

Reno Beach / Howard Farms Conservancy District

Regular Meeting

Minutes of Regular Meeting March 10, 2025

At 7:00, Mrs. Szuch called the meeting to order.

Members present: Holly Szuch, Adam Hoff

Also present: Mark Sattler, Wanda Volpitta, Tony Parasiliti

Video: Elvis Shepherd, John Hoopingarner, Linda Jakubowski, Deanna Bobak

Minutes

The minutes from the January 6, 2025 meeting were e-mailed to each director for review.

Mrs. Szuch asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes from the January 6, 2025 meeting.

Mr. Hoff motioned to approve the minutes as submitted.

Mrs. Szuch seconded the motion.

Vote followed: Mr. Shepherd, abstain Mr. Hoff, yes Mrs. Szuch, yes

Motion carried

Treasurer Report

Mrs. Szuch asked for the reading of the treasurer's report. Report was read.

Mr. Hoff motioned to approve the report as read.

Mrs. Szuch seconded the motion.

Vote followed: Mr. Shepherd, abstain Mr. Hoff, yes Mrs. Szuch, yes

Motion carried

Warrants

Mrs. Szuch asked if there were any bills to be paid.

Yes, there are bills that require payment.

Mr. Hoff motioned to approve the warrants.

Mrs. Szuch seconded the motion.

Vote followed: Mr. Shepherd, abstain Mr. Hoff, yes Mrs. Szuch, yes

Motion carried

List of warrants to follow.

Secretary Report

The secretary explained that she put the 2025 expenditure sheet showing the first quarter expenses under the secretary report tab.

Mr. Hoff introduced Deanna Bobak from CEC. CEC is the consulting engineering firm selected who will be working with the Board to provide general consulting services including funding.

Mr. Hoff motioned to accept the secretary report.

Mrs. Szuch seconded the motion.

Vote followed: Mr. Shepherd, abstain Mr. Hoff, yes Mrs. Szuch, yes

Motion carried

Legal Counsel Report

Mr. Hoopingarner will petition the court for the appointment of the Board of Appraisers with resolution 2025-02. Mr. Hoopingarner will ask to remove the current Board of Appraisers members and appoint the recommended candidates, pursuant to 6101.27 of the Ohio revised code.

Mrs. Szuch asked the three Board of Appraisers nominees to tell the Board of Directors a little bit about themselves.

Mr. Shepherd asked Mr. Hoopingarner to speak a little bit about himself so the Board of Appraisers candidates are more familiar with him.

Mr. Hoff read the Board of Appraisers resolution.

Mr. Hoff made a motion to adopt resolution 2025.02 as read.

Mrs. Szuch seconded the motion.

Vote followed: Mr. Shepherd, abstain Mr. Hoff, yes Mrs. Szuch, yes

Motion carried

Mr. Hoopingarner suggested the Board of Appraisers should consider an orientation meeting once appointed.

Mr. Hoopingarner also suggested the Board of Directors set compensation for the Board of Appraisers. The Board of Directors discussed paying the Board of Appraisers compensation of \$100 per meeting at the January meeting based on 2025 budget of \$1,800.

Mr. Hoff motioned to set the compensation at \$100.00 per meeting per Board of Appraisers member.

Mrs. Szuch seconded the motion.

Vote followed: Mr. Shepherd, abstain Mr. Hoff, yes Mrs. Szuch, yes

Motion carried

Mr. Hoopingarner is working on the annual report and will have the annual report ready for signatures for the May meeting. Draft report will be provided in advance.

Committee Reports / Old Business

Mr. Hoff said that the Trustees and Board applied for a \$148,000.00 grant through the Lake Erie Commission for additional investigations for short-term and long-term repairing of levees. Mr. Hoff said that the Trustees plan on signing the engineering agreement with CEC on March 25, 2025. This will cover three segments of the legacy levee along Cooley Canal and Ward Cutoff.

Mr. Hoff stated that The Water Resource Development Act from December 2024 federal funding was approved, and we were awarded \$3.0M with the funds through the Army Corp of Engineers to enhance the levee sites. It's a long-protracted process. The first step is to submit a letter of intent. The funding will at best be available in the first quarter of 2026. Mr. Hoff will prepare the letter of intent and collect signatures before sending.

The Army Corp of Engineers is concerned about a 300–500-foot piece of the project segment that is along the Northwesterly side of Wards Canal. Mr. Hoff would like to pursue funding through FEMA for Hazard Mitigation Funding through the Ohio EMA, one of the steps is to adopt the Hazard Mitigation Plan from the Lucas County Emergency Management Agency. Mr. Hoff drafted a resolution 2025-01, that he read for the Board of Directors.

Mrs. Szuch made a motion to accept resolution 2025-01 authorizing the Lucas County Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Mr. Hoff seconded the motion.

Vote followed: Mr. Shepherd, abstain Mr. Hoff, yes Mrs. Szuch, yes

Motion carried

JTWP Emergency Director Report

Mr. Parasiliti reported that the pump at Wallace Rd and Howard Rd failed. Mr. Parasiliti asked if the Board of Directors was notified and how they were notified. Mrs. Szuch said she saw it when she drove passed. She stated she stopped and spoke with Mr. Chapman of the Jerusalem Township Maintenance Department. Mr. Parasiliti asked if the Board of Directors could supply a letter showing who to contact when there is a maintenance issue. Mr. Hoff said he would write a letter and have it signed and will forward it to Mr. Parasiliti, the township maintenance department, and the township trustees.

