

DRAFT
MARATHON COUNTY PARK COMMISSION

Date and Time of Meeting: April 4, 2023 at 10:30am Location: Room 5 at 212 River Dr., Wausau WI 54403

Park Commissioners present: Dawn Herbst, Lou Larson, Jean Maszk-(via webex), Allen Opall, Rick Seefeldt, Kelly Zagrzebski

Staff present: Jamie Polley-Parks, Recreation and Forestry Director, Andy Sims-Assistant Director-Operations

1. Call to Order – Vice-President Herbst called the Park Commission meeting to order at 10:30am. Official notice and the agenda for the meeting was posted publicly in accordance with the State statutes.

2. Public Comment – none brought forward

3. Approval of the Minutes of the February 28, 2023 Park Commission Meeting – Motion by Zagrzebski, second by Herbst to approve the February 28, 2023 meeting minutes. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 6-0.

4. Policy Issues for Discussion and Committee Determination

A. Discussion and Possible Action by Committee

1. None

5. Operational Functions Required by Statute, Ordinance or Resolution:

A. Discussion and Possible Action by Committee

1. Review Lake States Forest Management Bat Habitat Conservation Plan Information and Summary – Polley explained that some bats have been listed as federally endangered on March 31 and the Wisconsin County Forests Association has been working with the DNR on how to continue to manage the forests. The County can sign on to the Lake States Bat Conservation Plan which is a way to receive incidental take coverage and to be sure that Marathon County Forest is in compliance with the Federal Endangered Species Act with respect to the federally listed bat species. County parks can also sign on to the plan so staff would enroll both the parks and forests on the same application. As the application and/or resolution becomes available staff will bring this item back to the Park Commission and the Forestry/Recreation Committee for approval. Questions were answered.

B. Discussion and Possible Action by Committee to Forward to the Environmental Resource Committee for its Consideration – None

6. Policy Issues for Discussion and Committee Determination for Consideration by Environmental Resources Committee - None

7. Educational Presentation/Outcome Monitoring Reports for Discussion

A. Project Update – Trails Closed – All trails are closed until after May 15 and conditions allow. DC Everest Restroom – Replacement restroom purchased for D.C. Everest Park. This will be a plumbed restroom replacing the existing vault restroom. Boat and Camper Storage – Boat and camper pickup begins soon. Firewood Processing – Firewood processing, hauling, stacking is complete for the season. Parking Lot Repair – Grading and cleanup of parking lots.

B. Marathon Park Water Project – Polley reported that bids were returned and opened on March 28. The bidding consisted of the base bid to complete the watermain and laterals in the spring/summer of 2023. In addition, there were five alternates including the pavement work, cost of doing the work in the fall, looping the watermain to Stewart Ave., site restoration, and installing the lateral to the splashpad. No action is needed at this point, action will only be needed if additional funding is requested which is not anticipated at this time. Construction bids came in under budget. The contractor will do the work in the spring and the project will be completed before the Fair. With the base bid, they can afford to loop the watermain to Stewart Avenue which is what the Water Department prefers. Staff is still deciding whether pavement and restoration work can be done less expensively by internal departments. The last alternative is the splashpad lateral and because of how the numbers are coming in Polley feels it should be included in the project. The splashpad has reached its useful life, however it still works and can be open to the public. Even if it's decided in the future to move the location of the splashpad there still could be a different water feature at that

current location such as a fountain. Staff still has to assess the costs of operating the Junction/Splashpad area. Polley noted the construction administration quote came in very high so she has requests out to three other organizations for those costs. Depending upon where that is will determine the bituminous and the site restoration and then potentially the splashpad lateral but she thinks the splashpad lateral and the looping the main is something that can be put in the project. If construction/administration comes in high it is just under budget with not a lot in contingency funds. The plan is to proceed with the project and if a budget adjustment is needed it will have to come back through Committee's and County Board for that budget amendment. Questions were answered. Members thought the splashpad lateral and looping of the main should be included. Polley thought the project would start in early May.

8. Announcements

A. Next Meeting Date & Time, Location – Tue., May 2, 2023 at 10:30am, 212 River Dr., Rm 5, Wausau, WI 54403 or webex.

B. Future Agenda Items – Future discussion on Big Eau Pleine Special Deer Hunt

9. Adjourn - Motion by Herbst, second by Opall to adjourn the meeting at 11:05am. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 6-0.