



## Minutes

### Perry County Park District Board - Regular Meeting

August 11, 2025, 1:00 pm

Village of New Straitsville Office

SR 93, New Straitsville, OH 43766

#### I. Call to Order

Mr. Moore called the meeting to order at 1:16pm

(Meeting start was delayed due to three members and staff being delayed in arriving due to construction zones and an asphalt striping caravan)

#### II. Roll Call

Present: Mr. Moore; Ms. Oberhauser; Ms. McAdams; Mr. Coll; Mr. Redfern (arrived @1:21pm)

Staff: Ms. Bennett - PCPD Naturalist

Guests: Health Department Jenny LaRue; PC Commissioner Chase Bennett; (Mr. Bennett left the meeting at 2:17pm)

#### III. Comments from the public/guests and board members

Ms. LaRue updated the Board on a couple of new trails coming to the area in the next year. One of these will be near the New Lex Middle school and will be a grant-funded approx 1/2 mile Mental Health Trail project being done by the New Lexington High School FFA. She also let the board know that the Benches & Caps project is going to install three benches on local trails in conjunction with a student who has done a bottle cap flower box project.

Ms. LaRue talked about her recent attendance at the Ohio Outdoor Economic Conference. She shared that the PA Wilds Center provided an excellent presenter at the conference and shared some tidbits from that presentation, including that there are only 24 states in the nation that have Outdoor Recreation Departments. Ms. LaRue hopes that Ohio will do this in the future. She also learned that is recommended for everyone to get 120 minutes of outdoor fresh air/sunshine per weekend, and only 21% of our population does this.

Mr. Bennett thanked the Board and staff for their work with the Perry County Park District. He talked about the success and effectiveness of now having a county administrator assisting the Commissioners in their work. Mr. Bennett advised that the renovated County Courthouse will open to the public on Oct 3 and the ribbon cutting will take place at 1:30pm.

#### IV. \*Approve August Agenda Items / Request for additional or revised agenda items

Mr. Coll moved, Mr. Redfern seconded, to approve the August 11, 2025, meeting agenda as amended, removing Item B: Mileage Reimbursement of New Business, as unnecessary at this meeting, and changing Item C: 2026 Budget Planning Preparation Discussion to become Item B.

Motion carried.

V. \*Approval of Minutes

A. July 14, 2025, Regular Meeting

Mr. Coll moved, Ms. Oberhauser seconded to approve the July 14, 2025, regular meeting minutes as presented.

Motion carried.

VI. \*Financial Status of Park District

A. Approval of July Revenue and Expense Reports

Ms. McAdams presented the July financial reports to the Board.

Ms. McAdams advised that she had a discussion with County Administrator Mr. Stroup, who advised mileage reimbursements can be submitted anytime after the board approves an expense (doesn't have to be within the current pay period).

Mr. Coll moved, Mr. Redfern seconded, to approve the July 2025 financial reports.

Motion carried

VII. Old Business

A. Foundation of Appalachia (FFOA) - Fund representative(s) update

Ms. McAdams advised that all board members and Naturalist Ms. Bennett have been set up with view-only access as requested and should have recently received an email from FFAO with log-in instructions. All confirmed that the email was received.

Mr. Coll and Mr. Moore successfully logged in, and the others will soon follow up to ensure they can log in as well.

B. Perry County park and recreation map update

Mr. Moore advised that he had reached out to several professors/departments at Ohio University for interest in assisting with the park and recreation map creation project. He received responses from a couple and will follow up with them. One department is to contact Mr. Moore in September after students have returned for the fall.

C. Strategic Plan update and Bylaws Revisions

The Board concurred that strategic plan work to needs to continue and the Bylaws revisions should also be worked on this fall, to be completed by the end of the year.

D. Perry County Prosecutor's Opinion on Compensation Issue

Mr. Moore advised that he met with the Perry County Prosecutor Terry J. Rugg on Monday, August 4, 2025, and discussed the compensation issue addressed by the Board at the past two board meetings and in directed actions in between. Mr. Rugg responded on Thursday, August 7, 2025, via email to Mr. Moore, who read the following email into the minutes:

I want to first thank you for coming in to meet with me on Monday, it was a pleasure meeting you and great to learn more about the Perry County Park District.

