

**MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
HURON-CLINTON METROPOLITAN AUTHORITY
THURSDAY, MAY 10, 2012**

The regular meeting of the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority's Board of Commissioners was held at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 10, 2012 at the Thomas Welsh Activity Center at Lake St. Clair Metropark. The meeting was convened in pursuance to a call thereof by the Executive Secretary and due notice to the HCMA Board of Commissioners.

Present:	Commissioners:	Anthony V. Marrocco John C. Hertel John P. McCulloch Harry E. Lester Robert W. Marans Timothy J. McCarthy (arrived at 10:51 a.m.)
	Staff Officers:	
	Director	David C. Moilanen
	Deputy Director	Gregory J. Almas
	Controller	David L. Wahl
	Executive Secretary	George Phifer
Absent:	Commissioner	John E. La Belle
Others:	Legislative Consultant	George Carr
	Legal Counsel	Michael McGee
	Legal Counsel	Dale Burmeister
	Rehmann Robson	Mark Tschirhart
	Rehmann Robson	Tracey Kasparek

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Marrocco at 10:30 a.m.

1. Chairman's Statement

Chairman Marrocco commented favorably about the new signs for Lake St. Clair Metropark.

2. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

3. Closed Session

It was moved by Commissioner Marans, supported by Commissioner Lester that the Board of Commissioners immediately adjourn to a closed session to discuss:

(A) To consider a written legal opinion from outside counsel within the Attorney-Client privilege. *Section 8(h) of the Michigan Open Meetings Act. M.C.L. 15.268(h)*; and

(B) Consult with Counsel regarding specific pending litigation. *Section 8(e) of the Michigan Open Meetings Act. M.C.L. 15.268 (e)*.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Voting Yes: Commissioners Marrocco, Hertel, McCulloch, Lester, Marans,

Voting No:

Absent: Commissioners La Belle, McCarthy

Motion carried unanimously.

The regular meeting adjourned at 10:32 a.m.

In closed session, it was moved by Commissioner Marans, supported by Commissioner McCulloch that the Board of Commissioners adjourn the closed session.

The regular meeting reconvened at 11:04 a.m.

4. Employment Matters

Commissioner Marrocco stated the Board just received and reviewed a legal opinion from its Counsel, Miller Canfield, and said a motion would be in order at this time.

It was moved by Commissioner McCulloch, supported by Commissioner Hertel that the Board of Commissioners upon the advice of the Authority's legal counsel as contained in the Memorandum to the Board from Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone, P.L.C, dated May 9, 2012, the Board determines that the framework described in the Memorandum shall be approved and adopted, and the Officers, staff and counsel to the Authority shall take all such steps as may be necessary or convenient to fully implement the framework as described and contemplated therein; and resolved further, that an appropriate agreement codifying the terms and provisions described in the framework and consistent with the terms of this resolution shall be prepared by the Authority's counsel and thereafter executed and delivered by the Chairman and Secretary or other Officer of the Board if the Secretary is not available.

Motion carried unanimously.

5. Minutes

A. Regular Meeting – April 12, 2012

Commissioner Hertel questioned why Marketing Manager Kassie Kretzschmar's contract had been changed from a 12 month renewal to a six month renewal when the original contract was postponed until the April meeting.

Further discussion was held.

Legal Counsel Michael McGee provided a legal opinion to the Board regarding the making of motions during the approval of Board minutes.

It was moved by Commissioner Marans, supported by Commissioner Lester that the Board of Commissioners approve the April 12, 2012 regular meeting minutes as submitted by Executive Secretary Phifer and staff.

Motion carried unanimously.

B. Closed Session – April 12, 2012

It was moved by Commissioner Marans, supported by Commissioner Lester that the Board of Commissioners approve the April 12, 2012 closed session minutes as submitted by Executive Secretary Phifer and staff.

Motion carried unanimously.

