Marion County Parks And Recreation Commission

___March 16, 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 __6:05__p.m. by _Jay Ford_(President).

Board Members – Ford, Shaw, Moore, Brookover, White, Bledsoe, Rice and Maxwell were all in attendance for the pre-meeting held at 5:30 to discuss the submitted grant applications.

The motion was made by _Dave Shaw__ and seconded by _Frank Moore_ for the **approval of the minutes** for _February 23, 2026___. Motion Carried __X__ Motion Denied _____

II. Financial Report for __February 2026___

Discussion – a levy check for $431,000 came in which was more than anticipated bringing our total ytd to ~$1,732,000 projected end of year closer to ~$2,000,000 which is more than the $1.8 million we had budgeted. Question – what was the compressor purchase for? Response – it operates the wave machine and we saved over $8000 by purchasing it separately on our own instead of from the company installing the new wave equipment. Ryan (maintenance supervisor) did the research and worked with the wave company on what we needed to purchase. Tony – there is a $39,000 masonry expense for that isn't in the report. Response – the repair work at the wave pool where the new equipment is going as well as the engineering report for the repair; pictures of the work were included. Question – what happened to one of the trucks ($4500 bill)? Response – transmission went out and it took over 3 months for them to repair it. Truck broke down again and it was traded.

The motion was made by __Craig White__ and seconded by __Bob Brookover__ for the **financial report and invoices** for __February 2026__. Motion Carried ___X____ Motion Denied _____

III. Committee Reports - none

IV. Director's Report

a. Community Grant - Board members met at 5:30 to discuss the grants that were submitted. 21 grants submitted, 9 of those requests were from Marion County Board of Education schools, and the following communities all submitted requests – Carolina, Fairview, Bunner's Ridge, Idamay, Monongah, Parish Run, and Barrackville. Grant totals requested were $97, 842 and approximately $62, 985 was submitted for approval. Signs have been ordered for all participants who receive a grant that read "This project is supported by the MCPARC Community Grant Program". Discussions were held regarding each request and if it met the grant guidelines. There was discussion that "Your tax dollars at work" should be added to the signs, but they have already been ordered so Tony noted that we can change the signs next year.

The motion was made by __Dave Shaw__ and seconded by _Craig White_ for the **approval of** recommended grant allocations submitted by Tony with the changes discussed, except for the EFHS wrestling request___. Motion Carried ___X____ Motion Denied _____

The motion was made by __Josh Rice__ and seconded by _Jimmy Bledsoe_ for the **approval of** _approving the requested grant submitted by the EF wrestling groups with the understanding that this would get them to the total they need to purchase the equipment___. Motion Carried __with 6 voting yes, 2 no, and 2 abstaining_____ Motion Denied _____

b. FEMA update – we are still waiting the $48,000 reimbursement funds. They have requested additional information that was previously submitted. Tony will get everything sent in again.
c. West Fork River Trail Debris Removal – Reclaim is in the process of getting the necessary permits approved for the project and will begin as soon as everything is in place.
d. Vietnam Veterans Memorial Management Agreement – a copy of the management agreement drafted by Chuck Shields for the Marion County Vietnam Veteran Memorial was submitted for review. The agreement was discussed with all parties in a meeting last November. This is something that will not be in place until the MCVVM can no longer sustain itself.
e. Wave Pool Project update – the pool wall has been repaired, and photos were submitted for board review. The new compressor has arrived, and the maintenance team is in the process of constructing a structure to house it. The pool has been drained, and we are in the process of cleaning. The third payment to Hydrotech has been sent and we are on schedule for the new wave equipment installation to begin on April 15th.
f. Project Updates
    i. The decking on pavilion 2 at EM Park in being replaced and pictures were submitted.
    ii. Several trees throughout EM park were removed and stumps grinded.
    iii. We are preparing to turn the water on in all parks, weather permitting, so we can open bathrooms.
    iv. The entry way for 12th Street Pool has been painted and there are plans to improve the outer stone area and lettering before opening.
    v. The wooden lifeguard platform at the wave pool has been removed and it will be replaced with a new one with new guard chairs.

vi. New drainage has been added around the pickleball courts at MLR park, and pictures were submitted. We are hoping this additional drainage will help these courts.
vii. The first round of spring stockings has been completed at Guyses Run.
viii. We are preparing for opening day at the campgrounds and the Family Fishing Day event on Good Friday at Curtisville Lake.
ix. We have started working on all athletic fields at our parks.
x. We are in the process of hiring seasonal maintenance employees.
xi. A truckload of Duraedge infield mix was delivered to North Marion High School for the baseball team and we will be making some improvements to the NMHS softball field.

