

REGULAR MEETING**September 21, 2023**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of Great Parks of Hamilton County was held on this day, 1:00 p.m., at 10245 Winton Road, Cincinnati, OH 45231.

Board President Caren Laverty opened the meeting and led the Board, staff, and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Present were Commissioners: Laverty, Abrams, Burwinkel, Thompson, Wegman
 Staff: Palmeter, Henninger, Collins, Carleton, Doellman, Messerschmitt, Rahe, Zelek,
 Carpenter, Smith, Busofsky, Dumas, Lampert, Melvin, Masella, Schirmer, Steele, Spencer,
 Horn, Stanley, Ference
 Guests: Scott Weikel

GENERAL

1. PUBLIC COMMENTS: No one requested to address the Board.
2. AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS:

Chief Executive Officer Todd Palmeter notified the Board of the following:

- Captain Dale Steele introduced new employee Eric Carpenter, Ranger, Miami Whitewater Forest.
- Captain Dale Steele introduced new employee Jason Smith, Ranger, Sharon Woods.
- Chief of Planning Tim Zelek introduced new employee Frank Busofsky, Director of Planning.
- Chief of Conservation and Parks Jason Rahe introduced new employee Ryan Dumas, Conservation Biologist.

Mr. Thompson recognized the 1st anniversary of the Beechmont Bridge Ribbon Cutting ceremony. He congratulated the staff and expressed the ongoing appreciation of cyclists, walkers, and runners of the connector trail.

Mr. Burwinkel attended the Clean Sweep of the Great Miami River event on September 16 at Shawnee Lookout. He congratulated Volunteer Engagement Specialist Joe Von Allmen on a well-run event.

3. NEXT BOARD MEETING DATES:

Thursday	October 19, 2023	3:00 p.m.	Winton Centre*
Thursday	November 16, 2023	2:00 p.m.	Winton Centre**

* Board tour will precede the October 19 Regular Meeting, tentatively scheduled from 8:30 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. Please plan to arrive at 8:00 a.m.

**The November 16, 2023, meeting will begin at 2:00 p.m. to accommodate the National Philanthropy Day luncheon.

ACTION

4. RESOLUTION #3774- BILLS & PAYROLL RESOLUTION: Chief Executive Officer Todd Palmeter presented the Bills & Payroll Resolution to the Board. The Board submitted five payment items for review: Daniel Gerard for geographic workload analysis, Keypoint Communications for public relations support, Kimley-Horn & Associates for the Great Miami and Whitewater River Blueway Regional Trail Network, and ADP for talent management and payroll processing fees. Ms.Laverty asked about the expenses for the Red's Opening Day Parade, and Mr. Thompson asked about media support for the Kids Outdoor Adventure Expo. The staff led a thorough discussion, providing clarifying information on the scope of the payment items. Upon motion duly made by Abrams, seconded by Burwinkel, the Board approved the Bills & Payroll Resolution. The Roll Call vote was as follows: Mr. Abrams – Aye, Mr. Burwinkel – Aye, Ms. Laverty – Aye, Mr. Thompson – Aye, Ms. Wegman – Aye.

Ms. Wegman and Mr. Burwinkel commented that they knew of Mr. Daniel Gerard's work, and Mr. Abrams requested a presentation of the results of the geographic workload analysis.

5. RESOLUTION #3775 – BUDGET ADJUSTMENT: Chief Financial Officer Andrew Collins presented the Budget Adjustment Resolution to the Board. The staff led a thorough discussion, providing clarifying information on the total adjustment amount and the departments and funds affected by the adjustment. Upon motion duly made by Wegman, seconded by Abrams, the Board approved the budget adjustment as presented in the resolution. The Roll Call vote was as follows: Mr. Burwinkel – Aye, Ms. Laverty – Aye, Mr. Thompson – Aye, Ms. Wegman – Aye, Mr. Abrams – Aye.