6. Financial Statements

A. 2011 Audited Financial Statements

Controller Wahl introduced Mark Tschirhart and Tracey Kasperek from Rehmann Robson who would be reporting on the 2011 audited financial statements.

Mr. Tschirhart stated that the state of Michigan statute requires an annual audit by an independent certified public accountant. Tschirhart stated they found the Authority's records to be in very good shape which is good news; and that the condition of the accounting records was also good.

Tschirhart said the division of responsibility looked at the following: internal controls, auditors, accounting policies being consistently applied.

Tschirhart said that some auditors may or may not make adjustments, and Rehmann Robson did not need to make any audit adjustments. Tschirhart said they issued an unqualified opinion which means that the audited financial statements reflects the financial position of the organization. Commissioner McCulloch commented that he met with Controller Wahl and Deputy Director Almas to go over the audit; and there were no adjustments needed or no deficiencies.

McCulloch also stated he would like to have Remann Robson look at the Authority's finances to assist the Board with determining what an acceptable level of reserve, if the Board does not object.

Commissioner Hertel gave Controller Wahl a special appreciation for the work he did on the audit.

Commissioner Lester also congratulated Wahl for receiving the Certificate of Achievement from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA).

It was moved by Commissioner Hertel, supported by Commissioner Lester that the Board of Commissioners accept the 2011 Audited Financial Statements as recommended by Controller Wahl and staff.

Motion carried unanimously.

6. Financial Statements

B. April 2012 Financial Statements

It was moved by Commissioner Hertel, supported by Commissioner Lester that the Board of Commissioners approve the April 2012 financial statements as submitted.

Motion carried unanimously.

7. Vouchers – April 2012

It was moved by Commissioner Marans, supported by Commissioner Lester that the vouchers for April 2012 (0222515 through 0222997) be approved as submitted.

Motion carried unanimously.

8. Purchases

Purchasing Manager Scott Michael requested that the Board approve the following purchases:

A. Food Services Concessionaire Contract – Lake St. Clair Metropark

- Award RFP-12-003 to Kosch Hospitality for a five-year contract period beginning January 1, 2013 as per the proposal dated March 29, 2012 as recommended by Food Service Administrator Janice Schlitters, C.P.P.B. and staff.

B. Broom Tractor - Lake St. Clair Metropark

- Award ITB-12-012 to the low responsive, responsible bidder, Bader and Sons Co. in the amount of \$45,906.92 as recommended by Food Service Administrator Janice Schlitters, C.P.P.B. and staff.

C. All Terrain Vehicles (two) – Lake St. Clair Metropark

- Award to the low responsive, responsible bidder, Nicholson Enterprises in the amount of \$12,854 as recommended by Buyer Smith and staff.

D. Cab and Chassis (two) – Eastern District

- Award to the low responsive, responsible bidder, Signature Ford, as per the Macomb County Contract, in the amount of \$79,170.00 as recommended by Food Service Administrator Janice Schlitters, C.P.P.B. and staff.

E. Pick-up Truck – Stony Creek Metropark

- Award to the low responsive, responsible bidder, Signature Ford as per the state of Michigan Contract #071B130009 in the amount of \$21,200.00 as recommended by Food Service Administrator Janice Schlitters, C.P.P.B. and staff.

F. Beach Cleaner – Kensington Metropark

- Award ITB-12-011 to the low responsive, responsible bidder, Cherrington Enterprises, Inc. in the amount of \$49,320.00 as recommended by Food Service Administrator Janice Schlitters C.P.P.B., and staff.

8. Purchases

G. Transport Vehicles (two) – Western District

- Award to the low responsive, responsible bidder, Midwest Golf and Turf as per ITB-12-013 and 12-014 in the amount of \$15,595.00 (for both vehicles) as recommended by Food Service Administrator Janice Schlitters, C.P.P.B. and staff.