V. Sports Management Director Report

a. Community Engagement –
i. Thank you to the Town of Whitehall for co-sponsorship of our Kids Day event at Guyses Run on May 2.
ii. Working with EQT on a possible sponsorship of one of our fishing events.
iii. MCPARC will be taking the Maintenance team to the Morgantown Home Show on March 27th.

b. Programs
i. The MCPARC 2026 event calendar has been updated and shared.
ii. I've been working closely with our maintenance team to get all fields open for use. The weather has made preparing fields difficult.
iii. The K-3 basketball program ended on March 1st. It served over 250 kids.
iv. Fairmont Little League workday is scheduled for March 14th and MCPARC will assist.
v. Marion County Soccer Club field workday is set for March 21st.
vi. MCPARC hosted a Turkish Lamp Mosaic Art event on March 15th and the those who attended were grateful for the adult program.
vii. All MOU's have been signed and returned to MCPARC. Teams have begun practicing and games will begin soon.
viii. The Community Grant deadline was March 11th, and the committee will meet prior to the March board meeting to discuss allocations.
ix. I attended the WV Outdoor Economy Summit and made several great connections. Interested parties feel that the Bunner's Ridge site can be a NCWV Destination Site and excited about the prospects.
x. MCPARC will be sponsoring a lifeguard certification course through the American Red Cross April 10–12.

c. Upcoming Events and Programs
i. April 1 – Curtisville Lake Park & Campground opens
ii. April 3 – Curtisville Lake Family Fishing Day
iii. April 11 – Fairmont Little League Opening Day at MLR Park
iv. April 11 – Guyses Run Fishing Park opens
v. April 20 – MCPARC Community Band practice begins
vi. April 25 – Celebrate Trails Day (McTrail)
vii. May 2 – Bus Trip – Keystone Safari & Grove City Outlets
viii. May 2 – Kids Day at Guyses Run

VI. Maintenance Report – The February report was submitted and included numerous items of things they completed over the past month – repairs, construction, maintenance, cleaning.

VII. New Business

Wednesday, March 18th we are meeting with the Pickleball surfacing company on-site; the project is moving forward on schedule.

American Fence company is anticipating starting repair work this week beginning with Guyses Run.

VIII. President's Remarks

Thank you to those who were able to attend the Community Grant allocation meeting tonight. Jay would like Tony to get the Program and Planning (long-term vision) meeting scheduled before the April meeting and all commissioners are invited to attend.

IX. Around the Horn

a. **J. Bledsoe** – suggested that letters be sent to each of the principals and AD's of the schools in which MCPARC has put in fields or done work to their fields stating the amount MCPARC has spent and the lack of upkeep to these sites. The letter should also note the amount of times these teams have asked for additional funding and or work be done on the fields that they failed to maintain.
b. **R. Brookover** – no comment
c. **P. Burton** – the disc golf Ice Bowl raised $15, 630 for the soup opera and just received an anonymous donation of $1000 to add to the total
d. **T. Evans** – no comment
e. **J. Ford** – no comment
f. **R. Garcia** – any update on the Whitehall property? Response – we are still waiting on their attorneys to finalize some details regarding annexation and DEP issues.
g. **C. Maxwell** – no comment
h. **F. Moore** – is there someone following up with us after the wave pool install to monitor the construction and ensure it is working properly? Response – it is in the contract that they will have someone on-site to oversee the construction, implementation and instruction of operating procedures with MCPARC employees.
i. **J. Rice** – have we had the meeting with other county/city agencies yet? Response – no, and we need to get that scheduled. We'd like to include Bd of Ed, County Comm., City of Fairmont, Chamber of Commerce, Visitors Bureau, and the mayors of all local towns. Tina will look into getting something schedule in late April.
j. **D. Shaw** – no comment
k. **C. White** – he had someone from the MLR park area approach him as to why there are no tennis courts in that area anymore. Response – the lack of interest and cost of maintenance was what prompted the removal of those courts years ago.

With no further business, the motion was made by __Josh Rice__ and seconded by __Craig White__ for meeting adjournment at __6:45__ PM. The motion carried.

Tina Mascaro	Sports Management Director	3-17-2026
Minutes Recorded By (Signature)	Title	Date
Approved/ Disapproved	Initials	Date