6. RESOLUTION #3776 – ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE HAMILTON COUNTY AUDITOR: Chief Financial Officer Andrew Collins presented the Amounts and Rates Resolution to the Board. The staff led a thorough discussion, providing clarifying information on the reasons for the resolution and how the increase in property taxes would affect the amounts and rates. Upon motion duly made by Thompson, seconded by Wegman, the Board approved the Resolution Accepting the Amounts and Rates as Determined by the Budget Commission and Authorizing the Necessary Tax Levies and Certifying them to the Hamilton County Auditor. The Roll Call vote was as follows: Ms. Lavery – Aye, Mr. Thompson – Aye, Ms. Wegman – Aye, Mr. Abrams – Aye, Mr. Burwinkel – Aye.
7. RESOLUTION #3777 – RESOLUTION RENEWING THE INVESTMENT POLICY: Chief Financial Officer Andrew Collins presented the Resolution Renewing the Investment Policy to the Board. The staff led a thorough discussion, providing clarifying information regarding the changes to the Investment Policy. Mr. Thompson asked that any future edits be highlighted when the Investment Policy is presented to the Board. Upon motion duly made by Abrams, seconded by Wegman, the Board approved the Investment Policy as presented in the resolution. The Roll Call vote was as follows: Mr. Thompson – Aye, Ms. Wegman – Aye, Mr. Abrams – Aye, Mr. Burwinkel – Aye, Ms. Lavery – Aye.
8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Upon motion duly made by Wegman, seconded by Burwinkel, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Final Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of August 17, 2023.
9. BID TAB – SHARON WOODS GOLF COURSE IRRIGATION SYSTEM REPLACEMENT PHASE 3: Chief Executive Officer Todd Palmeter presented the bid to the Board. Mr. Burwinkel asked if the engineer's estimate was listed in the bid documents. Mr. Thompson inquired about using professional estimators to mitigate difficulties with the estimates. He also commented on the volatility of the construction industry. The staff led a thorough discussion, providing clarifying information on the questions the Board asked and the scope of the project. Upon motion duly made by Abrams, seconded by Burwinkel, and unanimously carried, the Board rejected the bid submitted by George E. Ley Company since it exceeded the published estimate by more than 10%. The staff will review bid details, project scope, and the engineer's estimate and re-bid the project.

10. BID TAB – SHARON LAKE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT: Chief Executive Officer Todd Palmeter presented the bid to the Board. The staff led a thorough discussion, providing clarifying information on the Bid Guaranty and the delay to the project schedule. Upon motion duly made by Wegman, seconded by Thompson, and unanimously carried, the Board rejected all bids since the low bidder did not include a Bid Guaranty, and the remaining bidders exceeded the engineer's estimate by more than 10%. The staff will review bid details, project scope, and the engineer's estimate and re-bid the project.
11. BID TAB – WINTON WOODS WHITE HOUSE RENOVATION: Chief Executive Officer Todd Palmeter presented the bid to the Board. Upon motion duly made by Thompson, seconded by Abrams, and unanimously carried, the Board rejected the bid submitted by Schrudde & Zimmerman since it exceeded the engineer's estimate for the work by more than 10%. The staff will review bid details, project scope, and the engineer's estimate and re-bid the project.
12. BID TAB – GLENWOOD GARDENS WOODLAND WALK AND PATIO RENOVATIONS: Chief Executive Officer Todd Palmeter presented the bid to the Board. Upon motion duly made by Wegman, seconded by Abrams, and unanimously carried, the Board rejected the bid submitted by Prus Construction since it exceeded the engineer's estimate by more than 10%. The staff will review bid details, project scope, and the engineer's estimate and re-bid the project.
13. BID TAB – FORD ESCAPE HYBRID SUVS: Chief Executive Officer Todd Palmeter presented the bid to the Board. The staff led a thorough discussion, providing clarifying information on previous bids and rescindments of vehicles. Upon motion duly made by Abrams, seconded by Wegman, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the bid in the amount of \$187,925.00 to Feldman Ford, LLC for five 2023 model year Ford Escape Hybrid SUVs.
14. BID TAB – FORD ONE-TON DUMP TRUCK: Chief Executive Officer Todd Palmeter presented the bid to the Board. Upon motion duly made by Burwinkel, seconded by Thompson, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the bid in the amount of \$64,425.00 to Feldman Ford, LLC for one 2023 model year Ford one-ton dump truck.
15. BID TAB – FORD THREE-QUARTER-TON CREW CAB PICKUP TRUCK WITH TAILGATE LIFT: Chief Executive Officer Todd Palmeter presented the bid to the Board. Upon motion duly made by Abrams, seconded by Laverty, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the bid in the amount of \$57,325.00 to Feldman Ford, LLC for one 2023 model year Ford three-quarter-ton crew cab pickup truck with tailgate lift.

