



## **Regular Meeting Minutes**

**Monday, March 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 6:31 p.m. by the Vice Chairperson Mr. Floyd Ostrowski. Roll Call was taken by RJRD Board of Trustee Ms. Clark.

### **In Attendance:**

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

Mr. William Hanna, Board Legal Counsel

Mrs. Debbie Bluso Rogers, Administrative Assistant (*Not Present*)

### **Also in Attendance:**

Mr. Roger Swan  
Mr. Joe Leslie, Western Reserve Land Conservancy,  
Mrs. Lucy Hanigosky, FOCH  
Ms. Cynthia McWilliams, Ohio Horseman Council,  
Ms. Molly Eastwood,  
Ms. Sue Sardinak, Richfield Times,  
Ms. Ruth Jocke, Village of Richfield Parks & Recreation

**Business:**

**1. Approval of Minutes:**

**Monday, March 2, 2015 Special Meeting**

Approval of minutes tabled.

**2. Committee Reports:**

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

A meeting was held on March 19, 2015. The contract with J Austin Designs included the development of a logo. Samples were distributed for the Board's review. Chairperson Ms. Clark recommended the Board consider the designs. After a discussion, the Board will review and will make a final decision at a later meeting.

The "soft opening" of the property originally scheduled for Memorial Day Weekend has been postponed and will only be an Open House on Sunday, Mary 24, 2015 due to the extension of the purchase date of the property.

Volunteers will participate in the Earth Day Clean-Up Activities on Saturday, April 18, 2015. The Western Reserve Land Conservancy will also participate.

**b. Volunteer Resources Committee, Chairperson Mr. Fleming**

Mrs. Hanigosky reported that Mr. Fleming asked her to be the Volunteer Coordinator. As Coordinator, Mrs. Hanigosky stated that the Open House Weekend & Cleanup was successful. Appreciation and thanks was expressed to all who participated. The recruitment of RJRD volunteers was successful and approximately thirty-eight (38) people signed up to help. It was very encouraging that people are still interested and willing to volunteer.

**c. Grants and Fund Raising Committee, Chairperson Mr. McNerney**

No report.

**d. Facilities & Programming Committee Report, Chairperson (Vacant)**

No report.

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

Mr. Norris provided the particulars regarding the bond activity and recommended Key Bank Capital Markets as the underwriter. It is anticipated that the bonds will be issued on April 15, 2015.

**MOTION** made by Mr. Norris and seconded by Mr. Becker to approve Key Bank Capital Markets as the underwriter for the issuance of bonds.

**DISCUSSION: NONE**

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

**f. Property Acquisition Sub-Committee, Chairperson Mr. Norris**

It was reported that the easement language was prepared and ready for submission to Western Reserve Land Conservancy.

**g. Clean Ohio Grant Sub-Committee, Chairperson Mr. Norris**

Mr. Leslie stated that the Clean Ohio Grant was approved by ENRAC in the amount of \$1,089,000. No official letter has been received.

**3. Administration:**

No report.

**4. Unfinished Business:**

- Trustee Mr. McNerney stated that the Board needed to take action on the two motions “tabled” from the last meeting.

**MOTION** made by Mr. McNerney and seconded by Mr. Norris to “take from the table” the motion to explore the possibility of maintenance opportunities with Summit County and Cuyahoga Metro Parks for the Crowell-Hilaka property.

**DISCUSSION:** *It was stated that a scope of work” was necessary before proceeding. Mr. McNerney responded by stating that the desire was merely to ascertain Summit County and the Cleveland Metro Parks interest. Ms. Clark vociferously stated that a plan of action should be written prior to any further discussion.*

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



**MOTION** made by Mr. McNerney and seconded by Mr. Becker to “take from the table” the motion to engage master planner proposals.

**DISCUSSION:** *Mr. McNerney stated that information on master planners was previously submitted for the Board’s consideration and emphasized that it is highly appropriate to move forward with the hiring of a master planner. Trustee Ms. Clark reminded the Board that this consideration is premature and is not included in the 2015 Goals. Trustee Mr. Taylor concurred. Ms. Clark stated with emphasis that the Board of Trustees is to determine the plans for the property in concert with the 2015 goals.*

**MOTION AMENDED:** made by Mr. Becker and seconded by Mr. Norris to pursue the advice of non-compensated third party consultants.

