



Work Session Minutes

Monday, October 19, 2015

(Meeting Held at the Village of Richfield Town Hall, Mayor's Conference Room)

REGULAR MEETING

Call to Order:

The Work Session of the RJRD Board of Trustees was "Called to Order" at 7:00 p.m. by Chairperson Mr. Floyd Ostrowski. Roll Call was taken by RJRD Administrator, Mrs. Bluso Rogers

In Attendance:

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

Mrs. Debbie Bluso Rogers, Administrator

Also in Attendance:

Mrs. Lucia Hanigosky
Adam Beichler, Forestry Management Consultant from the Wilderness Center

Business:

- 1. Presentation of Forestry Management by Adam Beichler, Wilderness Center with Q&A to Follow:**

The Wilderness Center [T.W.C.] Consulting Forestry is a professional consulting company that provides complete forest management and timber marketing services to land owners across the state of Ohio. T.W.C. Consulting Forestry is a part of The Wilderness Center in Wilmot, Ohio. The Wilderness Center is a non-profit nature center that focuses on nature education and land conservation. Proceeds from T.W.C. Consulting Forestry aid in the conservation of land in Northeast Ohio.

T.W.C. and Adam look at the full spectrum of the forest by taking a multiple resource approach to management which includes timber, wildlife, water, recreation, and aesthetics. A forest is much more than the trees growing in it. To maintain healthy trees, multiple factors need to be taken into account. This is an entire ecosystem approach to management. The T.W.C. mission is to represent the interests of the land owner to achieve a management timeline that will work towards the improvement of your woodland while meeting specific goals and objectives.

T.W.C.'s Forestry Management Consultant offers a wide range of services, and they can adjust to the specific needs of our clients and the demands of their properties. Those services include: Timber Harvests, Management Planning, Timber Trespass, Green Certification and On-the-ground implementation of specific management operations such as grape vine control, invasive species control, and crop tree release are offered.

The following are attributes of a Professional Forester/Consultant that RJRD should consider and understand:

- Protects the interests of the land owner.
- Protects the future value of your forest and investment.
- Gets the best value for you timber asset – *often thousands of dollars in increased revenue.*
- Has knowledge of local timber markets and trends.
- Maintains relationships with loggers and timber buyers.
- Aids in planning and implementation of a sustainable timber harvest.
- Takes multiple factors into account such as timber, wildlife habitat, water quality, soil quality, aesthetics, and recreation.
- Recommend pre and post harvest activities that will maintain and increase the health of the forest.
- Aids in long term management planning to meet your goals and objectives.

It was important to understand that forest management is the art and science of controlling the establishment, growth, composition, health, and quality of the forest to meet the needs and goals of landowners and society. Timber values can only reach their full potential through proper management and marketing. Management involves professional planning and timely implementation of practices that will affect the forest. Sound management can provide a number of benefits and it can also provide alternate source of income, wildlife diversity, recreation, environmental conservation, aesthetics, and soil and water conservation.

Mr. Beichler emphasized the fact that the woodlands have the potential to grow more wood and increase greatly in value if properly managed through periodic thinning of mature and poor

quality trees. It was also emphasized that education of the process is key to its success because many people assume that forest management is another name for timbering.

Adam Beichler has experience in forest management that spans across the state of Ohio. He has been involved in the management of major land bases for Timber Investment Management Organizations, as well as privately owned woodlots for families.

There was a long Q&A period involving all in attendance.

MOTION made by Ms. Clark and seconded by Ms. Clark to adjourn the work session and recess until the staff meeting at 8:35 p.m.

DISCUSSION: NONE

MOTION PASSED: Mr. Becker (Yea) Ms. Clark (No), Mr. Fleming (Yea), Mr. McNerney (Not Present), Mr. Norris (Not Present), Mr. Ostrowski (Yea), and Mr. Taylor (Not Present)

**Immediately following a five (5) minute recess,
Staff Meeting was Called to Order.**

In Attendance:

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

Mrs. Debbie Bluso Rogers, Administrator

Also in Attendance:

Mrs. Lucia Hanigosky

The Administrator provided items of concern relating to Board and Administrator responsibilities. The Administrator reviewed the duties of the Board's Administrator and referred to the list of duties approved by the Board. Further it was stated that the Administrator is to supervise the day-to-day operations and it includes managing committees, staff and contractors, preparation of business plans, budgets, due diligence in assessing contracts. The Administrator/Executive Director is given the authority to manage the operations and is responsible to the Chair.

In this leadership role, the Administrator highlighted a number of issues and perceptions that required the Board to be aware of; specifically property uses, communication, and process in regards to the lines of organization. Examples were provided via electronic mail.

For RJRD Board of Trustees to effectively operate the government entity, the Administrator requested acceptance of the definition of these responsibilities and asked that the Board support the administrative process.

Trustee Fleming endorsed the request and provided other examples. Keys to lock boxes should be distributed only to the Board of Trustees and the Volunteer Coordinator. Lock boxes should have all the keys necessary to all of the buildings and equipment. Other volunteers, such as him, would be willing to volunteer to mow and move debris if property accessibility was implemented per the Security and Key Policy. Trustee Fleming also suggested that the gate code be changed since the gate is working.

Trustee Fleming cited other examples of mis-perceptions and possible communication issues when the Administrator is not permitted to perform job duties.

It was suggested that regular staff meetings be scheduled and there was extended discussion on the matter.

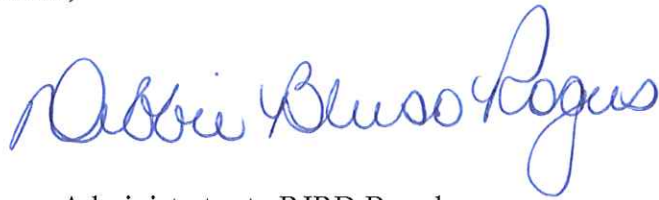
Adjournment:

MOTION made by Mr. Ostrowski and seconded by Ms. Clark to adjourn at 9:30 p.m.

DISCUSSION: NONE

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

Respectfully submitted,



Debbie Bluso Rogers, Administrator to RJRD Board



Richfield Joint Recreation District,
Chairperson



Richfield Joint Recreation District,
Secretary