



## **Regular Meeting Minutes**

**Monday, February 23, 2015**

*(Meeting Held at the Village of Richfield Town Hall,  
Village Council Chambers)*

### **Call to Order:**

The Regular Meeting was Called to Order at 6:30 p.m. by the Chairperson Mr. Floyd Ostrowski followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll Call was taken by Administrative Assistant Mrs. Bluso Rogers.

### **In Attendance:**

Mr. Bob Becker (*Not Present*)  
Ms. Kelly Clark  
Mr. Rich Fleming  
Mr. Ralph McNeerney  
Mr. Pat Norris  
Mr. Floyd Ostrowski  
Mr. Bill Taylor (*Not Present*)

Mr. William Hanna, Board Legal Counsel

Mayor Bobbie Beshara  
Mr. Mike Lyons, Village Councilperson  
Mr. Roger Swan, Village Councilperson

Mrs. Debbie Bluso Rogers, Administrative Assistant

### **Others in Attendance:**

Molly Eastwood, OHC  
Cynthia McWilliams, OHC  
Lynn Richardson, FOCH  
Lucia Hanigosky, FOCH

Jeff Campbell FOCH  
Mr. Greg Schrank  
Ms. Dawn Keske  
Mr. Bob Wells

**Business:**

**1. Approval of Minutes:**

**Monday, February 9, 2015 Regular Meeting**

Dispensing with the formal reading of the minutes, the following action was taken.

**MOTION** made by Mr. McNerney and seconded by Ms. Clark to approve the February 9, 2015 Regular Meeting as presented.

**DISCUSSION: NONE**

**MOTION PASSED: Mr. Becker (Not Present) Ms. Clark (Yea), Mr. Fleming (Yea), Mr. McNerney (Yea), Mr. Norris (Yea), Mr. Ostrowski (Yea), and Mr. Taylor (Not Present)**

**Monday, February 16, 2015 Special Meeting Work Session**

Dispensing with the formal reading of the minutes, the following action was taken.

**MOTION** made by Mr. McNerney and seconded by Ms. Clark to approve the February 16, 2015 Special Meeting Work Session as presented.

**DISCUSSION: NONE**

**MOTION PASSED: Mr. Becker (Not Present) Ms. Clark (Yea), Mr. Fleming (Yea), Mr. McNerney (Yea), Mr. Norris (Yea), Mr. Ostrowski (Yea), and Mr. Taylor (Not Present)**

**2. Committee Reports:**

**a. Communications Committee, Chairperson Ms. Clark**

Boy Scout Troop 3387 was welcomed. The troop was in attendance to "see how government works."

In other business, the Ohio Historic Application to place the Crowell-Hilaka property as a historic place on the National Registry of Historic Places was

mailed on February 17, 2015. Being placed on this registry is an honorary distinction and helps for certain grant applications. The Chairperson of this committee and the RJRD Board of Trustees expressed their thanks and appreciation to Ms. Lynn Richardson for the thorough and detailed preparation.

Administrative Assistant Mrs. Bluso Rogers and Mr. Ken Wood, Western Reserve Land Conservancy are working on press packs.

Administrative Assistant and Ms. Clark are working on a recommendation for the RJRD Standing Committees.

There was not meeting due to the inclement weather. The next scheduled meeting is Thursday, March 5, 2015.

**b. Volunteer Resources Committee, Chairperson, (Vacant)**

No report.

**c. Facilities and Programming Committee, Chairperson, (Vacant)**

No report.

- Property Acquisition Sub Committee, Chairperson Mr. Pat Norris, Members Mr. Mike Lyons.

The subcommittee has been diligently working on the easement language but due to the inclement weather, some of the deadlines in the PSA have been delayed. An extension of two weeks is being contemplated.

- Clean Ohio Grant Sub Committee, Chairperson, Mr. Pat Norris  
News about the grant was received and RJRD was not awarded a grant. Mayor Beshara and Mr. Leslie attended a meeting to make an appeal to the committee but the status of the grant was not changed. It is the understanding of the Board that future appeals would be fruitless and a reversal of the Grant Committee's decision is historically non-existent.

**d. Finance & Budget Committee, Chairperson Mr. Norris**

**MOTION** made by Mr. Norris and seconded by Mr. Fleming to approve the Expenditure Report presented at the February 9, 2015 Regular Meeting.

**DISCUSSION: NONE**

**MOTION PASSED: Mr. Becker (Not Present) Ms. Clark (Yea), Mr. Fleming (Yea), Mr. McNerney (Yea), Mr. Norris (Yea), Mr. Ostrowski (Yea), and Mr. Taylor (Not Present)**

**MOTION** made by Mr. Norris and seconded by Mr. McNerney to approve the January/February 2015 Walter & Haverfield invoice.

**DISCUSSION: NONE**

**MOTION PASSED: Mr. Becker (Not Present) Ms. Clark (Yea), Mr. Fleming (Yea), Mr. McNerney (Yea), Mr. Norris (Yea), Mr. Ostrowski (Yea), and Mr. Taylor (Not Present)**

The Summit County Fiscal Office contacted the RJRD Fiscal Agent and the Administrative Assistant of the receipt of tax receipts.

The bond closing date is March 30, 2015. Bond Counsel and Finance Chairperson are working to meet the deadline. 85% of the bond is required to be expended within thirty-six (36) months of the issuance. Discussion will continue regarding the amount of the bond amount and the Board was apprised that there is a cost involved for each issuance. Bond Counsel will recommend bond amount to the Board. The Bond Counsel recommendation is anticipated for the March 9, 2015 Regular Meeting.

