Marion County Parks And Recreation Commission

_June 22, 2026___ – Regular Meeting Minutes

6:00 PM CVB Conference Room

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:
Jay Ford, President
Robert Brookover, Vice Pres.
Craig White, Secretary
J. Philip Burton, Treasurer
Jimmy Bledsoe
Tracy Evans
Rick Garcia
Cathy Maxwell
Frank Moore
Josh Rice
Dave Shaw

STAFF PRESENT:
Tony Michalski, Director
Tina Mascaro, Sports Management Director

GUESTS:

I. Opening of the meeting and approval of minutes

The meeting was called to order at __6:00_p.m. by _Jay Ford_(President).

The motion was made by __Cathy Maxwell_ and seconded by __Tracy Evans__ for the **approval of the minutes** for _May 18, 2026__. Motion Carried ___X___ Motion Denied _____

II. Financial Report for ___May 2026_____

The June levy check was received; this gets us over 2 million for the year which is where we should be.
The credit card statements were included in the board packets for review as requested by board members. Bob questioned the charges and asked how many cc's were issued (4 – Tony, Tina, Krystie, Ryan) and if we needed that many. He also questioned why they were used so much instead of paying by check. Reply – convenience, some places need immediate payment, some recurring bills/annual fees are paid with the cc. Bob was upset that there was not a voucher sheet included in the financial statements for review. Tony indicated that the board meeting fell at a time when the bookkeeper was in the process of completing paperwork on over 90 seasonal staff members and was not able to get all the financials done in time for the board packet. It was asked who reconciles the credit card expenditures – Krystie and Tony both look at all expenses.

The motion was made by __Frank Moore___ and seconded by __Rick Garcia__ for the **financial report and invoices** for __May 2026 as they were presented___. Motion Carried ____X_____ Motion Denied _____

III. Committee Reports

a. Program and Planning
b. Finance
c. Nominating
d. Personnel

IV. Director's Report

a. Pickleball Complex Ribbon Cutting was held June 6th – A picture of the event was included in the packet. Tony thanked those that could attend. Snacks were served and paddles and balls were raffled off. A portion of the group in attendance also went to see the new wave waves at the pool.
b. MCPARC FY ending 2027 fiscal budget – Tony distributed copies of the proposed budget and reviewed it for all. It was asked 'what if we don't get the requested $50,000 from the Board of Education', response 'then we will have to amend the budget'. Tony will invoice them after July 1. It was asked what the cost of renting our pavilions was. Gazebo - $75, Central Terrace $125, Curtisville $40, Pav. 1 $270, Pav. 2 $180, Pav. 3, 4 & 6 $80, Pav. 5 $50, Band Stand $30, Police Reserve Building $160, Guyses Run & Mary Lou $40, Worthington $30. It was asked if we should increase the prices – Tony stated that we could decide that for next year. Pool prices are some of the lowest in the area – Wave Pool - $6 and $5, 12th Street - $3 & $2; those haven't been raised in years, and Tony would like to keep those prices. Discussion was held regarding the day camp prices, which are only $16/day and that includes early drop-off 7:30-9:00am, lunch and pool every day. All were in favor of increasing the price next year. Discussion was held as to why we don't get any funding from the City of Fairmont. Tony explained that they have their own parks department and they don't ask us for assistance in any of their parks and we've never asked them. Bob suggested that we should ask Travis to see if they have any funding that we could use for our various projects.

The motion was made by __Dave Shaw__ and seconded by __Josh Rice__ for the **approval of** __proposed FY ending 2027 MCPARC budget _. Motion Carried __X___ Motion Denied _____

c. MCPARC seasonal hiring – Krystie has done a fantastic job getting all of the necessary paperwork from all the new seasonal employees and completing their on-boarding process. There are close to 100 seasonal employees – lifeguards, concession stand, playground and day camp.
d. MCPARC Playground and Day Camp program – both started on June 15th. Over 100 children in attendance the first day of day camp; over 200 attended the first day of the playground programs. Mannington started with the largest number of children, over 60 and our new site at MLR park started with 15. All sites are being fed a free lunch that is being prepared by the Marion County Board of Education. Josh asked why we only offer the programs for 6 weeks because he's heard such positive feedback from the programs. Tony responded that if you have if for more than 30 days it then becomes a 'day care' type of site and the regulations change and MCPARC isn't qualified to run a day care.
e. Swim lessons – the first session began June 22 at the 12th Street pool with almost a capacity number of children registered.
f. Vandalism at MLR park – we have had several weekends with vandalism at the bathrooms and other areas of MLR park. Tony was interviewed by WBOY about the issue and while they were there he discussed the playground program with them and they said they'd come back next week to do a story on the program.