H. Sport Utility Vehicles (two) – Field Engineers/Administrative Office

- Award to the low responsive, responsible bidder, Red Holman GMC as per the state of Michigan Contract in the amount of \$44,928.00 as recommended by Food Service Administrator Janice Schlitters, C.P.P.B. and staff.

It was moved by Commissioner Hertel, supported by Commissioner McCarthy that the Board of Commissioners approve the purchases as recommended by Purchasing Manager Scott Michael and staff.

Motion carried unanimously.

9. Reports

A. Lake St. Clair

1. Approval – Michigan Boating Industry Association Request

Deputy Director Almas reported that on Jan. 14, 2010 the Board of Commissioners approved a three year agreement with the Michigan Boating Industries Association (MBIA) to produce the Boating and Outdoor Recreation Festival at Lake St. Clair Metropark through 2012.

Almas said to encourage a festival-like atmosphere; the MBIA planned an enhanced eating and entertainment experience. The MBIA has requested and the Board of Commissioners has approved allowing beer and wine sales for each of the past two festivals and that the MBIA is again requesting the Board of Commissioners approve beer and wine sales for the 2012 festivals.

Almas said the Boating and Outdoor Recreation Festival is an important event for the Metroparks. Offering a full range of services and events at the Festival is essential to its success. There have been no regulatory issues regarding the sale of beer and wine at this, or similar events. Staff will ensure compliance with all insurance and Michigan Liquor Control Commission requirements.

It was moved by Commissioner Marans, supported by Commissioner Hertel that the Board of Commissioners approve beer and wine sales for the 2012 Boating and Outdoor Recreation Festival at Lake St. Clair Metropark as recommended by Deputy Director Almas and staff.

Motion carried unanimously.

A. Lake St. Clair

2. GLRI Grant Report – Parking Lot Phase II

Chief of Natural Resources Paul Muelle reported that in 2011, the Metroparks was awarded a \$1 million Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under its goal to improve nearshore health and reduce nonpoint source pollution. The grant project is for phase one of a multi-year plan to reconstruct the parking lot at Lake St. Clair Metropark. The Metroparks also provided a \$500,000 match towards the project.

The EPA is once again accepting applications for Great Lakes Restoration Funding. Applications are due May 24, 2012. The Metroparks intends to apply for the maximum grant amount of \$500,000 and will match that amount for the next phase of the parking lot reconstruction at Lake St. Clair Metropark.

The parking lot reconstruction project reduces the total acres of impervious surface of the lot and the use of storm water Best Management Practices (BMP's) such as vegetative swales to redirect storm water runoff away from the Black Creek and toward adjacent wetlands (Point

Rosa Marsh). This project works in concert with the current marsh restoration project by directing runoff to the marsh which will help address some of the hydrologic concerns of that wetland system.

It was moved by Commissioner Lester, supported by Commissioner McCarthy that the Board of Commissioners receive and file the GLRI Grant Report – Parking Lot Phase II report as recommended by Chief of Natural Resources, Paul Muelle and staff.

Motion carried unanimously.

9. Reports

B. Indian Springs

1. Proposal – Oil and Gas Lease

Chief Engineer Arens reported on Sept. 8, 2011, the Board of Commissioners approved a Seismic Contract with Jordan Development, Inc. of Traverse City to explore the potential for oil and gas development within Indian Springs Metropark. The Seismic Contract allowed Jordan to perform seismic testing in the park, for which a charge of \$1,000 per mile of test line was assessed. Initial seismic testing is complete, and at this time Jordan believes there is good potential for development.

Arens reported that Jordan's area of interest covers the entire 2,500-acre park. Total acreage ultimately to be leased will depend on results of the final seismic survey and initial well development. The oil/ gas-bearing formation covers several township sections, within and beyond the park's boundary. Therefore Jordan is securing mineral leases from other property owners within southeastern Springfield Township and northeastern White Lake Township. Due to the potentially large area of the formation, Jordan expects the development process be phased over time. Information gained from initial well development is needed to determine properties of the formation, in order that the location and design of additional wells can be planned.

