

## July 28, 2015 Morton County Park Board Minutes

The Morton County Park Board meeting was held July 28, 2015 at 4:00 pm. Present were Chairman Jamie Wetsch, Doug Griffin, Ken Geiger, Andy Zachmeier, Randy Graner and Tony Goetzfried. Absent was Cody Schulz.

The meeting was called to Order by Chairman Wetsch. Tim Nilsen then asked that Issue #3 pertaining to the Storm Shelter/Safe House be moved to the first item addressed. All present agreed.

Chairman Wetsch moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting. All approved voted "Aye".

Tony Goetzfried moved to approve the bills monthly bills and payroll. Ken Geiger seconded. All present voted "Aye".

Parks Director Tim Nilsen turned the podium over to Emergency Manager Tom Doering. Tom reported on his research of cost and possible grant reimbursement for the storm shelter potentially built at Graner Park. He stated that he worked with Cody Schulz and Morton County Highway Department preparing the costs, etc. He estimated the cost to be approximately \$46,125.00. Tony Goetzfried shared concerns about the location and after a brief discussion it was decided that building the shelter near the playground would be a good centralized location. The grant deadline being August 15, 2015 was pointed out. Tony moved to move forward and for the Parks Director to apply for the grant. Andy Zachmeier seconded with the site being near the playground and for the cost not to exceed \$46,125.00. All present voted "Aye".

Tim Nilsen addressed policy change as to what constitutes a camp site (occupied, primitive and designated) and the language pertaining to picnic table, fire ring and camping pad. Andy Zachmeier pointed out that not all campsites are equipped with all of these. The members discussed the possibility of changing the language from "must or does" to "may or might include". Tim Nilsen also noted that the "amperage" wording needed to be changed.

Cody Schulz arrived at the meeting at 4:25 pm.

Tim voiced his support for the Parks Department to have the authority to limit the time of stay for any campers.

In the "Trails" language the Board thought it best to change the "Parks Dept." to "County Entity". Doug Griffin suggested running the languages discussed past the States Attorney for consideration. Those issues were tabled for a later date pending results from the States Attorney.

Tim Nilsen presented his 2016 Budget and addressed line items such as adjusting the storm shelter up to \$46,125.00, giving a pay raise to Tammy, the Harmon Lake host from \$550.00 to \$1,000.00 which would match her with Glen, the host at Graner Park. Each line item was addressed and no action was taken pending approval of the county budgets at a later date.

The Park updates in Capital Improvements that were discussed were rip rap at Graner Park with the Parks Director applying for a grant from the Heritage Fund with a potential 75% reimbursement, as recommended by ND Game & Fish. Rip rap at Little Heart with ND Game & Fish willing to refund 75%. 35 Picnic tables and 25 fire rings in the amount of \$9,940.00. The Parks Director expressed hopes in getting a grant from ND Community Fund for 50% of the cost. 2 tree rows at Entzel Acres with a cost of

\$3,370.00. Graner Park playground equipment at \$29,900.00 with a possible \$15,000.00 Kaboom Grant. Graner Park Shelter #2 expansion for \$5,000.00 with possible \$2,500.00 grant reimbursement. Fort Rice project at a cost of \$31,000.00. Sweet Briar playground equipment at a cost of \$19,770.00 with the hopes that this expense will come out of various New Salem Organization funds. Doug Griffin brought up his concerns for the equipment being handicapped accessible. Tim Nilsen said he had that included in his cost as far as the elevated entry into the playground.

Cody Schulz shared his concern about the past history of securing grant monies. He then commended Tim Nilsen on his hard work in preparing his budget.

Tim Nilsen talked about how he would like to purchase a new lawn mower for the parks grounds and thought the price would be around \$21,566.00, also thought it wise to keep the old mower as backup.

The budget discussion will be continued at the next meeting.

Tim asked for a raise for Tammy, Harmon Lake host, in the form of \$50.00 per month and retro back to the first of July 2015. All present voted "Aye".

The ND State Water Commission submitted recommendations on the Fish Creek drainage and to increase the amount to fix the cracked pipe up \$2,000.00 to \$3,000.00. All present voted "Aye".

Parks Director reported that the Graner Park rip rap project as far as tree removal should be completed the following day and preconstruction meeting to be held in approximately one week.

Tim report on the following revenues:

	Last Year	This Year:
Graner Park	\$49,058.00	\$47,932.00
Harmon Lake	\$16,978.00	\$18,176.00
Ft. Rice	\$4,460.00	\$1,923.00

Chairman Wetsch moved to adjourn the meeting. Tony Goetzfried seconded. All present voted "Aye".