Mr. Parasiliti also let the Board of Directors know that the township has pre-filled sandbags along with empty bags available for the residents to use in case of flooding.

Committee Reports / Old Business (continued)

Mr. Hoff discussed that he will not renew his term with the Conservancy District. Mr. Hoff suggested entering into a joint agreement with the Lucas County Engineers office. Mr. Hoff is working with the County to draft an agreement, but it has not been finalized. The draft agreement is out for review and Mr. Hoff will speak to this again at the next board meeting in May.

Mr. Hoff reported that he does not have new information about the wet well water clean out. Mr. Hoff did reach out to Buckeye Pump to get an updated quote for the annual inspection.

Mr. Hoff let the Directors know that the invoice from Neon Goldfish was to update the different software for the site. Mr. Hoff also said that we will need to move away from him overseeing the website.

Dike Maintenance Report

Mrs. Szuch let the Directors know that Bomyea does not want to contract with the Conservancy District for the 2025 season. Mrs. Szuch contacted Erie Shores Lawn & Landscape to receive a quote from them for Dike maintenance for the 2025 season. Mrs. Szuch sent the quote out to the Board of Directors and asked if there were any questions. Mr. Hoff mentioned sending a letter to the dike residents. Payments will be monthly over seven months. Mr. Hoff stated that Erie Shores will need to send us the proper documents to get them set up as a vendor for the Conservancy District, including tax-exempt certificate.

Mrs. Szuch asked for a motion to accept the quote from Erie Shores Lawn & Landscape for \$42,500.00 for the 2025 season.

Mr. Hoff made the motion to accept the quote of \$42,500.00 from Erie Shores Lawn & Landscape.

Mrs. Szuch seconded the motion.

Vote followed: Mr. Shepherd, abstain Mr. Hoff, yes Mrs. Szuch, yes

Motion carried

Mr. Shepherd mentioned that Mr. Hoff will be leaving his role as Director for the Reno Beach / Howard Farms Conservancy District. Mr. Hoff's last meeting will be in May. Mr. Hoopingartner said to let him talk with the Conservancy Court first before any official advertising of the position. Mr. Hoff will provide information from his 2020 appointment to Mr. Hoopingartner. Mr. Shepherd asked everyone to look for candidates to take over the open Director position. Wait to see what Court asks for Board to advertise for applications to fill the opening but may want to post a public notice. Mr. Hoopingartner to contact the Court this week.

Mrs. Szuch mentioned Pete and Sherry Ansted that live on the dike, completed a section 408 permit to put up a swing and pavers on the dike.

Mr. Hoff made a motion to concur with the issuance of 408 permit approved by the Army Corp for Pete and Sherry Ansted.

Mrs. Szuch seconded the motion.

Vote followed: Mr. Shepherd, yes Mr. Hoff, yes Mrs. Szuch, yes

Motion carried

New Business

No new business currently.

General Discussion.

Linda Jakubowski asked if a letter is sent to the residents on the dike about the vegetation being sprayed. Mrs. Szuch answered by saying that a letter is sent out annually at the end of March explaining the spraying of vegetation on the dike.

Linda then asked about the repairs to Wards canal. Mr. Hoff explained that this section of levee existed prior to the Army Corps project back in 1992. The segment of concern was built by Gradel Company with sheet piling along Wards Canal but the inland side slope has erosion and rodent burrows and the sheet piling is leaning. The Army Corp has said it is the responsibility of the Conservancy District to repair it, that is part of the reason for the search for funding. The benefit to cost ratio is well above 1.0.

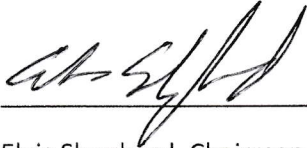
Adjournment: There being no further business, Mr. Hoff moved to adjourn the regular meeting. Mrs. Szuch seconded the motion. There were no objections, the motion carried at 8:31 pm.

Next Meeting is Monday, May 12, 2025 at 7:00PM.

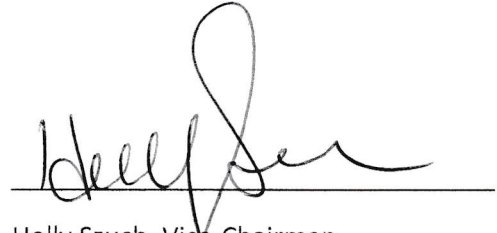
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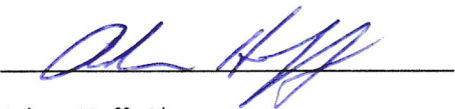
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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Elvis Shepherd', written over a horizontal line.

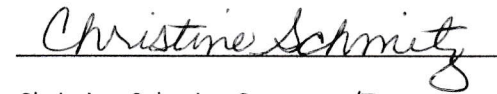
Elvis Shepherd, Chairman

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Holly Szuch', written over a horizontal line.

Holly Szuch, Vice-Chairman

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Adam Hoff', written over a horizontal line.

Adam Hoff, Alternate

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Christine Schmitz', written over a horizontal line.

Christine Schmitz, Secretary/Treasurer