety of everyone.

Nick Molinterino- Spoke on the flooding in Braceville, and the positive affect the dam removal should have on that.

Ryan Yoho – Consider opinions of township residents.

Kosta Hazinakis – Spoke about the flooding of Eagle Creek and how sewers discharge into the river and how flooding should be helped.

Deb Roth – Spoke on re-hashing alternatives and shifting funds to those alternatives. Spoke on keeping people safe and the safety forces in the township. Asked the board to gather all information before making a decision.

Denny Malloy- Spoke on how residents should direct questions on flooding to commissioners and engineers office. Raise concerns about department heads not being listened to. Said that that if board decided to proceed that the budget would be in question for 2025 and that they would not help with future lawsuits.

Faye Smith- Spoke on gathering information to make a decision, flooding in childhood home, power of water.

James Hetzeler- Spoke on how this would affect their living.

Sherry Molinterno- Spoke on how she wants to work together, spoke on how activities in township to date have not helped the flooding. She spoke about how she believes the flooding will help with the flooding in relation to well water. She stated that no one should be dumping in the river and that all residents should be considered in the decision making process.

Nick Molinterno – Spoke on the dam removal and the drop in flooding.

Erich Marsh - Raised concerns about the contaminants on the river and the consideration of homes above Summit Street dam removal and how the river would become a stream. Also expressed interest in becoming a board member.

Clyde Paulson- Against dam removal, leave water alone, says that dam is not a death trap.

Dave Shaffer – Spoke on Eagle Creek and blockages in the river and how army corps of engineers maybe able to help.

Byron Schutt- Spoke on his opinion about the how the flooding in river would not be solved by dam removal, clean up and scrub trees.

I. Approval of Board Minutes of Board Minuets of the Special Board Meeting October 1 , 2024 and the Regular Meeting October 24, 2024

Ms. Darkangelo made a motion and seconded by Mr. Brown to approve the minutes from the Special Board Meeting October 1, 2024 and the Regular Board Meeting of October 24, 2024. The motion was carried.

II. Financial

The list of the bills paid was reviewed by the board. Ms. Darkangelo made a motion seconded by Mr. Sauer to approve the list of bills. The motion was carried.

Mr. Brown made a motion to approve the following appropriation #1 and seconded by Ms. Darkangelo. The motion was carried.

1. Appropriate to 981-060-5600-5600-3-505604 (Attorney): \$20.00

Mr. Saue made a motion to approve the following appropriation #2 and seconded by Mr. Brown. The motion was carried.

2. Appropriate to 981-060-5600-5600-3-505602 (Appraiser): \$1,750.00

Mr.Sauer made a motion to approve the following appropriation #3 and seconded by Mr. Brown. The motion was carried.

3. Appropriate to 981-060-5600-5600-3-505419 (Land and Site Improvments): \$1,500.00

III. General Business

Mr. Fabrizio read in full Resolution 2024 -4 and Mr. Brown made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-4: To Ratify the Trumbull County MetroParks' previous motion to approve the removal of the Leavittsburg Dam at Canoe City MetroPark located in Warren Township.. Seconded By, Ms. Darkangelo.

Discussion was held, Mr. Sauer discussed the discussions that were being held between DLZ, OEPA and himself. He spoke about the 3 items that were to be answered by DLZ/Township Trustees or the County Commissioners:

1. Can funds be transferred to a new project.
2. What are cost estimates for the proposed alternatives.
3. And what is opinion on the safety of the dam after alternatives.

Mr. Sauer also stated that the OEPA would only respond to written requests. He also stated that he was unsure if or when we would get answers to the questions. Mr. Sauer asked that the motion be tabled so that everyone can continue to discuss.

Mr. Maas discussed that the safety portion would not be totally abated by the alternatives, and he agreed with Mr. Sauer we should wait for more answers.

Mr. Svette reminded the board that the authority for project was through the 60% plans and to continue the project they needed to authorize the Executive Director to continue the project with financial backing.

After further discussion Mr. Brown agreed to pull his motion from consideration.

Mr. Bown made a motion to authorize the Executive Director to continue the Dam Removal Project with Financial Backing. Seconded by, Ms Darkangelo, The Motion Carried.

Mr. Sauer made a motion to approve GEO Specialties via ODOT State Contract # 059-24 (Geohazard Maintenance) for the Phase 1 of the Slide Repair on the Bike Trail to be paid from ACGP grant funds via Eastgate Council of Governments in the amount of \$263,663.20. Seconded by Mr. Maas, the Motion Carried.

Mr. Sauer made a motion to go into executive session: To consider the employment and compensation of a public employee. Seconded by Mr. Maas. The roll Call was taken: Mr. Fabrizio- Yes, Mr. Brown- Yes, Ms. Darkangelo – Yes, Mr. Maas- Yes, Mr. Sauer – Yes. The motion carried.

Ms. Darkangelo made a motion to come out of executive session: To consider the employment and compensation of a public employee. Seconded by Mr. Brown. The roll Call was taken: Mr. Fabrizio- Yes, Mr. Brown- Yes, Ms. Darkangelo – Yes, Mr. Maas- Yes, Mr. Sauer – Yes. The motion carried.

Mr. Sauer made a motion to appoint Zachary Svette, Interim Secretary for Trumbull County MetroParks Board retroactive to October 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024. Seconded by Mr. Maas. The motion carried.

The board decided to address the agenda item: Mission, Vision and Core Values at a later date.

IV. Communications

No communications were presented to the board.

V. Executive Director’s Report-See Attached Report

VIII. Future Planning

Next meeting: December 19, 2024-4:15 p.m.

IX. Adjournment

There being no further business, Mr. Sauer made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Brown. The motion was carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:13 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Zachary Svette

Zachary Svette, Interim Secretary