Arens said the approved Seismic Contract includes an exclusive option for Jordan to enter into an oil and gas lease and that Jordan has now determined that there is good potential for oil and gas development, therefore they wish to exercise the lease option at this time.

Arens said the area selected for the wellhead is not environmentally sensitive, it is not a developed recreational use area, and the approved land use plan for Indian Springs indicates that it will remain an undeveloped buffer area.

Arens said the proposed oil and gas lease, as tentatively agreed to by Jordan and staff and that the lease is similar in form to previous leases approved by HCMA, and revised by staff with assistance from the legal firm of Topp Law, PLC of Gaylord, Michigan.

Further discussion was held.

It was moved by Commissioner McCulloch, supported by Commissioner Lester that the Board of Commissioners postpone this item until the June meeting in order to review the report more thoroughly.

Motion carried unanimously.

9. Reports

C. Kensington

1. Agreement – Heavner Canoe Rental

Deputy Director Almas reported that Heavner Canoe Rentals is requesting to establish a base of operations at the East Shore Fishing site at Kensington Metropark. Heavner, based in Milford, has been in existence since 1953 and is a well established operation.

Almas said if approved, three (3) wilderness Canoe and Kayak trips would be offered; 1.5 hours at \$30, 2.5 hours at \$35 and 4 hours at \$40. These trips would begin north of Kensington

Metropark proper and end at the East Shore Fishing site. These trips would not compete with the Metroparks self-operated Kent Lake rentals.

Almas said the initial agreement for the 2012 season (May 15 through Labor Day) would be considered a trial and could be renewed if evaluated a success. Almas also said the agreement has been reviewed by the Authority's attorneys with a modification requiring Heavner to warn of the risks of canoeing and kayaking.

Commissioner Marans expressed concern that this opportunity was not offered to other vendors.

Commissioner Hertel commented on the contract terms and suggested that after the trial period that bids may be taken.

Further discussion was held.

It was moved by Commissioner Lester, supported by Commissioner McCarthy that the Board of Commissioners approve the Agreement with Heavner Canoe Rentals on a one season trial basis as recommended by Deputy Director Almas and staff.

Motion carried unanimously.

9. Reports

D. Huron Meadows

1. Proposal – Architectural Consultant Services, Park Maintenance Building

Chief of Engineering Arens stated that as reported to the Board at the Feb. 9, 2012 meeting, the 2012 Capital Improvement Budget includes a project for replacing the existing park service buildings and related facilities at Huron Meadows Metropark.

Arens said the proposed service building will include an estimated 1,700 square feet for park service equipment maintenance; approximately 4,500 square feet of equipment/supply storage space with provisions for pesticide loading and storage; and an estimated 1,700 square feet of space for office, mechanical equipment, rest rooms and employee areas.

Arens said in accordance with Board direction on Feb. 9, 2012 to seek proposals for design services from multiple firms, requests for proposals (RFPs) were issued to four firms whose qualification and experience recommended their consideration. All of these firms have had prior successful experience with HCMA.

Arens said proposals were received on April 19, 2012 and subsequently evaluated and ranked by a five-member panel consisting of HCMA staff. Proponents were required to submit their cost proposal in separate, sealed envelopes in their proposal package. Panel members were not provided with cost proposal during their evaluation, to insure that evaluation was based primarily on qualification rather than cost.

Arens said based on staff's evaluation, we believe Lindhout Associates best qualified for the project. This evaluation is based generally on their experience in maintenance facility design; the quality of their portfolio; and their attention to issues specifically related to the needs of this project. It should again be noted that the evaluation and ranking was made independently of cost proposals.

It was moved by Commissioner Marans, supported by Commissioner McCarthy that the Board of Commissioners accept the proposal of Lindhout Associates to provide architectural design services for the proposed Park Service Building project at Huron Meadows Metropark in the amount of \$45,900.00 as recommended by Chief Engineer Arens and staff.

