

CHISAGO COUNTY PARK BOARD OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, September 16, 2021 - **DRAFT**

At 3:00 pm, Thursday, September 16, 2021 Chair Wille called the meeting of the Chisago County Park Board of Directors at the Chisago County Government Center. The following members present: Jolene Wille, Dan Kaiser, Frank Storm, Jill Sicheneder and Gregg Carlson. Also present: County Commissioner Mike Robinson, Joe Tart; Park Director, Kurt Schneider; Environmental Services Director, and Diane Sander; Support Specialist.

Meeting Summary:

- Unanimously the Board approved the amended agenda
- Unanimously the Board approved the June 17, 2021 meeting minutes
- Unanimously the Board approved the August 19, 2021 meeting minutes

Meeting was called to order by Chair Wille.

Gregg Carlson requested adding Swedish Immigrant Regional Trail (SIRT) Shafer to Center City segment update to the agenda. Motion by Gregg Carlson to approve the amended agenda. Second by Dan Kaiser and carried unanimously.

Motion by Gregg Carlson to approve the original stated June 17, 2021 minutes. Second by Dan Kaiser and carried unanimously.

Motion by Dan Kaiser to approve the August 19, 2021 minutes. Second by Frank Storm and carried unanimously.

Park Requested County Board Action Items

Director Tart reviewed the Parks Department Request for Board Action (RBA) for the September 1, 2021 County Board meeting. First RBA was the City of Wyoming Railroad Park project. Action requested was considering financial and/or other support for the development plan. County Board passed the request to Chisago County HRA-EDA. Second RBA was Checkerboard Park Lutz property acquisition. Action requested was authorize and approve signature of the grant agreement and authorize acquisition. County Board approved staff to proceed with grant execution. Third RBA was the SIRT Segment C Feasibility Study Report. Action requested was to receive the SIRT Feasibility Study report which identifies trail alignment possibilities and constraints within the City of Taylors Falls. County Board approved the report which concludes the grant project. Future grant applications and construction will need City of Taylors Falls to be the lead agent.

Sunrise Prairie Regional Trail (SPRT) – Segment G

Director Tart reviewed the grant application process for the SPRT – Segment G. The application process includes: State Historic Preservation review, Natural Heritage Review, Wetland Review, Land Approval Certification, Maps, Summary/Descriptions, Financial Information, and Trailhead amenities/location in the City of Harris.

SIRT Pollinator Planting Project

Director Tart provided an overview of the Cooperator Agreement for the SIRT Pollinator Planting Project with the Bee & Butterfly Habitat Fund (BBHF). Grant match was outlined for equipment usage and labor. Volunteers are needed for seeding on Saturday, October 30, 2021. Need at least six volunteers. October was picked to avoid trail closure prior to hunting, snow, and avoid pre-winter germination.

SIRT – Shafer to Center City Segment Update

Gregg Carlson on behalf of a county resident was inquiring if any work and/or outreach has been done with landowners along SIRT in the final section to connect the trail between Shafer and Center City. Director Schneider reported we budgeted matching funds in the five-year Capital Improvement Budget and have not talked with the three landowners. Parks Department has focused on closing the SIRT grant and gathering needed information to start the SPRT grant.

Staff Report

Director Tart displayed Adopt-a-Trail Condition Reports, status on the informational kiosks at the City of Shafer and Tern Avenue, hunters are applying for permits, and park and trail improvements that have been completed. Fish Lake beach is closed for the season, staff is updating the collection report, and status of staffing.

Adjourn - Motion by Dan Kaiser to adjourn the meeting. Second by Jill Sicheneder and carried unanimously.