

Reno Beach / Howard Farms Conservancy District

Regular Meeting

Minutes of Regular Meeting May 12, 2025

At 7:05, Mr. Shepherd called the meeting to order.

Members present: Holly Szuch, Adam Hoff, Elvis Shepherd

Video: John Hoopingartner, Lei Wang

Minutes

The minutes from the March 10, 2025 meeting were e-mailed to each director for review.

Mr. Shepherd asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes from the March 10, 2025 meeting. Mr. Hoff stated the corrections were emailed to the secretary and are included in the final copy.

Mr. Hoff motioned to approve the minutes as submitted.

Mrs. Szuch seconded the motion.

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

Motion carried

Treasurer Report

Mr. Shepherd 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, yes Mr. Hoff, yes Mrs. Szuch, yes

Motion carried

Warrants

Mr. Shepherd asked if there were any bills to be paid.

Yes, there are bills that require payment.

Mr. Hoff motioned to approve the warrants.

Mr. Shepherd seconded the motion.

Vote followed: Mr. Shepherd, yes 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 motioned to accept the secretary report.

Mrs. Szuch seconded the motion.

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

Motion carried

The secretary let the directors know that category 1A12A dike maintenance does not have enough funds to cover the approved maintenance for the year.

Mr. Hoff motioned to move \$2,500 from category 1A5C emergency to 1A12A dike maintenance.

Mr. Shepherd seconded the motion.

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

Motion carried

Legal Counsel Report

Mr. Hoopingarner spoke with Kevin Helmick, the deputy court administrator, is there any movement with the appointment of the board of appraisers. Mr. Helmick asked for some additional information which was provided by the secretary. The court is required to accept the nominations from the board. Mr. Hoopingarner is expecting to hear something by the end of the week regarding the appointment of the appraisers. Mr. Helmick is also aware of the resignation of Mr. Hoff. Mr. Hoopingarner also let the board know that Judge Madros will not be overseeing the process. Judge MacNamara will be the judge overseeing the process going forward. Mr. Shepherd gave Mr. Hoopingarner approval to give Mr. Helmick the information about the board of appraisers as requested.

Mr. Hoopingarner emailed the annual report to the Board of Directors and the secretary. Mr. Hoopingarner asked the board for an approval so that he can submit it to the court.

Mr. Shepherd motioned to approve the annual report as submitted by Mr. Hoopingarner.

Mrs. Szuch seconded the motion.

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

Motion carried

Mr. Hoopingarner will submit the annual report and petition the court for the annual levee.

Mr. Hoff asked to keep his district email open for a couple months after his term is over. Mr. Hoopingarner said it is a good idea to keep it open.

Mr. Hoff introduced Mr. Wang from the University of Cincinnati. Mr. Wang said that his team will help with trying to get funding for our projects by collaborating with the district. He said it is a competitive grant, but whatever the outcome of the grant, he would like to stay working with the district. Mr. Wang's team can do some analysis on our area. Mr. Hoff said he will stay in contact and report between Mr. Wang and the conservancy district. Mr. Wang suggested a shared file for both his team and the conservancy district to store reports.

JTWP Emergency Director Report

Mr. Parasiliti is not present and there are no updates currently.

Dike Maintenance Report

Mrs. Szuch stated that she talked to Reed Boothby from Erie Shores and he reported that he was having difficulty spraying because of the wind. Mr. Boothby would like to wait until after the birding week and the weather is nicer before beginning to spray. Mrs. Szuch also said the Cooley pump tripped due to a possible power surge. The main pump was working but the trash pump was off. Mrs. Szuch reprogrammed the pump and it has been fine since. Mr. Shepherd asked Mrs. Szuch if she took Mr. Boothby around the dike job site. Mrs. Szuch said they are going to schedule a time to do that. Mr. Shepherd offered to take him if Mrs. Szuch was too busy. Mrs. Szuch also said that the bearings at the Cooley pump had been greased the week prior to the meeting.