Motion carried unanimously.

9. Reports

E. Hudson Mills

1. Approval – Supplemental Appropriations Adjustment, Golf Course

Chief of Natural Resources Muelle said that at the April 12, 2012 Board meeting, staff was authorized to commence tornado damage clean-up efforts at Hudson Mills Metropark and to award tree removal work to Fodor Timber, Inc. of Grass Lake, Michigan in the amount of \$150,000 and to recover and sell all merchantable timber to partially offset clean-up costs.

Muelle said those clean-up efforts began on April 20 on the golf course maintenance road and have progressed on to the back nine of the course; and that a funds transfer totaling \$150,000 from the Reserve for Future Contingencies account is required at this time.

It was moved by Commissioner Lester, supported by Commissioner Marans that the Board of Commissioners (1) receive and file the Hudson Mills Golf Course Storm Damage Clean-up report and, (2) approve the transfer of funds in the total amount of \$150,000 from Reserves to cover the expenditures as recommended by Chief of Natural Resources Muelle and staff.

Motion carried unanimously.

F. Administrative Office

1. Approval – Early Retirement Window Pension Plan Amendment

Controller Wahl reported pursuant to the recently negotiated and approved “early retirement window” by all four units of the HCMA Employees Association, it is necessary to amend the HCMA Employees’ Retirement Plan and Trust Agreement.

Wahl said to this end, the attached Fourth Amendment to the Pension Plan detailing the provisions of the early retirement window has been developed to formally amend the Plan. This amendment will allow HCMA Employees Association members to retire between April 1 and June 30, 2012 after age 55 with 25 years service unreduced or after age 60 with 10 years’ service unreduced. Employees would be given credit for their Aug. 1, 2012 wage rates in the calculation of final average earnings.

Wahl said this Fourth Amendment has been reviewed by our actuary (Gabriel, Roeder, Smith & Co.) and legal counsel (Miller Canfield). Both firms concur that the Fourth Amendment is in order as to form and content for Plan amendment purposes.

The Pension Committee met prior to the May 10, 2012 Board meeting and approved requesting the Board of Commissioners to adopt the Fourth Amendment.

It was moved by Commissioner Marans, supported by Commissioner McCarthy that the Board of Commissioners approve the Fourth Amendment to the Pension Trust Agreement as recommended by Pension Trustee Wahl.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Approval – U.S. Steel/Wayne County Tax Refund Agreement

Controller Wahl reported that on April 23, 2012, HCMA was advised of a Consent Judgment from the Michigan Tax Tribunal (MTT) involving United States Steel’s challenges of property tax assessments in River Rouge and Ecorse for the years 2003 to 2011. MTT approved taxable value reductions of 37 percent for River Rouge properties and 41 percent for Ecorse properties. The net impact of these taxable value reductions for HCMA results in an MTT ordered refund of \$187,549.59. U.S. Steel is offering HCMA a discount of \$13,549.59 (7.2 percent) if paid to them by June 29, 2012 (net refund = \$174,000.00).

Wayne County Corporation Counsel has developed the attached agreement with U.S. Steel to facilitate these refunds from local units. Miller Canfield has reviewed this agreement on behalf of HCMA and finds format and content satisfactory.

Further discussion was held.

It was moved by Commissioner Hertel, supported by Commissioner Marans that the Board of Commissioners (1) approve the Local Unit Refund Agreement between U.S. Steel, HCMA and Wayne County, and (2) authorize Controller Wahl to issue a lump sum refund check to the Wayne County Treasurer in the amount of \$174,000 in accordance with the terms of the Agreement.

Commissioner Lester voted no.

Motion carried.

