

Marion County Parks And Recreation Commission

__February 23, 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 - phone
Rick Garcia
Cathy Maxwell
Frank Moore - phone
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 __5:59__p.m. by __Jay Ford__(President).

The motion was made by _Phil Burton_ and seconded by _Jimmy Bledsoe_ for the **approval of the minutes** for _January 2026__. Motion Carried ___X_____ Motion Denied _____

II. Financial Report for _January 2026__

Discussion – Phil questioned if the current balance was down from last year – Tony expects us to get the other \$600,000 in levy checks in the coming months. Board of Education check came in and was only \$40,000 (MCPARC requested \$60,000). What was the asphalt bill for? – the new pickleball courts at EM and the surrounding area. Bob questioned the utility bills – each park has utility service, and most can't be turned off in the winter months.

Tony distributed copies of the Audit report findings and praised the diligent work of Krystie Davis for having everything is perfect order which made the audit go smoothly.

The motion was made by _Cathy Maxwell_ and seconded by __Bob Brookover__ for the **financial report and invoices** for _January 2026__. Motion Carried ___X_____ Motion Denied _____

III. Committee Reports

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

IV. Director's Report

- a. 2026 MCPARC Community Grant Program – community grant applications are available online and at the office. Grants are due by 4:00pm on March 11th. Tony and Tina will prepare allocation recommendations to be reviewed by the board at 5:30 before the scheduled March 16th meeting.
- b. Koon's Run Park Deed – the finalized deed has been recorded at the courthouse. Maintenance has devised a plan to begin repairing the bridge and then they'll work to repair the roof of the building and clear out all the old playground equipment. Tentatively plan to do a ribbon cutting ceremony on May 1st.
- c. FEMA update – the close out meeting was held January 20th and we are awaiting a \$48,000 reimbursement fund check.
- d. West Fork Trail River Debris Removal – a copy of the award letter and contract with Reclaim for the debris removal was submitted in the board packet. Reclaim is in the process of obtaining all necessary permits and will begin removal as soon as those have been acquired.
- e. Project Updates
 - i. Picture of the concrete work that was done at the Wave Pool for submitted for review. Everything remains on schedule for ADG to be on site for the installation at the end of April.
 - ii. The main lifeguard chair station at the wave pool has been removed and the maintenance team is constructing new platforms for the new guard chairs.
 - iii. Advertisement for all seasonal staff has begun – maintenance, lifeguards, concession, playground and day camp counselors.
 - iv. Construction of ~20 picnic tables is completed, and we will begin replacing them with the worn-out ones around the parks.
 - v. A lifeguard certification course is scheduled for April 10 – 12th
 - vi. Pickleball at EM project is on schedule. Fence is ordered and surfacing will meet on-site next week to get the supplies ordered.

V. Sports Management Director Report

- a. Community Engagement
 - i. MCPARC donated Guyses Run fishing passes and pool passes to Marion County STEAM Career and Technical Education Festival.
 - ii. MCPARC donated Guyses Run fishing passes and pool passes to the Town of Farmington for their annual Easter Egg Hunt.
- b. Programs
 - i. The MCPARC 2026 calendar is finalized and was shared with board members at the meeting.
 - ii. We've been working closely with the Maintenance team to get the fields prepped and opened for use. The weather has made preparing fields difficult. It was anticipated to let teams on the fields Feb. 23rd, but we couldn't get them opened.
 - iii. K-3 basketball program is winding down. Last day of games is March 1st.
 - iv. We met with Logan Chapman from the Smith Outdoor Economic Development Collaborative and toured the Bunner's Ridge property to determine the possibility of assistance in creating foot/bike/motorized trails on that land.

- v. MCPARC is hosting a Turkish Lamp Mosaic Art event on March 15th .
- vi. The following MOU's have been signed and returned: EFHS Boys & Girls Tennis, FSHS Boys & Girls Tennis, FSHS Softball and Baseball, and Marion County Soccer Club.

c. Upcoming Events:

March 11 - Community Grant Applications Due

March 15 - Mosaic Art Workshop

April 1 - Curtisville Lake Park & Campground opens

April 3 - Curtisville Lake Family Fishing Day

April 11 - Fairmont Little League Opening Day at Mary Lou Retton Park

April 11 - Guyses Run Fishing Park opens

April 20 - MCPARC Community Band Practices Begin

April 25 - Celebrate Trails Day (McTrail)

May 2 - Bus Trip to Keystone Safari & Grove City Outlets

May 2 - Kids Day at Guyses Run

- VI. Maintenance Report** – a detailed list of projects and tasks completed was submitted in the board packet. Tony praised the team for all their work they do in the off season to prepare the parks and pools for opening.

VII. New Business

Rainbow Head Farms was contracted to do 2 fish stockings at Guyses Run.

Bob Brookover asked where we were with the Whitehall Property – Tony has been in contact with the mayor and was told that they need to annex some of the property before they can use the funds on it. Their lawyer is in the process of working on that. They are also checking on the piece of property that didn't pass the environmental inspection to see if it will have any impact on this project.

Tony and Tina met with Chris Naternicola and FSU baseball coach Matt Yerace regarding the possibility of getting the Senior Ball Field at MLR turfed. FSU, FSHS and FLL would all have access to tis field. They had questions regarding the possibility of naming the field or the park if a large enough donor could be secured.

VIII. President's Remarks

Jay would like the commissioners to tour the Bunner's Ridge property if they can, so they can help come up with a plan to develop it.

Jay recommended we meet with Shay, Erin and Carly from the City of Fairmont to see if they'd be willing to collaborate on this project with MCPARC.