I have reviewed the timeline/outline of the events and actions taken by the Perry County Park District. I believe this incident was handled properly. The District contacted the appropriate individuals and commissions upon learning they may have inadvertently violated the ethics code. Since then you have been upfront and honest with who you have reported to and probably most importantly you have rectified the situation by the return of the funds that were inappropriately distributed to a Commission Member.

I do not anticipate the Ethics Commission contacting me any further regarding this situation, however, if the Ethic Commission does contact me, I will give them my opinion that this was de minimus and the issue was recognized internally and handled appropriately internally.

If the Park District has any other questions or concerns, please fee free to reach out at anytime.

Best Regards,  
Terry J. Rugg  
Prosecuting Attorney  
Perry County Prosecutor's Office

#### VIII. New Business

##### A. CORSA meeting

Ms. McAdams advised the Board of the upcoming November department head meeting being hosted by the county's CORSA insurance. The Board determined that Ms. Bennett and at least one Board member should attend to familiarize and learn more about the infrastructure of the CORSA group regarding insurance & liability. Mr. Moore and Ms. Bennett agreed to attend, with McAdams and Mr. Coll advising they would also attend if possible.

Ms. McAdams will notify meeting organizers with PCPD's RSVP.

##### B. 2026 Budget Planning Preparation Discussion

The Board's 2026 budget discussion will begin at the September meeting. The Board set a special meeting date for Tuesday, September 23, 4pm, to work budget request that will be submitted to the PC Commissioners for 2026. The budget request will be finalized and approved by the Board at the October meeting. It is expected that Board representatives will meet with the PCC in mid-October to present the budget request for 2026.

#### IX. Programming Report

##### A. Programs & Events

1. Recent programs included:

a) 7/14-19 Perry County Fair

Ms. Bennett gave a summary of fair presentations and booth visitor numbers. The Board discussed possibly requesting a new location in 2026.

b) 7/20 Kayaking - canceled due to storms

c) 7/25 Speaker at Health Dept PC Health Network meeting

d) 7/26 Paid program on spiders being was presented for Pickaway Co Park District in Circleville

e) 7/27 Ludowici-plein air program 2 -canceled due to inclement weather

f) 8/6 Back to School Bash - Interacted with approx 1000 visitors

g) 8/9 Bird hike - Wilson Mound

2. Upcoming programs, including: (all red from July minutes)

a) 8/13 WHIZ

b) 8/15 Majestic Care Center

c) 8/17 Kayaking

d) 8/24 Tecumseh Lake - plein air program 3

B. Other Updates, including:

1. PCPD received a donation of 10 pairs of binoculars from “Tunnel Hill” (Win Innovations). Ms. Bennett will be visiting the Tunnel Hill site to explore for bird watching observation locations and invited Board members to join her. The Board is hoping to assist with planning and development of bird watching areas there and connecting WinInnovations with USFWS for consideration to be a host site to install pollinator prairies.
2. Ms. Bennett advised the board that she communicated with Woody Woodward, Executive Director of OPRA, to inquire into ideas for resources for capital purchases, such as a building. A response was received suggesting that funding could be sought through the State Capital Improvement Budget. Discussion followed.
3. PCPD has been awarded a \$500 ODNR Step Outside grant for the purchase of stream study equipment. The funds should arrive soon.
4. PCPD has applied to ODNR for a \$500 Education grant for the purchase of educational bird skull replicas.
5. Ms. Bennett is still working with ODNR regarding listings of Perry County trails on the OuterSpatial app.

X. \*Adjournment

Mr. Redfern moved, Ms. Oberhauser seconded, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried

Meeting adjourned at 3:07 PM.

Next Regular Meeting - Monday, September 8, 2025, 1:00 pm  
Location: William H Barker Community Center (aka Roseville Community Center)  
13047 Karl Brown Rd, Roseville, OH 43777

*\*Requires a vote*

Reminder:

2025 Park Board Meeting Locations

- |                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| A. Jan - March 2025  | Somerset                                  |
| B. April - June 2025 | Corning/Junction City/Thornville)         |
| C. July - Sept 2025  | New Lexington/New Straitsville/Roseville) |
| D. Oct - Dec 2025    | Shawnee/New Lexington/Somerset)           |