9. Reports

F. Administrative Office

3. Approval – Department of Homeland Security’s Operation Stonegarden Grant Program

Chief of Police George Phifer reported that law enforcement agencies throughout the state of Michigan were taking proactive steps to preserve and safeguard various communities from potential terrorist’s activities. Phifer said in an effort to prepare for any potential incident that may occur in and around the Metroparks, the Metroparks Police Department has partnered with Macomb County Emergency Management, to receive grant funds under the Department of Homeland Security’s Operation Stonegarden Grant Program (OPSG). The focus for these grants was to provide federal funding to support local jurisdictions with equipment, exercises, organizing, planning and training as it relates to law enforcement operational activities along the U.S. – Canadian border.

Phifer said the Metroparks Police Department has been awarded two grants, one grant for \$13,000 for the 2009 OPSG, and another grant for \$35,000 for the 2010 OPSG. This funding will allow the Metroparks Police Department to purchase two (2) All Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) and seven (7) Mobile Data Computers. This equipment will also be used, to prevent non terrorist activities which could result in a CBRNE incident.

Phifer said the grants were reimbursable, and required the local jurisdiction provide upfront funding to purchase the equipment.

It was moved by Commissioner Marans, supported by Commissioner Hertel that the Board of Commissioners authorize staff to transfer \$48,000 from the Reserve account to the Lake St. Clair Equipment account to cover the cost of the purchases for the ATVs and Mobile Data Computers; once the funds are received, the Reserve account will be reimbursed at the end of the year as recommended by Chief of Police George Phifer and staff.

Motion carried unanimously.

4. Approval – Procurement Card Program

Deputy Director Almas reported that the procedures for the pilot program for the Procurement Card were included in the Board packets for review. Almas said currently there were 36 people that were authorized to make purchases on open accounts and with the Procurement Card, 32 people would initially be authorized card holders.

Almas said pending Board approval of the Credit/Procurement Card Policy amendments, a four-month pilot program would be scheduled for the Southern District. Real reductions in staffing levels have and are occurring at the park operational level and administrative accounting level. The efficiencies and increased accountability of P-Cards and the improved “procure to pay” process will assist in the Metroparks goal to do more with less.

It was moved by Commissioner McCarthy, supported by Commissioner McCulloch that the Board of Commissioners approve the Credit Card/Procurement Card Policy as recommended by Purchasing Manager Michael, and Deputy Director Almas and staff.

Motion carried unanimously.

9. Reports

F. Administrative Office

5. Approval – Beer and Wine Sales for New Summer and Fall 2012 Events

Director Moilanen reported that Marketing manager, Kassie Kretzschmar, has been working with various companies and organizations to create new events for the Metroparks and staff would like Board approval to move forward with the new events.

Moilanen said that to encourage a festival atmosphere, radio station events include food stations, DJ's, live bands and a charity beer tent all within an enclosed area (snow fencing around the area with multiple entry points). These events are first-year events and we would like to make them annual events if all goes well this year.

Moilanen said staff is seeking Board approval for beer and wine sales as part of these 2012 festivals and that all beer and wine proceeds will go to designated charities.

Moilanen said these events are important for the Metroparks since they will help bring in large crowds and toll revenue; give the Metroparks extensive media exposure in advertising packages, plus on-air exposure with live broadcasts from the park; and hopefully expose us to new people who may not be familiar with the Metroparks. Offering a full range of services and activities at these events is essential to their success. There have been no regulatory issues regarding the sale of beer and wine at similar events. Staff will ensure compliance with all insurance and Michigan Liquor Control Commission requirements.

Moilanen also said proof of insurance and naming the Metroparks as an additionally insured will be provided for each of these events.

It was moved by Commissioner McCulloch, supported by Commissioner Lester that the Board of Commissioners approve beer/wine sales for these 2012 events at Lake St. Clair and Kensington Metroparks as recommended by Director Moilanen and staff.

Further discussion was held and the recommendation was amended.

It was moved by Commissioner McCulloch, supported by Commissioner Lester that the Board of Commissioners approve beer/wine sales for the 2012 events at Lake St. Clair and Kensington Metroparks and the Board authorizes staff to execute any necessary agreements after legal counsel review as recommended by Director Moilanen and staff.

