



**Clark County Park District
Special Board Meeting
April 08, 2020
6:00p.m.**

1. Call To Order

- a. Commissioner Richards called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

- a. Commissioner in attendance were Jeff Trefz, Joey Ewing, Roy Sweet, Randy Blankenship, Jeff Wallace, and John Richards. Also in attendance was Executive Director Jeff Tippett.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Approval of Agenda

- a. Ewing motioned to approve the agenda. Blankenship second. 6 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

5. Public Comment

- a. None

6. New Business

- a. Typo

7. Old Business

- a. Discussion and vote response to COVID-19
 - i. Tippett commented that the employees and the park have been shut down since the 22nd of March. We closed it down at the recommendation of the governor and the Board gave us permission to close. He is asking today, that as of April 15th, providing that nothing huge doesn't change, we open the employee part of the park, we take 2 weeks to get the park up and ready to go and open it May 1st if all is well.
 - ii. Ewing clarified that he wants the employees back on the 15th to which Tippett replied that he does. It gives us another week to see how this will progress or start to flatten out the curve or whatever. All of the outside employees are no more than public works as they work no more than outside, the inside employees we will shut off, no one will be allowed in except him, Fowler, and Brown. If a customer should show up, we will have a notice stay in your vehicle, we will bring you what you need. That way we are not having traffic in the office at all. As it is now, the office and the back doors and any place that has public use on a 2 hour wash down when we are here. We go out there ourselves and wash down every 2 hours. Ewing asked if he is wanting the gatehouse open too to which Tippett responded no, the gatehouse cannot open until May 1st, when we are open for business, the girls are just going to train the girls as we go.



- iii. Wallace asked if someone comes up and wants to ride the trails, will you be able to fulfill those requests to which Tippet responded yes. We will just go to them right there, receive their payment, come back in and keep it to one person. No employee other than the 3 will come into the office. It is already locked with the push button combination lock now and we just won't let anybody in. We will come out to you, speak to you through the door, there really isn't that much traffic from the employees.
- iv. Blankenship asked Richards if it is slowing down to which Richards replied nationally, but probably not here. It is just about like everything, kind of like 5G, the bigger cities get it before everyone else and we aren't going to get it until later on. The same thing, the populations in dense areas are getting hit pretty hard where there are many cases, it will eventually filter out to the less dense population areas, that is an inevitability, he thinks. It is difficult to say what is going to happen and in this case it is extremely difficult to say. The facts keep changing which lead you to believe that they are not really facts, some are just best guesses. For instance, they were saying that wearing a mask in public is not a good idea, and then 2 or 3 weeks later, everybody should wear masks in public. Things are rapidly evolving on a daily basis so it is difficult to predict the next few weeks. He would say that in the county you will see the rise of the test positive cases go up over the next couple of weeks. And when that would hit a peak, he doesn't know, that would be impossible to say. He would say where you are seeing that some of those places may be ramping down, we have yet to ramp up. Blankenship commented that we could not, to which Richards commented that we could not, it is a possibility, but it is a very contagious virus and unless everybody is isolating to the greatest extent, it will eventually effect the community and the county and everything else. Wallace asked if Richards has access for testing because his wife has a client in Terre Haute whose family member has it and they won't even test them. Richards commented that there are criterion to be tested and that is due to the lack of availability of tests and the turnaround of tests, there are higher priority people who get tested. They call PUI, or a person under investigation, if they feel you may have it or may have been exposed to someone and you have symptoms, they quarantine you. No need to test you, you have symptoms, you are positive and stay at home for two weeks. He talked to Cathy Hayden at the Health Department and asked her that question we haven't been hit much yet, will we be good to go May 1st, should we consider delaying it further and her response was to wait to delay until further guidance comes down from the state because the state has their stay at home order ending on April 30th and we may have lucked out on