The Chairperson stated that the RJRD Board appointments have been completed but there are still a number of vacancies. Mr. Ostrowski made the following suggestions until the modified Standing Committees for 2015 have been completed. After a brief discussion, the following action was taken.

**MOTION** made by Ms. Clark and seconded by Mr. Norris to confirm the following appointments to the committees and sub-committee and adding a new committee:

Mr. Rich Fleming: Volunteer Standing Committee Chairperson

Mr. Pat Norris: PSA (Purchase & Sales Agreement) Sub-Committee Chairperson and move under the Finance Standing Committee

Mr. Ralph McNerney: Grants & Fund Raising Committee Chairperson

**DISCUSSION: NONE**

**MOTION PASSED: Mr. Becker (Not Present) Ms. Clark (Yea), Mr. Fleming (Yea), Mr. McNerney (Yea), Mr. Norris (Yea), Mr. Ostrowski (Yea), and Mr. Taylor (Not Present)**

### **3. Administration:**

Administrative Assistant stated that progress is being made on the recommended standing committees for 2015 and the information from the goals and strategy work session on February 16, 2015 are being incorporated into the committee organization.

The Board provided unanimous consent for work to go forward on an agreement for “friends” groups. The Administrative Assistant and Legal Counsel will work on a draft agreement for Board approval.

The modifications to the Bylaws were distributed to the Village and the Township and there has not been any disapproval. The thirty day comment period is still open.

A draft of rules and regulations for the property are being developed.

Review of the Township Zoning Regulations is being conducted based on the RJRD’s 2015 goals to ascertain if further action via an application is required.

**4. Unfinished Business:**

**Nothing to report.**

**5. New Business:**

**a. Amendments to PSA’s**

There was a discussion regarding the extension to each of the purchase and sales agreements. Due to the severe weather, some PSA requirements are in jeopardy of meeting the deadlines.

**MOTION** made by Mr. McNerney and seconded by Mr. Norris authorize the RJRD Board’s Legal Counsel to execute two extension amendments.

**DISCUSSION: NONE**

**MOTION PASSED: Mr. Becker (Not Present) Ms. Clark (Yea), Mr. Fleming (Yea), Mr. McNerney (Yea), Mr. Norris (Yea), Mr. Ostrowski (Yea), and Mr. Taylor (Not Present)**

**6. Comments from the Floor**

- a. The Chair recognized Mr. Roger Swan. Mr. Swan expressed his profound disappointment about the results of the Clean Ohio Grant. The reasons cited were due lack of connectivity and urgency. Mr. Swan stated that the reasons do not make sense and expressed a desire to continue appealing the matter.
- b. The Chair recognized Ms. Lynn Richardson. Ms. Richardson stated that there are many divisions of the Clean Ohio Grant process such as bridges and steps. The property is in dire need of these and urged the Board to consider a grant in these areas. Mr. McNerney stated that ODNR (Ohio Department of Natural Resources) has grants that do not require demolishing all buildings.
- c. Ms. Eastwood, Ohio Horse Council, state that there are many grants for horse trails plus horsemen are very interested in camping with their horses. Ms. Eastwood urged the Board to consider these activities.



**7. Action Items & Agenda Items for Next Meeting, March 9, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.**

- a. Executive Session will remain on agenda.
- b. Status on RJRD speaking at a Chamber of Commerce Lunch
- c. Memorial Day "Soft Opening"
- d. Bond Counsel Recommendation
- e. Discussion to hire an engineer and a master planner

**8. Executive Session:**

**MOTION** made by Ms. Clark and seconded by Mr. Norris to go into Executive Session at 7:13 p.m. per ORC 121.22(g) to discuss personnel issues; to consider the appointment, employment and compensation of a public employee.

**DISCUSSION: NONE**

**MOTION PASSED: Mr. Becker (Not Present) Ms. Clark (Yea), Mr. Fleming (Yea), Mr. McNerney (Yea), Mr. Norris (Yea), Mr. Ostrowski (Yea), and Mr. Taylor (Not Present)**

Also in attendance in the Executive Session: Mayor Bobbie Beshara, Legal Counsel Mr. William Hanna, Mr. Lyons and Mr. Swan.

At 7:45 p.m., Administrative Assistant joined the session and left at 7:50 p.m.

**MOTION** made by Mr. McNerney and seconded by Ms. Clark to go out of Executive Session at 8:03 p.m.

**DISCUSSION: NONE**

**MOTION PASSED: Mr. Becker (Not Present) Ms. Clark (Yea), Mr. Fleming (Yea), Mr. McNerney (Yea), Mr. Norris (Yea), Mr. Ostrowski (Yea), and Mr. Taylor (Not Present)**

The Board took no formal action after the Executive Session.

**9. Adjournment:**

**MOTION** made by Mr. McNerney and seconded by Mr. Clark adjourn at 8:07 p.m.

**DISCUSSION: NONE**

**MOTION PASSED: Mr. Becker (Not Present) Ms. Clark (Yea), Mr. Fleming (Yea), Mr. McNerney (Yea), Mr. Norris (Yea), Mr. Ostrowski (Yea), and Mr. Taylor (Not Present)**

Respectfully submitted,



Debbie Bluso Rogers, Administrative Assistant to RJRD Board



Richfield Joint Recreation District,  
Chairperson

Richfield Joint Recreation District,  
Secretary