Motion as amended carried unanimously.

6. Donations

Deputy Director Almas requested the Board accept the April donations:

- James Nicholson made an \$8,000 cash donation to be used for landscaping at the Nature Center at Lake St. Clair Metropark.
- Richard Whitwam with the Pointe Mouillee Waterfowl Festival made a \$500 cash donation to buy microscopes for educational purposes to be used at the Lake Erie Metropark Marshlands Museum and Nature Center.
- Bill Arlow made a \$350 cash donation to purchase a bench with plaque to be placed at Lake Erie Metropark.
- Al Farkas made a \$350 cash donation for a bench and plaque to be placed at Lake Erie Metropark.
- Dick Simmons made a \$300 cash donation for a bench to be placed near the nature trail at Kensington Metropark.
- John and Susan Witek made a \$300 cash donation for a bench to be placed near the nature trail at Kensington Metropark.
- Mary Jo Firth Gillett made a \$300 cash donation for a memorial bench honoring Dennis Firth to be placed near the Fox Run Trail at the Nature Center at Kensington Metropark.

- Theresa Chesney made a \$300 cash donation for memorial bench honoring Michael Bertrand to be placed near the East Boat Launch at Kensington Metropark.

It was moved by Commissioner Marans, supported by Commissioner McCarthy that the Board of Commissioners accept the donations and a letter of appreciation be sent to the donors as recommended by Deputy Director Almas and staff.

Further discussion was held.

Motion carried unanimously.

9. Reports

F. Administrative Office

7. Legislative Report

Legislative Consultant George Carr reported that the Personal Property Tax Bill (SB 1065-72) will have an impact on local units of government. Carr reported that the Michigan Senate voted on the PPT package during the Board meeting and Carr was pleased to report the Senate passed version provided a formula for complete reimbursement of any future loss of PPT revenue to the Authority. The Senate also adopted an annual funding mechanism for local units, while not a constitutional guarantee, does enhance the potential for the required reimbursement funding.

Carr reported that the PPT package as introduced posed several challenges to the Authority including the difficulty in determining the potential fiscal impact. A significant portion of the data required for the analysis needed to be acquired from the five counties comprising the HCMA district. Carr said this information was compiled by Chief Accountant Franchock and along with her estimate for Wayne County it was compiled into the initial analysis.

Carr said the analysis revealed the PPT package would:

- Reduce HCMA tax revenues by over \$6.0 million from 2012 through 2021;
- Limit HCMA reimbursement over the same period to \$447,000 or roughly 7 percent;
- Subject HCMA to an annual state appropriations challenge including all other local units and school districts with no guaranteed revenue source; and
- Give the State Treasurer great latitude to unilaterally consolidate and potentially eliminate individual local units, including HCMA, in the annual reimbursement process.

Carr said the fiscal analysis was presented by Ms. Franchock in a meeting with Sen. Brandenburg's staff on May 4 in Lansing and that he met with Sen. Brandenburg on May 8 on the PPT issue.

Carr said that the legislation was sent to the House where it is widely expected to remain until the post general election "lame duck" session this fall. Even though there will be little formal House activity on PPT significant work will be ongoing this summer with the House in private meetings and discussions.

Carr said the Authority and Ms. Franchock did a good job putting the information together.

It was moved by Commissioner Herel, supported by Commissioner Lester that the Board of Commissioners receive and file the legislative report as submitted by Legislative Consultant Carr.

Motion carried unanimously.

10. Director's Comments

Director Moilanen said that after 32 years of full-time service and another six years of part-time employment with the Metroparks, that it was time for him to retire effective August 4. Moilanen said he considered it a blessing and privilege to work for such a worthy, important and prestigious organization for all these years, and to have served in a variety of capacities. Moilanen said he appreciates the opportunity to act as deputy director and director for the Metroparks for the past six years.