that date. That's subject to change and he thinks that whatever decision they make tonight will be subject to change because this whole thing is. It would be his recommendation that if Tippet has a set of rules and edicts for the employees to keep them appropriately socially distanced, socially cleaned, etc, it would be ok to bring them back in. They are not on top of each other, he feels that would be a relatively safe thing. If anyone were to be exposed to anyone who has a positive case, or have a fever, or anything like that. He would recommend that all of the employees check their temperatures before they come to work every day. If anyone has shortness of breath, fever, cough, they are not coming to work. That's what most employers are doing. Take your temperature in the morning, take your temperature before you leave, practice social distancing, hand hygiene, disinfecting and cleaning as much as possible. That would be his recommendation.

- v. Ewing asked if we have enough sanitation supplies to which Tippet responded that we would have to get some. Ewing asked if we can get some to which Tippet commented that we could get this kind of disinfectant easily and you can make your own easy enough. You can use hand washing with antibacterial soap that is readily available.
- vi. Sweet is concerned and doesn't think they should say they will open on May 1st. He thinks we should say something like it is fluid, we will make a decision later. But to say May 1st, you have campers lined up down the Clarksville Road and such, he thinks that would be a mistake, but we don't have a problem with you bringing your people back doing what you have both said, but he does have a problem announcing that the park is going to be open on May 1st.
- vii. Blankenship suggested that they tell them they will let them know on May 1st if we will be open or not. Wallace suggested before as we get closer. Richards commented that if they extend the stay at home order, they won't do it on the 30th, they will likely do it 5-7 days before that he would imagine.
- viii. Tippet commented that feasibly thinking we should know something by the 24th, to which Richards commented yes. It is easy enough to bring the employees back in but to give a hard date on bringing in campers is very difficult as Sweet said. What if it is the 29th or 30th and Pritzker comes on and says we are going to extend this thing out two more weeks. It needs to be that we are hoping to be open on May 1st, have that as a tentative day, and look for instruction from the State Board Department of Public Health and the current situation in the county will dictate if that is feasible.



- ix. Tippett commented that he told the campers that if they want to bring in their campers they can come put them on their spot, but they can't stay in it. Sweet said do not turn on the utilities to which Tippett responded that he needs a week to turn on the water. Sweet commented that if you turn on the water than they will be staying so, in my opinion, the utilities need to stay off. You know as well as I do, if you turn it on, they will be there. Tippett clarified so you don't want us to turn the water on to which Sweet asked why it takes a week to get the water on to which Tippett responded that by the time you charge it up and wait, it will start leaking, it has happened the last two years. It will start popping heads and blowing stuff up.
- x. Ewing asked if this is something that we will be bringing back limited staff or will we be bringing in full staff to which Tippett responded just full time employees, no part time employees. He is not bringing anyone in to train until we are open.
- xi. Trefz asked with the water, can you pressure that up prior? Can you get it up and let it sit for a week and shut it back down? Tippett commented when we fire it up we like to leave it on. We don't have the valve system to cord if off. So if we fire it up on the week of the 22nd, which is the week after we get here, we are going to put in some hydrants and stuff, we are just going to let it sit because we have all new hydrants n the C section, we have a bunch of new ones in the back of B section to which Ewing commented that they haven't tested any of them yet so you could potentially have a leak there. Tippett commented that we could shut that part down once we fire that up but we are doing more damage than good, especially if we have a leak.
- xii. Wallace asked what are our options, as Sweet said they will come out here, what are our options as far as issuing fines if they are caught or something like that. Tippett commented that we can certainly do that, we can chase them out of here. We have chased one out of here already.
- xiii. Ewing commented if we are camping and we have the water on, we can close the gate. If we are working here and we are back here at 6 or 7 in the morning and we are here until 5, the gates will be open until 5 and if you are in there you aren't getting back out. That's an option. He knows that is cutting off the lake too. Is there another set of gates down at the campground? Tippett stated that he is out here several times a day and Haws is down here several times a day, and we will try to keep up somewhat of security.
- xiv. Wallace asked could you close the gates beyond the boat launch and just put a sign on, if you need to enter, call this number, if you turn the water



on, to keep people out. Tippet responded that they can figure out something.

