

**VEGSUND FAMILY COUNTY PARK
40097 POLK ST NE, STANCHFIELD, MN 55080**

Voting Members Present: Luke Merrill, Lee Kingsbury, John Carlson, Bill Berg, Carol Urness, Susan Blom, Jamieson Baldwin-Schaffer, Adam Curtis, Wayne Anderson

Voting Members Absent: Whitey Redfield, Bob Shogren

Staff Present: Barry Wendorf

Public Present: Bob & Sue Betsinger, Hazel Erickson

A. The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chair Wayne Anderson.

Merrill motioned, Kingsbury seconded to approve the meeting agenda. **Motion carried.**

B. Public Comment – Bob Betsinger asked if the South 20 acres of the Dorothy Bohn Property was to be part of the acquisition grant in addition to the Carol Urness Property. It was stated that it was. Currently there is a trail from the Bohn Property through the Betsinger property to the Urness Property. The Parks Director will work with the Betsinger's on future use of this trail.

C. Minutes – Merrill motioned, seconded by Blom, to approve meeting minutes of April 25th, 2023. **Motion carried.**

D. Budget Report – Blom motioned, Kingsbury seconded to approve the April Budget Report. **Motion carried.**

E. Bills and Invoices – Blom motioned, Merrill seconded to pay 19 bills totaling \$6,524.52 for the month of May. **Motion carried.**

F. Director's Report

1. Programs & Events – The Spring Bird Hike had inclement weather with few participants. The 5th Grade Conservation day at Becklin Park was a huge success with over 500 students in attendance. The Disc Golf Tournament at Springvale Park was also successful with 90 players, along with volunteers and spectators present.
2. Ex Mark Mower Lease – The 24 month lease will expire in July with an option to purchase. Merrill motioned, seconded by Curtis to purchase this equipment at end of lease in the amount of \$3,210.62. **Motion carried.**
3. Drinking Fountains – Vegsund Park tested positive for Coliform Bacteria and has been disinfected with test results pending. The fountain is in-operable until further notice. Anderson Park fountain is not functioning correctly and is in-operable until repaired.
4. Stamm Farm Development – Phase I Archaeology Survey has been completed. A grant agreement is now able to be signed with development starting this fall.
5. Park Visitor Numbers were not reported.

G. Other Business

1. Draft Promotional Plan – A revised Draft Plan was discussed. Urness noted that some of our parks have regional publicity and that there is not one purpose for all six parks. For example Vegsund Park is known for its fishing pier and paved trail. Urness asked what would happen if we tripled visitation? Blom commented that more people are not necessarily the goal, and that we should invest in protection of park natural resources. Berg stated that he doesn't see pressure currently in the parks and wants to be sure we promote all of our parks and activities. Anderson noted that all parks should be available via internet search. Further discussion included getting the community invested to help police the parks. Kingsbury talked about the Friends of Anderson Park role. A **subcommittee** was set up with Berg, Curtis, and Carlson to develop a survey with questions such as “Why did you come?”, “Where are you from?”, “How long did you stay?” etc...
2. Stanchfield Township Park Fund Request – Carlson motioned, Seconded by Berg to approve \$2,800 from the Stanchfield Township Park Fund to be used for new bases, fence repair, new sign, and Ag lime at their township ball field. **Motion carried.**
3. Comprehensive Land Use Plan – the Isanti County Zoning Office will be completing an updated plan in 2023. This is a great opportunity to provide input on the future direction of Isanti County. In the process of receiving public comments through an online survey at <https://www.imagineisanticounty2045.com/>
4. 2024 Budget Proposal – Carlson motioned, Merrill seconded to recommend approval of the proposed 2024 Park Budget at an increase of \$1,470. **Motion carried**
5. Per Diems

H. Next Meeting Scheduled for **Tuesday, July 25th, 2023 – 5:00 p.m. at Springvale County Park**

I. Curtis motioned, Berg seconded to adjourn meeting at 6:15 pm. **Motion carried.**

Submitted by,
Barry Wendorf
Isanti County Parks Director