Moilanen continued to say he hopes he has served the Metroparks well and helped to further its mission. It has been an honor and pleasure to work with such a talented and dedicated group of people and that he wishes everyone the best and pray that the Board and staff will work together to guide the Metroparks through these difficult times. Moilanen said if the Board desired, he stands ready to help in any way he can with the orderly transition to a new director.

Moilanen also said as a reminder, the May 17 Board Retreat would be held at the Administrative office to go over the Five-Year-Plan.

Moilanen said the next commission meeting would be held at the Nature Center at Kensington Metropark and that the dedication of the new golf clubhouse would immediately follow the commission meeting.

Moilanen also said that the Board will hold its annual election for officer positions at the June meeting.

Commissioner Marrocco told Moilanen that he has done a fine job for the Metroparks, and he hopes the Board finds a worthy successor.

11. Commissioner Comments

Commissioner McCulloch provided the Board with an update regarding the search for a new Controller. McCulloch said he spoke with Plante & Moran and Carol Stone regarding the salary range and posting. McCulloch said Plante & Moran would screen the initial applications and reduce the number of applicants down to a short list of qualified candidates. Plante & Moran would then present these applicants to the full Board for interviews.

McCulloch said he had a copy of the Letter of Engagement from Plante & Moran so that the Board could continue to move forward with the selection process.

Controller Wahl inquired about the timing of the selection process.

Commissioner McCulloch indicated the Board is well aware of the Aug. 31 retirement date for Controller Wahl

Commissioner Marrocco said he would like the Authority's legal counsel to review the Letter of Engagement before the Board enters into the agreement.

McCulloch said he would like the Board to approve the Letter of Engagement with Plante & Moran, subject to review and approval of legal counsel.

It was moved by Commissioner Hertel, supported by Commissioner Marans that the Board of Commissioners approve the Letter of Engagement with Plante & Moran subject to the review and approval of the Authority's legal counsel.

Motion carried unanimously.

McCulloch said he would also like to work with Carol Stone to create a format to evaluate staff officers; that the Board should lay out some expectations of officers and provide a roadmap of what the Board expects. McCulloch said he wanted to bring this back to the Board at the July meeting.

McCulloch asked if the Board and staff were limited to 90 minutes for the Five-Year-Plan? McCulloch said it shouldn't be a problem if the meeting went beyond 90 minutes.

McCulloch also said he would like the Chief of Police to meet with the various county sheriffs' departments to see what the cost would be to contract out the Authority's law enforcement services.

McCulloch also said he believed the Board should look into putting an executive committee together to work with senior staff to review what should or should not be on the board agenda. McCulloch said he believes the Board should have input, and that if things need to change on the agenda, the Board should be involved.

Commissioner Marans said he was sorry to see Dave Moilanen submit his resignation and he asked that the Board devote a portion of the special meeting to discuss the director's replacement.

Commissioner Lester said he wanted a motion that the Board extend Kassie Kretzschmar's contract agreement from May 16, 2012 to May 15, 2013 which was stated in the original contract.

It was moved by Commissioner Lester, supported by Commissioner McCarthy that the Board of Commissioners extend Marketing Manager Kassie Kretzschmar's contract agreement from May 16, 2012 to May 15, 2013 which was what in the original contract.

Commissioner Marrocco voted no.

Motion carried.

Commissioner Lester told Director Moilanen to enjoy his retirement.

Commissioner Hertel left the meeting room at 12:37 p.m.

Commissioner Marrocco commented that golf rounds were up 300 percent and that revenue is only up 200 percent; and shouldn't there be a 1-to-1 ratio.

Deputy Director Almas replied that unseasonable weather dramatically increased rounds in March winter rates were different in March when winter rates were in effect.

12. Motion to Adjourn

It was moved by Commissioner Lester, supported by Commissioner McCarthy that the Board of Commissioners adjourn the regular meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 12:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



George Phifer
Executive Secretary