- xv. Wallace asked what are your thoughts tonight, should the Board make any kind of incision tonight, say if the governor extends it to May 15th, that we would follow the governor's order? Instead of us having to come back and meet again? Richards commented he would think so, with the campground open, that's when we would become liable for keeping the bathrooms closed and things like that. We can't shut them, we know that, and that has been brought to his attention already. With a limited staff and who knows how many people camping out here, that puts everybody at a higher risk with everything hot and heavy around here at that point and time. The more people you have out here, the more of a chance of potential spread we will have. If that edict does come down that it extends it out, he thinks that we would have to abide by that with the campground. He really has not seen any problems or issues with the bike trails or people here fishing, or anything like that. But if we start having bathrooms and having people out where they are intermingling, then we are setting ourselves up for a lot more contact. Tippet commented that the launch bathroom will end up being open, when you water everything up, it gets watered up too. We can lock it up if you want. If we are here during the day, we can clean it too. Sweet commented that if the park is not open, why would we open the restroom to which Tippet responded just because it has water, that is the only reason. Sweet commented to open it because it has water, that is the only reason? Richards asked to open it to inspect it and close it or open it to allow people to use it? Tippet stated that he could do whatever they want. Ewing commented that there is no way to isolate it, once you turn the water on, there is no isolation. Blankenship commented that we can give the workers a key so they can go to the bathroom if they have to, but he wouldn't open it because the chances of keeping it clean are very slim. Ewing commented that to him, he would be okay with bringing back limited staff to do our maintenance that we need to do. As far as camping and campground use, he thinks it would be in their best interest to revisit this as it gets closer to the date to see what the governor says so they are not guessing maybe by the end of the month, we are open and then we are closing down, it gets really confusing. If we are going to bring some staff on just to do the routine stuff we need to do, he would say revisit the camping part of the lake at a later date, when we have more clarity from the state to see what direction we are going. Richards stated that he thinks that Ewing is right, instead of being in the tinker van, he would appreciate knowing. Ewing



stated that as much as he would like for people to camp, Richards is right, we get the shower houses going and then you have got, if they just camped that would be one thing, it is the shower house that is going to be the kicker. Everybody goes in there and there is no way to stay on top of it 24 hours a day to keep it clean. The only way to avoid that would be to avoid it all.

- xvi. Richards commented that even when the campground eventually opens, there will still need to be diligent about distancing, washing your hands, and even put some of it on the campers to keep the bathrooms clean. Don't be afraid to wash the place down after you use it, that's not just going to be open and go, that's going to be here for a while, until everything really calms down. It's not going to be like in one day everything will go back to normal.
- xvii. Ewing commented that we are still going to need some staff even if they are going to stay closed, the grass isn't going to cut itself and we still have things we need to do around here. If that's workable with the limited staff that we have got to keep that ball rolling, so when that day does come, then within a week we can turn the water on instead of playing catch up from 2 months behind. He would say no on the camping and that until they know more direction to see what the state is going to have us do, not what they are going to have us do, but we need to follow at least some of their recommendation.
- xviii. Wallace motioned to allow full time staff to return to work on April 15, 2020 and to keep all restroom facilities closed throughout the month and if the governor signs another executive order to extend the COVID-19 stay in place order that the park continue to abide by that and keep the campground closed. Blankenship second.
 - 1. Richards asked for further discussion. Shouldn't we put in there the changes that can be made while the employees come back at this time? Wallace commented that he was hoping that Tippet had already come up with policies for him to deal with it, he knows that he has been thinking about it, he is sure.
 - 2. Sweet commented that he knows that Richards doesn't have all the answers, but if SARS came and went in 4 months' time, it is possible that this can do the same thing, right? Is that too much to ask for to which Richards replied it is absolutely possible. The difference between this and SARS is that you had to try hard to get SARS and this one you don't have to try very hard to get it. From what he read today, it is not necessarily like the typical pneumonia, it is more an inflammatory response in your system where the virus attacks your red blood cells and knocks the iron



out of them. When the iron comes out of the cells, it is extremely toxic especially in the lungs, and just fills your lungs up with fluid. Blankenship commented that he thought it took the ability to carry oxygen with the red blood cells. Richards replied yes, it knocks the iron out of it, then you have all of this free floating iron which is toxic.