Mr. Hoff asked Mr. Shepherd if he submitted the ODNR report to which Mr. Shepherd said that he had submitted it.

Committee Reports / Old Business

Mr. Hoff advised Neon Goldfish that his term is ending. Mr. Hoff has been in contact with Ken Franzen, Mr. Shepherd and the secretary should have received an email to be administrators of the account. Mr. Hoff will be removed from the account at the end of August. Mr. Hoff will follow up on renewing the domain name. Mr. Hoff said that Neon Goldfish is reviewing the website quarterly to update the software. Mr. Shepherd will be taking over the website once Mr. Hoff's term is complete.

Mr. Hoff informed the board that there are multiple projects and funding pathways out there right now. The FEMA Hazard Mitigation assistance grant for Ward's Canal. It has been filed but is being delayed with what is going on in the federal government. It is set up as a \$385,000 request at a 90/10 split, or an 80/20 split.

The fiscal year 2026 earmark grant though Senator John Husted and Senator Bernie Moreno has a request of 1.2 million dollars at a 90/10 split. Marcy Kaptors office did give a letter of recommendation for this grant. Mr. Hoff stated that Mrs. Szuch did reach out to Representative Elgin Rogers, Jr., Mrs. Szuch spoke to him about getting us in the budget for 2026. Mrs. Szuch let everyone know that Representative Rogers will be holding a roundhouse public meeting at the township hall on Friday June 13th at 6:30 pm. Mrs. Szuch will be reaching out to the Metroparks and TMACOG to try to get as many people as possible together for the meeting.

Mr. Hoff talked about the Lake Erie Commission levee assessments. Mr. Hoff stated the district received \$85,000 in 2023 and \$148,000 in 2025 through the township. The \$148,000 project has started, with topographic survey work, they will wait for summer to do the Geotech items. Mr. Hoff and township trustee, Mr. Lytten have plans to meet with Lucas County to keep them informed and updated about the work that is going on. Mr. Hoff and Mr. Lytten would like to talk about the Ohio Public Works Commission funding. Mr. Hoff would like to talk about the match options. A letter of intent has been submitted. The board has until September of 2025 to commit. Mr. Hoopingartner as if there is a possibility of obtaining a loan. Mr. Wang asked if the match could be in contributions. Mr. Wang said he has leveraged his time as a contribution in the past.

Mr. Shepherd mentioned that Ron Corbet gave him an update about building his house. Mr. Corbet has been working with the Army Corp of Engineers to make sure everything is in order.

The secretary mentioned that the letters to the residents went out. The secretary told the directors that she spoke with a property owner that lives in Colorado.

The secretary let the board know that she received the pump station report from TAS for the first of the year. Mr. Hoff stated that he did get a quote from Buckeye Pump but it was higher than he thought it should be, so he did not pursue them. Mr. Shepherd said he would like to talk to TAS about getting more of a report from them in the future.

New Business

No new business currently.

General Discussion.

No general discussion.

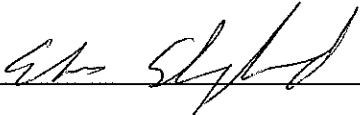
Adjournment: There being no further business, Mr. Hoff moved to adjourn the regular meeting. Mrs. Szuch seconded the motion. There were no objections, the motion carried at 8:19 pm.

Next Meeting is Monday, July 14, 2025 at 7:00PM.

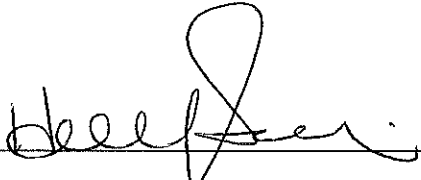
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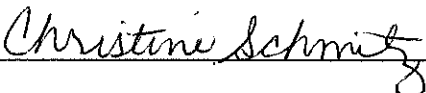
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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Elvis Shepherd', written over a horizontal line.

Elvis Shepherd, Chairman

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

Holly Szuch, Vice Chairman

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

Christine Schmitz, Secretary/Treasurer