

Menominee County Parks and Recreation Committee

Meeting Minutes

March 4, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 pm by Bob Desjarlais at the Annex in Stephenson, MI on March 4, 2013.

Reporting for roll call were: Bob Desjarlais, Ruby Ivens, Glenn Cody, County Administrator Brian Bousley, and County Commissioners James Furlong and Charlie Meintz. There was a quorum present to conduct the meeting.

Approval of agenda: A motion was made by James and seconded by Ruby. The motion carried.

Minutes: A motion was made by James to approve the minutes from the last meeting that was seconded by Ruby. The motion carried.

Public Comment: Two gentlemen from Alger Delta Electric Cooperative - Tom Harrell, General Manager and Pat Wheeler, Consulting Electrical Engineer, addressed the committee concerning two issues:

First, it was reported that Alger Delta would be upgrading 3 1/2 miles of line along G-12 in the vicinity of Shakey Lakes Park in the next few months. As part of this project, the cooperative was offering to upgrade an additional one mile of line from G-12 to the park in an effort to relieve some of the transformer overload and subsequent power outages experienced in the past during times of peak electrical usage. This line upgrade from a single phase to a two phase system would cost approximately \$40,000.00. The cooperative was requesting that the county cover 1/2 of the cost (\$20,000.00).

Second, the cooperative was offering to replace the 13 electrical meters currently operating within the park with one "primary" meter to be located at the park entrance. This would eliminate the \$25.00 monthly charge assessed each month for each meter and allow the park to qualify for a lower rate, 11 cents per kilowatt hour instead of 14.9 cents per kilowatt hour that is currently assessed. The installation of a primary meter at the entrance to the park would mean, however, that the county would then assume the responsibility for and maintenance of the entire electrical system within the park beyond the meter. Charlie questioned the financial feasibility of such a change citing the prohibitive cost of an electrical maintenance contract. He asked why the cooperative had not offered to provide a cost/benefit analysis. Given that the committee showed little interest in the proposal, the two representatives decided against exploring the matter further.

Brian asked the representatives to supply an estimate for "closing/completing" the electrical loop within the park in an effort to improve the reliability of system. They agreed to forward an estimate to the committee as soon as possible.

Business:

- a. **Monthly Budget Review:** Brian distributed copies of the latest budget for the board's

perusal and comment. He reported that the bottom-line remains fine; income and expenditures were in line for this time of year. Several members of the committee requested clarification of a few items which Brian provided. Brian also explained the current fund equity balance and requested that the committee express its support to cover 1/2 of the cost of the one mile long electrical line upgrade from G-12 to Shakey Lakes Park proposed by Alger Delta Electrical Cooperative. The \$20,000.00 expenditure would come from the Fund Equity account. Glenn offered a motion in favor of allocating this amount to Alger Delta for the line upgrade that was seconded by Charlie. The motion carried.

- b. **Camp Host Program:** Brian announced that the Menominee County Board of Commissioners had voted to extend the program for the 2013 camping season and that advertisements had been placed in several local newspapers in an effort to solicit applications for the camp host position.
- c. **Parks Projects / DNR Grants:** Brian presented his official proposal, "Menominee County Resolution 2013 - 4", that applies for a 25% matching grant from the Michigan DNR for improvements at the Stoney Point Boat Launch. James offered a motion to support this resolution that was seconded by Ruby. The motion carried.
- d. **Lease Program:** Brian reported that lease applications for the 2013 camping season were still being received. As of March 4, there were still nine available sites at Shakey Lakes Park.
- e. **Deputy in the Park Program:** Brian reported that so far, no one from the sheriff's department had applied for the program for the 2013 camping season. James suggested that the offer be extended to the police department in the City of Menominee as well as to members of the State Police.
- f. **Parks Website/Advertisements:** At the previous meeting, several members of the committee had agreed to contact the businesses in the county that had purchased ad space in the past. Most had been contacted, but several were still pending. Brian recommended that these ads be finalized by the April meeting so that they could be in place for the 2013 camping season.

There was one item of correspondence that Brian promised to forward to the members of the committee via e-mail.

Any Other Items Members Wish to Present: There were no additional items.

Charlie offered a motion to adjourn that was seconded by James. The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Glenn D. Cody