3. 6 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

b. Discussion Proposed Appropriations and Ordinance 2020-2021

i. Tippett commented just a little information. The Appropriations and Ordinance that we put out for public viewing from the last meeting, we weren't able to do it, so he put it on the website and he will have it available here for the next 30 days or until May's Regular Board Meeting.

c. Discussion and Vote Special Board Meeting and Public Hearing

i. Tippett commented that his question is do they want to have another Special Board Meeting for the purposes of what you just closed up with COVID-19 unless you just want to let it go until May's meeting. Then as far as May's meeting, we have to have a Public Meeting on the Appropriations and Ordinance set up at 5:45 p.m. before that meeting. Blankenship commented as far as the COVID-19, it depends on what the governor says. We have to have an idea in place. If the 1st comes around, and he hasn't said anything, then we should probably have a discussion. We have already stated if he extends it, we will wait. Wallace commented just automatically follow his lead, we just have to in his opinion. Will we have to put notice in the paper that our regularly scheduled meeting in April is going to be not held? Tippett commented that he doesn't think so. So much of the Open Meetings Act has been changed due to this COVID-19. Wallace and so the next one you are talking about, the Special Board Meeting will be just for the Appropriations Ordinance and anything else they may need to do. Blankenship added any paying bills. Tippett stated that he has paying the Bills on the agenda tonight, but that can probably wait until the May meeting. We could do the public hearing, Appropriations Ordinance, pay the bills at our regular Board Meeting in May. He is just asking to be clear on it. Wallace commented that he is cool with waiting until the next regular meeting in May, if they have a special meeting for some reason, then just call it.

ii. Richards commented just to be clear, if we are moving forward as if the campground is opening up May 1st with the work that is going to be done and everything else, until we hear something differently, correct to which Tippett responded yes. Richards stated then that decision would be taken out of our hands on whether or not to open or reopen, if there is



no new order. We open unless there is a new order of local concern, and if there is he will let them know and we will do something about that. He is also a little concerned about that. When the bigger cities start to flatten out will be the time that the more rural areas will be hitting their peak. Even if, that doesn't get extended past the end of April, and we are finding ourselves in a very bad situation here locally, we may have to extend it beyond that to do our own due diligence. Blankenship commented that we will cross that bridge when we get there to which Richards replied exactly, but he is just throwing that out there. Nothing is concrete, but they will try to get things up and running so we can go May 1st. If we are in a good position here in the county then we will do that and if we get delayed, Wallace already set that trip already in his motion, he thinks that what he was trying to do wasn't it to which Wallace replied yes. Ewing commented that is a good idea to also take into consideration Indiana, too. Probably 85% of the people who come are not from this county. We are going to have to look at the surrounding, that's a lot of miles out. Richards commented then you have to consider Vigo County which has several more cases than what we have here. The launch today was full of Indiana fishing boats. Ewing commented stated and that's them. Even though we are ok in Clark County, we still need to look outside the box because a lot of people who camp with us are not from Marshall. Richards commented that is when we will have to look at the region and see where this region is.

