

**Minutes of Board Meeting.....January 16, 2017**

Attending: Howard Wilkison, Sue Fortman, Sharon Phillips, Tom Ogden, Victor Dance, George Granholt, Dave Smith, Linda Ricke, Bryan Robbins, Robert Barker and Teresa Kovacich.

Minutes were discussed and approved on a motion made by Sharon Phillips and seconded by Bryan Robbins.

**New Business:**

Tom Ogden made a motion to retain the current slate of officers for 2017. Dave Smith seconded the motion. The officers for 2017 are Howard Wilkison – president, Sue Fortman – vice president and Sharon Phillips – secretary.

Bob Barker informed the board that he had been notified verbally that the State had ordered another \$27,000.00 to be cut from our 2017 budget. The Board discussed what these cuts could mean to our department. We will have to consider layoffs, cancelling programs and even closing the pool. The Board suggested that we notify the community through an announcement on the radio or through an article in the newspaper of the effects that these cuts will have on our department.

The Board reviewed the contract renewal with Harpring Farms LLC for the crop ground rental. The new two-year contract is for \$180.00 per acre. Following the discussion, Sue Fortman made a motion to enter into the new two-year contract with Harpring Farms LLC. Tom Ogden seconded the motion.

**Letters of Communication:**

Bob Barker told the Board that he had received a nice email from Phil Nobbe, Decatur County Girls Softball President, thanking him for speaking to the tourism board on behalf of the girls' softball and boys' baseball leagues in regard to upgrading the diamonds at the sports complex. The upgrade would replace the existing brick dust with a composite product.

We received a thank you card from the family of Norm Campbell for the Park's Departments donation to the Decatur County Community Foundation in Norm's memory.

**Superintendent's Report:**

The Stardust Circus is returning to the Parks Department for two shows on February 23. The rent was raised to \$225.00.

The maintenance staff built a storage shed for the County Park Caretaker's house.

Jody Biddinger replaced the brakes on Ford truck. He also tuned it up.

Russell Wilson has been appointed by the County Council to replace Mark Koors on the Park Board. His term will expire on December 31, 2020.

Co-ed volleyball is underway with 17 teams participating. Their end-of-season tourney is planned for Sunday, April 2.

The maintenance staff has constructed six new composite park benches. Two were made for the pool with the remaining four being made for the parks.

An extra night has been added for pickleball. In addition to Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00AM – 12:00Noon and Saturdays from 9:00AM – 12:00Noon, the public can also play on Thursdays from 6:00PM – 8:00PM.

With no further business to discuss, Tom Ogden made a motion to adjourn. Linda Ricke seconded the motion.