V. Sports Management Director Report

- **a.** Community Engagement
  - **i.** MCPARC donated daily pool passes to the FSHS Polar Plunge.
  - **ii.** MCPARC donated daily pool passes to the Literacy Readers.
  - **iii.** MCPARC donated daily pool passes to Fairview Elementary.
  - **iv.** Special Thanks to the Master Gardeners who donated their left-over plants from their annual spring sale to the MCPARC Community Garden.
  - **v.** Special Thanks to Cindy King (the Barefoot Farmer) who donated plants to the MCPARC Community Garden.
  - **vi.** Special Thanks to Fairmont State University who donated their old preschool playground equipment to MCPARC. We have installed it in the EM park behind the large bathroom.
- **b.** Programs
  - **i.** EM softball field is now being used by the new 304 softball league for practices. MCPARC continues to cut and drag that field for them.
  - **ii.** All fields at MLR park are still being used by FLL for all-star practices. This will end mid-June. The 304 Softball league will begin playing some of their games on the c-field there so maintenance continues to service all those fields.
  - **iii.** The MCYS association program ended with the Denardi-Wright tournament last weekend. Maintenance will now begin the summer turf program on those fields to help prepare them for fall soccer.
  - **iv.** The Worthington and Hutchinson fields are still being used by Fringe LL and MCGFPSA for practices.
  - **v.** The 'Run to Remember 5K' was held on the McTrail June 13th.
  - **vi.** June 6th was National Trails Day and MCPARC held an event on the West Fork Trail.
  - **vii.** The MCPARC Community Garden is being utilized by Girl Scouts and MCPARC.
  - **viii.** There is a bridge out on the West Fork between Monongah and Everson. Maintenance has place appropriate 'closed' signage and detour signs so that the trail can remain open and safe for all users.
  - **ix.** The MCPARC Gandy Dancer bus trip was a fun event for all. Several of the bus trips have had to be cancelled due to lack of participation. Tony noted in the budget discussion that we'll re-evaluate the bus trip program for next year.
  - **x.** Session 1 of the tennis lessons began June 1st. Hunter Bragg is the instructor again.
  - **xi.** Both pools opened on May 23 and we are currently fully staffed in both the concession area and the lifeguards. All head guards have now been trained on the new wave equipment. Additional cameras needed to be installed at the 12th Street pool.
  - **xii.** We worked diligently in preparing both the day camp and playground programs which began June 15th. We've had record numbers at many sites already.
- **c.** Upcoming events
  - **i.** Session 1 swim lessons – June 22nd
  - **ii.** Session 2 tennis lessons – June 22nd

iii. World's Largest Swim Lesson – June 25th
iv. Rail trail family walk – July 12th
v. WVAQ-Freedom Play Day at the Wave Pool – July 17th
vi. National Night Out at EM park – August 4th

VI. Maintenance Report

The report was included in the board packet listing many of the accomplishments of the maintenance team. Highlights include: work on new pickleball courts, completion of shade structure on Central Terrace, removal of fallen trees from storms, installation of a new slide pool pump, removal of small playground from FSU and installation at EM, repair of leaks at wave pool, repair of lift station at EM, repair of doors to wave machine at wave pool, many repairs at 12th Street pool, painting of pavilions, seasonal mowing, removal of small building at Koons Run, and much more.

VII. New Business

a. County Commissioner (Bobby Devaul) submitted a first draft of an MOU between MCPARC, FSU, and MCBoE in regard to a proposed turf project at MLR park. Discussion was held:

Would like to see Sr, C and the football field turfed instead of B & A.

MCPARC doesn't have the proposed $750,000 to contribute. Even if their current loan is forgiven, we don't have that much up-front funds.

Will the proposed $4 million that has been raised be enough? Who will cover the difference?

How will scheduling be with FSU games? FSHS games? Who has priority?

Safety issue with a college game was discussed – balls going to A and C field or to the neighborhood.

The board requested to table the MOU and would like to schedule a meeting with the county commissioners and other parties involved to discuss these questions in person and more.

b. Senator Justice will be in attendance at the war memorial on June 30th at 3:00 and Tony has been asked to speak. We've asked Bobby Devaul to meet with us regarding the MLR project either before or after this event.

c. Tina presented a proposed MOU for a group that wants to start a travel soccer club in Marion County and use the For The Kids Soccer Complex. There wasn't time for discussion so the MOU will be emailed to all board members tomorrow morning for review and then it can be voted on at the next board meeting.

VIII. President's Remarks - none

IX. Around the Horn

a. J. Bledsoe – no comment
b. R. Brookover – no comment
c. P. Burton - absent
d. T. Evans – recommends the play "Come From Away", a musical at FSU. Her son is actually participating in it and it was a great play.
e. J. Ford – no comment

f. **R. Garcia** – he was approached by Pat Bonasso and their family requests that we change the name of the FTK soccer complex to the Russell F Bonasso Soccer Complex. Tony will contact the county to see if there are any issues with it and we'll put it on the agenda for the next board meeting.
g. **C. Maxwell** – extended her compliments for the new pickleball courts and the usage they are getting.
h. **F. Moore** – would like to see us work with the City, County, BofE to come up with a 5-year strategic plan regarding parks in the county and hopes that all entities could work together to achieve this.
i. **J. Rice** – was witness to one of our lifeguards (Jack Santee) at the wave pool go above and beyond at the Special Olympic Swim and would like to recognize him in some way.
j. **D. Shaw** – no comment
k. **C. White** – absent

With no further business, the motion was made by __Bob Brookover__ and seconded by ___Frank Moore__ for meeting adjournment at __7:15__ PM. The motion carried.

Tina Mascaro Sports Management Director June 23, 2026

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Minutes Recorded By (Signature) Title Date

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Approved/ Disapproved Initials Date