- iii. Sweet asked if they think they are making a mistake by letting them go out on the lake then, are we okay with it, so we need to shut the lake down to which Richards commented no. Richards stated that he didn't see anyone close to each other, there are not a whole lot of surfaces that they are handling, you are in your boat you are out of your boat, you put it in and you pull it out. He doesn't see a problem with that but with the traffic like campers and stuff like that... Ewing commented that once we so start, like you said once we see what our county is doing whether we are up or down, we also need to look at the surrounding counties as well.
- iv. Wallace asked if they have any idea how warm weather is going to affect this, the heat of the summer? Richards stated no, but they are hopeful that like most things, humidity swells up viruses and they don't float as far in the air and they are harder to contract and people spread out more. That is what we are trying to do now. Louisiana is hot and they are getting hit pretty hard right now.
- v. Richards commented that with the Special Board Meeting, kick that thing down the road until they need it.



- vi. Ewing motioned to table item C of Old Business. Blankenship second. 6 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

8. New Business

- a. Discussion and Vote Payment of Bills
 - i. Wallace asked if we have written of Bolin's or what to which Tippet responded, nothing, they haven't contacted us. We keep calling and they keep not contacting us. Ewing asked are we still on the hook for \$3,600 or are we... to which Tippet responded that he gave him what he called an itemized bill that he doesn't agree with at all.
 - ii. Blankenship asked if they are going to excluded Bolin's from the billing or what to which Tippet responded that he thinks that they did last month.
 - iii. Wallace asked what they purchased at Home Depot to which Tippet responded that was the stuff for the Wilderness Cabin they will be doing. Wallace then stated that he supposes that the M&J Marine was something to do with the boat motors to which Tippet responded it was, it is the thrusters for the rock boat.
 - iv. Wallace motioned to approve the bills with the exception of the Bolin Enterprise, Inc. bill for \$3,646.58. Ewing second. Trefz aye, Ewing aye, Sweet aye, Blankenship aye, Wallace aye, Richards aye. 0 nays. Motion carried.
- b. Discussion and Vote Committee and Board Meetings
 - i. Tippet commented that to officiate that the Board is going to suspend any Committee and any Regular Board Meeting we are going to have is the next one in May.
 - ii. Ewing motioned to suspend Committee and Board Meetings until the Regular Board Meeting in May. Blankenship second. 6 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.
- c. Discussion and Vote Credit Card Charges
 - i. Tippet commented that there is a fee every time you use your credit card as you all know. Once we go back to work on April 15th, we are going to see an increase in people paying their camping and leases and all that and he would like to ask the board, for expediency and if we can get them on the phone, we will cancel their credit card charge as long as they are using the phone to pay it. If they are calling us saying they want to pay this, we will cancel their credit card charge. This way more people are not going to want to come in the office, and not going to want to be here. Blankenship clarified that this is just until this is over to which Tippet confirmed. Blankenship commented that he sees no problem with it, there are people doing more for people, that small fee until we can actually open the office, he thinks that is a great idea. Richards asked if we actually have the right to do that with the company or would you



have to make it a discount on your end to which Tippet responded that it would be us who would absorb the debt. Richards commented that credit card companies will get paid one way or another so we are going to pay for the charge essential. Blankenship commented that we are adding 3% to the bill to cover the charge to which Tippet responded it is 1.92%. Blankenship commented so we are just going to lose that much, because we are not going to collect the 1.whatever for their credit card usage. It will go back to the way it use to be, we just pay it all. He thinks this is great, if you can keep them from coming around and keeping you from having to handle money, money is dirty.