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

- Trustee Mr. Ostrowski recommended of the appointment of Mr. Becker as Chairperson for the Facilities & Programming Committee until such time the standing committees are reviewed and modified.

**MOTION** made by Mr. Taylor and seconded by Mr. Norris to appoint Mr. Becker Chairperson of the Facilities & Programming Committee.

**DISCUSSION:** *Ms. Clark stated that the Board should delay the appointment until the next regular meeting because at that time the Administrator will be present with the standing committee proposal.*

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

#### 5. Comments from the Floor:

- **FOCH** provided a proposal for historic signs on the property. The information was previously distributed to the Board. Trustee Ms. Clark stated that the item be tabled to allow the Board to review the proposal more carefully. There was consensus by the Board to table the discussion.
- **Mr. Hanna** stated for the record that the new closing dates for the Non Clean Ohio parcel is May 5, 2015 and the Clean Ohio parcel is June 1, 2015. Mr. Leslie stated that the closing dates may be incorrect due to non-compliance with Richfield Township’s Zoning Regulations regarding parcel splits. Mr. Leslie suggested that the closing date may be May 24, 2015 to ensure zoning compliance.

- **The Chair recognized Ms. Sue Serdinak, Richfield Times.** Ms. Serdinak requested details regarding the restrictions on the Clean Ohio and Non Clean Ohio parcels. Mr. Leslie explained that Clean Ohio has specified restrictions and the Non Clean Ohio portion is the conservation easements negotiated between the Conservancy and the Board. Ms. Serdinak again requested the contents of the conservation easement. Mr. Leslie stated that since the parties are still in negotiations it is not public knowledge. Ms. Serdinak asserted that the information was a public record. Legal Counsel advised that the contents of the agreements have not been reached and therefore no one is at liberty to discuss or disclose the specifics. Once the agreements have been reached, the public is welcome to the record.
- **The Chair recognized Ms. Molly Eastwood, Ohio Horseman's Council.** Ms. Eastwood stated that the OHC desires to apply for a grant for bridle trails. Ms. Eastwood requested the Board to support the grant since it is a matching grant. Due time constraints of the grant application, the Board tabled the discussion until next year.

**6. Action Items & Agenda Items for the Next Meeting, Monday, April 13, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.**

- a. Discuss BZA recommendations
- b. Presentation by Ms. Heather Rudge on Historic Tax Credits
- c. Standing Committees Proposal
- d. Friends Groups Proposals
- e. Executive Session to discuss the purchase of real property per ORC 121.22(g)

**7. Executive Session:**

**To discuss personnel issues to consider the appointment, employment and compensation of a public employee per the ORC 121.22(g).**

**And**

**To discuss the purchase of real property per the ORC 121.22(g).**

**MOTION** made by Ms. Clark and seconded by Mr. Norris to go into Executive Session to discuss the employment and compensation of a public employee per the ORC 121.22(g).

**DISCUSSION: None**

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

**Also in attendance in the Executive Session: Mr. Hanna, Legal Counsel.** The Board will take action coming out of Executive Session those in attendance were welcome to stay.



**MOTION** made by Ms. Clark and seconded by Mr. Becker to come out of Executive Session.

**DISCUSSION:** None

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

**MOTION** made by Ms. Clark and seconded by Mr. Becker to employ Debbie Bluso Rogers as Interim Administrator to the RJRD Board at the rate of \$20.00 per hours with the expectation of twenty (20) hours a week or less.

**DISCUSSION:** None

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

Trustee Ms. Clark requested Legal Counsel to review the MOU between the Village of Richfield and the Richfield Joint Recreation District to accommodate the positions.

**MOTION** made by Ms. Clark and seconded by Mr. Norris to go into Executive Session to discuss the purchase of real property per the ORC 121.22(g).

**DISCUSSION:** None

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

**Also in attendance in the Executive Session:** Mr. Hanna, Legal Counsel. Those in attendance were advised that no further action would be taken after coming out of this Executive Session.

**MOTION** made by Ms. Clark and seconded by Mr. McNerney to come out of Executive Session.

**DISCUSSION:** None

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

**8. Adjournment:**

**MOTION** made by Ms. Clark and seconded by Mr. Norris to adjourn at 10:07 p.m.

**DISCUSSION: NONE**

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

Respectfully submitted,



Debbie Bluso Rogers, Administrator to RJRD Board



Richfield Joint Recreation District,  
Chairperson



Richfield Joint Recreation District,  
Secretary