16. BID TAB – FORD THREE-QUARTER-TON CREW CAB 4x4 PICKUP TRUCKS: Chief Executive Officer Todd Palmetter presented the bid to the Board. Upon motion duly made by Wegman, seconded by Abrams, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the bid in the amount of \$112,870.00 to Feldman Ford, LLC for two 2023 model year Ford three-quarter-ton crew cab 4x4 pickup trucks.
17. BID TAB – FORD THREE-QUARTER-TON CREW CAB PICKUP TRUCK: Chief Executive Officer Todd Palmetter presented the bid to the Board. Upon motion duly made by Abrams, seconded by Thompson, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the bid in the amount of \$53,125.00 to Feldman Ford, LLC for one 2023 model year Ford three-quarter-ton crew cab pickup truck.
18. BID TAB – FORD HALF-TON CREW CAB HYBRID PICKUP TRUCKS: Chief Executive Officer Todd Palmetter presented the bid to the Board. The staff led a thorough discussion, providing clarifying information on the effect of hybrid vehicles on Great Parks' commitment to reducing transportation emissions as a participant of the Cincinnati 2030 District. Upon motion duly made by Wegman, seconded by Abrams, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the bid in the amount of \$93,970.00 to Feldman Ford, LLC for two 2023 model year Ford half-ton crew cab hybrid pickup trucks.
19. CAPITAL PURCHASE – PLAYGROUND SAFETY SURFACING: Chief of Conservation and Parks Jason Rahe presented the bid to the Board. The staff led a thorough discussion, providing clarifying information on the type of surfacing and the scope of the project. Upon motion duly made by Burwinkel, seconded by Wegman, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the purchase in the amount of \$79,747.00 to GameTime c/o DWA Recreation for playground safety surface material.
20. CAPITAL PURCHASE – ROUGH AND SLOPE MOWER: Chief Executive Officer Todd Palmetter presented the bid to the Board. Upon motion duly made by Abrams, seconded by Thompson, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the purchase of one new Groundsmaster 3500-D rough and slope mower from Century Equipment, a Jerry Pate Company. The final purchase amount will be specified in Sourcewell's contract pricing and in line with current appropriations.
21. CAPITAL PURCHASE – LARGE AREA MOWER: Chief Executive Officer Todd Palmetter presented the bid to the Board. Upon motion duly made by Wegman, seconded by Abrams, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the purchase of one new Groundsmaster 4500 large area mower from Century Equipment, a Jerry Pate Company. The final purchase amount will be specified in Sourcewell's contract pricing and in line with current appropriations.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Burwinkel and seconded by Wegman to go into Executive Session at 2:00 p.m. to consider the sale or other disposition of property. The Roll Call vote was as follows: Ms. Wegman – Aye, Mr. Abrams – Aye, Mr. Burwinkel – Aye, Ms. Lavery – Aye, Mr. Thompson – Aye.

Following the Executive Session, a motion was made by Abrams and seconded by Lavery to reconvene the Regular Meeting at 2:20 p.m. The Roll Call vote was as follows: Mr. Abrams – Aye, Mr. Burwinkel – Aye, Ms. Lavery – Aye, Mr. Thompson – Aye, Ms. Wegman – Aye.

ACTION

22. LAND ITEM: Upon motion duly made by Abrams, seconded by Wegman, and unanimously carried, the Board authorized the CEO and his designees to negotiate a land acquisition proposal and execute the necessary documents for a 6-acre parcel in the west region of Hamilton County.
23. RESOLUTION #3778 – CLEAN OHIO GREEN SPACE CONSERVATION PROGRAM – AUTHORIZATION TO APPLY FOR FUNDS IN ROUND 18: Chief Executive Officer Todd Palmeter presented the Resolution to the Board. Upon motion duly made by Thompson, seconded by Wegman, the Board approved the Resolution to apply for funds for land acquisition through Round 18 of the Clean Ohio Green Space Conservation Program. The Roll Call vote was as follows: Mr. Burwinkel – Aye, Ms. Lavery – Aye, Mr. Thompson – Aye, Ms. Wegman – Aye, Mr. Abrams – Aye.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further matters to come before the Board, a motion was made by Abrams, seconded by Wegman, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 2:25 p.m.

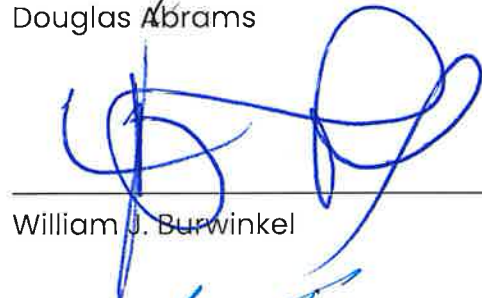
Board of Park Commissioners
Great Parks of Hamilton County



Caren Lavery, President



Douglas Abrams



William J. Burwinkel



Marcus Thompson



Melissa Wegman

ATTEST:



Todd Palmeter, Chief Executive Officer