- ii. Blankenship motioned to quit charging the 1.93% for credit card usage until this is all settled. Richards second. 6 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.
- d. Discussion and Vote Proposal Saluki Consulting
- i. Ewing commented that they discussed this a couple of meetings ago and it came through the Camping Committee about the surveying work within the campground as far as drainage and that and these were the proposals that came out of the Camping Committee. He believes the option of the committee was Option 3, Option 3 Was the recommendation from the Camping Committee to use that format as far as elevations and grade work within our campground. He knows that this original proposal is for 30 days and it has been longer than that so he does not know if it is still valid. Do we need to reach out to them again but he will leave that option out there. Pending the validity, it is the recommendation that choose Option 3 for Suluki Consulting.
 - ii. Ewing motioned to approve Suluki Consulting's Option 3 for \$3,791.
 1. Sweet asked what Option 3 entails to which Ewing responded level circuit showing existing roadways, center line, ditch flow lines, elevation relative to arbitrary permanent special elevations 50 foot increments, existing culverts, inverts, inlets, outlets, ends, proposal standards, pipe size, recommendations based on hydraulic calculations using 100 year flood data, etc.
 2. Blankenship commented that pretty much in short they are just telling us how to drain the water to which Ewing stated that basically they will let us know where we are at height wise and elevation, and where we need to fall everything. Either we fall everything one way or we divert it some this way and some that way and some that way. Sweet commented that we discussed this at the last meeting didn't we to which Ewing stated that is why when Sweet brought up the roads, that's where this conversation came into play, too. Blankenship commented that if



we don't get the water away from the roads, it isn't going to do you any good to fix them.

- iii. Wallace second with further discussion. If they come in and do this, when do you think they would be able to come in and do it to which Ewing stated they were going to come in and do this a month ago. With all of this happening, it is probably going to get pushed out he would say toward the fall before any of the physical work of it. We are going to handle the physical work of it, we are going to do the work ourselves. We are just relying on these guys for tools and markers and elevations so that we have a base line. Wallace commented that he didn't know when they were coming in, depending on what their workload is, they may be coming in in a couple of weeks. Ewing commented that they really wanted to come in before all of the campers got there because when they start shooting all of the campers get in the way. So if campers do start showing up and right now with all of the campers that are in there, it is probably going to get pushed back until this fall. Wallace stated that his concern right now is if the markers get set then the markers get broke off or whatever. He knows they have to do it.
- iv. Ewing clarified that this vote is contingent on whether or not they will honor their original quote two months ago, with all of this going on. We can either accept this now or let it die and address this in the fall. It doesn't think it is something that will make us or break us right now, we are not going to do the ditch work he doesn't think this summer, he doesn't see this happening.
- v. Blankenship commented that he doesn't like to kick the can, if you show people that you are working on it, maybe they will bitch a lot less to which Sweet commented that will not work.
- vi. Richards stated that the options are that they could approve it now and schedule it for a later date to which Blankenship added if they will accept it now because we are out of their time frame. Richards commented that he wouldn't expect the price to go up or down too much. What if they say we are just sitting on our thumbs here, can we come do it now, is that not a good idea? Wallace commented that like Ewing said, the more campers that are out there, the harder it is going to be to shoot and secondly as people get to running around out here, kids or whatever, mowers. Sweet commented that with the lathes, he is not seeing any problem with the pins it is the lathes, as they will be showing the different elevations, he feels we would be redoing it. Blankenship added that if we are going to have them come out and do this come this fall, all the campers should have to go. We need to have full access, we will have trees to shoot around, so fighting a camper would not be beneficial.



- vii. Ewing stated that this is his thing and the time constraints as it is now. You have a motion and a second to vote. We can either vote for it now or vote it down and revisit it again and see what this summer is going to do to us.
- viii. Wallace commented that he thinks this is something that they have got to do, to him it is an important thing to get the campground right. He figures there are some other places where they are going to have to have some money. If we could lock them into this amount, we will defer to doing it until this fall. This would be a good time to do that. People need to enjoy their summer once they are able to get back. Blankenship commented that this will give us all winter to work on it. He knows you can only go so long until it freezes up on you.
- ix. Ewing aye, Sweet aye, Blankenship aye, Wallace aye, Richards aye, Trefz aye. Motion carried.

9. Executive Session 5ILCS 120/2 C-1, C-3, C-11, C-21

- a. None

10. Adjourn

- a. Blankenship motioned to adjourn the meeting. Wallace second. 6 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.
- b. Meeting was adjourned at 6:47 p.m.