

Minutes
Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority
Board of Commissioners
Thursday, January 10, 2019

A regular meeting of the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority's Board of Commissioners' was held on Thursday, Jan. 10, 2019 at 10:30 a.m. at the Administrative Office.

Commissioners Present:

Timothy J. McCarthy
Robert W. Marans
Jaye Quadrozzi
Bernard Parker
Kurt L. Heise
Steve Williams
John Paul Rea

Staff Officers:

Director
Deputy Director
Chief of Finance

Amy McMillan
David Kirbach
Rebecca Franchock

Other Attendees:

Miller Canfield
Miller Canfield
Johnson Rosati Schultz Joppich

Steve Mann
Larry Dudek
Carlito Young

1. Call to Order

Chairman McCarthy called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

2. Chairman's Statement

None.

3. Public Participation

None

4. Approval – Dec. 13, 2018 Work Session, Budget Hearing and Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Marans, support from Commissioner Parker that the Board of Commissioners' approve the Dec. 13, 2018 work session, budget hearing and regular meeting minutes as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

5. Approval – Jan. 10, 2018 Full Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Rea, support from Commissioner Williams that the Board of Commissioners' approve the Jan. 10, 2018 agenda as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

6. Approval – Jan. 10, 2018 Consent Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Heise, support from Commissioner Rea that the Board of Commissioners' approve the consent agenda consisting of the following:

- a. Purchases
 1. Vehicle for K-9 Unit
- b. Report – Purchases Over \$10,000
- c. Approval – Wayne County Annual Maintenance Agreement
- d. Report –Marketing/Media Stats

Motion carried unanimously.

7. Reports

A. Natural Resources Department

1. Report – Deer Management Program

Motion by Commissioner Quadrozzi, support from Commissioner Williams that the Board of Commissioners' receive and file the Metroparks Deer Management Program report as recommended by Chief of Natural Resources and Regulatory Compliance Ryan Colliton and staff.

Discussion: Chief of Natural Resources and Regulatory Compliance Ryan Colliton updated the Board on the PFAS issue and deer testing and reviewed testing numbers. He said the Metroparks can reinstate the deer management program for 2019 and listed the parks and dates the program would take place. Mr. Colliton said the deer management program will not take place at Kensington Metropark this year. However, 20 deer will be harvested and tested for PFAS levels once the federal government reopens.

Commissioner Marans asked about the PFAS numbers for Washtenaw County. Mr. Colliton said fish samples collected in Ann Arbor were 404 ppt (safe threshold is 330 ppt) and surface water was 37 ppt (safe threshold is 12 ppt).

Commissioner Parker asked if the goal was 200 deer for this season and if that was the same goal last year. Mr. Colliton said this year's deer management goal is lower than last year.

Motion carried unanimously.

B. Finance Department

1. Approval – Updated Fund Policy Section of Financial Policy

Motion by Commissioner Heise, support from Commissioner Rea that the Board of Commissioners' approve the Fund Policy section update to Financial Policy as recommended by Chief of Finance Rebecca Franchock and staff.

Discussion: Chief of Finance Rebecca Franchock reviewed the changes to the Fund policy brought to the Board in December.

Commissioner Parker said he preferred the language using minimum for the fund balance and not target.

Motion carried unanimously.

8. Closed Session

Commissioner McCarthy called for a closed session for the purpose of consulting with attorney(s) regarding specific pending litigation, which is exempt from discussion or disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, this is a permissible purpose for a closed session pursuant to Section 8(e) of the Open Meetings Act.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Voting yes: Marans, Rea, Quadrozzi, Heise, Williams, Parker, McCarthy

Voting no: None

Absent: None

Motion carried unanimously.

The regular meeting adjourned at 10:37 a.m.

Commissioner Rea left the meeting at 11:10 a.m.

Commissioner McCarthy reconvened the regular meeting at 11: 13 a.m.

9. Interview and Approval – Lobbying Firms

1. *Kelley-Cawthorne – David Ladd*

Mr. Ladd reviewed the firm's background, outlined a legislative strategy and answered questions from the Board.

2. *Muchmore Harrington Smalley & Associates, LLC (MSHA) – Patrick Harrington*

Mr. Harrington reviewed the firm's background and answered questions from the Board.

3. *Karoub Associates – Joe Palamara, Jim Crawford, Tabitha Zimny*

Mr. Palamara introduced members of the Karoub Associates team, reviewed the firm's background and answered questions from the Board.

4. *Truscott Rossman – John Truscott, Sara Wurfel*

Mr. Truscott said reviewed the firm's background and answered questions from the Board.

Commissioner McCarthy asked Director McMillan for her thoughts and opinions. Ms. McMillan said she would not be requesting approval of a lobbying firm if the Metroparks did not have a purposeful agenda and that the timing is perfectly positioned with the beginning of the legislative session. She said she did not originally think Karoub would make her short list; however, Joe Palamara is widely respected in the parks and recreation industry. Ms. McMillan said she likes David Ladd and that his firm builds relationships and that both Muchmore Harrington Smalley and Associates and Kelley-Cawthorne would be a good fit for the Metroparks.

Commissioner Quadrozzi asked if Ms. McMillan had a sense of what would be different with Karoub now versus before. Ms. McMillan said the Metroparks has developed an aggressive, outcome-focused legislative agenda and she is not interested in just receiving a report once a month of what's going on in Lansing and she let each firm know. She also told each firm they would have a direct relationship with her and that any contract would have an out clause.

Commissioner McCarthy said Karoub is an entirely different firm than when George Carr was the Metroparks lobbyist.

Commissioner Marans asked out of the issues Ms. McMillan outlined, which firm was more responsive. Ms. McMillan said Kelly-Cawthorne and MHSA.

Commissioner Parker said he had experience working with Karoub and he believes Karoub would be the best fit for the Metroparks.

Commissioner Heise said he has worked with all the firms and it's a close call between Kelley-Cawthorne and MHSA and that he thinks Kelley-Cawthorne to be the best fit. Truscott Rossman would work well with Kelley-Cawthorne.

Commissioner McCarthy said he does not have experience with Kelley-Cawthorne, he's worked with MHSA and personally knows Mr. Palamara with Karoub. He said the board is in a difficult position and he feels Ms. McMillan should make the decision and bring the recommendation to the Board for approval.

Motion by Commissioner Quadrozzi, support from Commissioner Marans that the Board of Commissioners' authorize Director McMillan to choose a firm and bring a recommendation for approval to the Board.

Commissioner Heise asked what the timeframe would be. Ms. McMillan said she would meet with each firm and its team and bring a recommendation to the Board at the February meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

10. Other Business

None.

11. Staff Leadership Update

None.

12. Commissioner Comments


Commissioner Quadrozzi said she recently went running at Stony Creek and appreciated the cleared pathways and the availability of concessions.

13. Motion to Adjourn

Motion by Commissioner Marans, support from Commissioner Quadrozzi that the Board of Commissioners' adjourn the regular meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 1:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Shawn M. Athayde
Recording Secretary