

COMMISSIONERS APPROVAL

IMAN *SR*

CHILCOTT

FOSS *ST*

STOLTZ *[Signature]*

KANENWISHER *MW*

Members Present.....Commissioner Greg Chilcott, Commissioner Suzy Foss, Commissioner Ron Stoltz and Commissioner Matt Kanenwisher

Date.....October 5, 2011

► Minutes: Glenda Wiles

► The Board met at 10:05 a.m. with Ravalli County Park Board Members Frank Cucera, Gary Leese, John Ormiston, John Conlon, Bill Delaney, and Bill Clark to discuss suggested changes to the Park Board Procedures and Administration as well as to address the need for a secretary for Park Board minutes.

Commissioner Kanenwisher went through the actual sections of the Procedures and Administration as well as the Suggested Changes from the Park Board.

- Section 3: Establishment (go with suggested changes)
- Section 4: Jurisdiction (go with suggested changes)
- Section 7: (e) Terms of Office calendar year vs. fiscal year (leave at January – calendar year) with 3 year terms. (h)Compensation for mileage – Per John Ormiston the Park Board Members are required to live in certain districts as does Commissioners. The Commissioners stated they feel the meetings can be held in different places and there is no money to pay their mileage, also if mileage is the deal breaker then they should not serve as voluntary board members. Frank stated he decided to be on the Park Board and he has no issue with mileage. Gary indicated the members do more than attend a monthly meeting; the amenities (landscaping, sprinkler system etc) on Highway 93 are a good example of being a working board and traveling throughout the county. Commissioner Kanenwisher stated this is not a park district, it is a park board. Gary asked if the Commissioners would take over the maintenance of the properties to be maintained in the county. Commissioner Kanenwisher stated just because Park Board Members went above and beyond what is required of them does not make it the way it should be. He further stated the Commissioners just laid off approximately 20 employees and he felt the park board, which comprise a voluntary board should not be asking for mileage. Commissioner Foss stated the Commissioners do not have the luxury to give more to one board than another. Commissioner Chilcott asked why this is being proposed now when in the past it had not. John stated the original procedures addressed the possibility of obtaining mileage. The new draft developed by one or more

Commissioner removed that potential. The Park Board suggested change simply asks to put the mileage back in the procedures and administration. It is not necessarily that they will take the mileage, they haven't thus far. Bill Clark stated it is difficult to stay in the same realm as what happened 6 years ago, as more activity occurs now. Commissioner Kanenwisher stated the central issue is the understanding of what this board is, and it is not a district. The Commissioners concurred, mileage would not be written into the procedures and administration document.

- Section 6: Functions, Powers and Duties according to Commissioner Kanenwisher do not belong in any changes. John stated the MCA states the Park Board simply has those abilities outside of the Commissioners, and obviously it is within our financial constraints. John stated there is over \$200,000 in their account, and as such they could hire someone to do the maintenance which could be an employee or a contractor. Commissioner Kanenwisher noted this money comes from subdivisions. John stated correct and 50% of that \$200,000 can be utilized for maintenance. Commissioner Chilcott noted the MCA does allow the Park Board to exercise that authority, the Commissioners are simply trying to put some 'sideboards' on their activities which could incur some financial liability on the county. Commissioner Kanenwisher reiterated that \$100,000 is not necessarily available out of the current \$200,000. John concurred noting the Park Board is not asking to hire an employee, the point is that the MCA gives them certain authorities with the monies they have in the park account. To know what exact portion(s) of the money balance would have to be researched. Bill noted the payments of the Kurtz Lane Property will be hard to meet in the near future, he expects they will not have enough money to make those payments. Gary stated he takes offense to that comment and other comments the Commissioners have made. In the 10 years he has been involved in the Park Board they have always operated within their own budget. They have asked for 2 mills and have never received them, thus they have kept their budget under good management. In regard to the Kurtz Lane Property he does not believe there will be a financial issue in the future, the payments will be made. John stated since they entered into the purchase contract on Kurtz Lane, all of those loan payments have been made and it has not reduced other park monies in the budget. Commissioner Kanenwisher stated Section 6 is a large issue to discuss at this time. Commissioner Chilcott recommended they recognize the statutory authority granted (by Part and Chapter) but leave off the specific MCA's because they change periodically. John suggested the MCA language be included in the Procedures and Administration. Commissioner Kanenwisher stated he is not comfortable with that at all. Commissioner Stoltz agreed. John Conlon stated he would appreciate the MCA being referenced somewhere. Commissioner Chilcott stated those codes could be an appendix to the procedures and administration. Gary stated these 'sideboards' Commissioner Chilcott referenced at this meeting is limiting our abilities. Further, in the past 10 months the Commissioners have changed what the Park Board does but we have no guidelines as to what the Commissioners want. Commissioner Kanenwisher stated one of the things the Park Board has done was the petty cash utilized by the Park Board that did not follow the statutes. Frank stated this is his first year on the board, but he sees many people who have worked hard for many years on this board. If the Commissioners control the purse strings that is fine with him. He does understand the frustration. Bill Delaney stated he is having a hard time determining what they are 'not' allowed to do since it is coming

from the Park Board budget, not the general fund. Commissioner Kanenwisher stated when Park Board expenditure is over a certain amount the Commissioners approve that expenditure. Bill stated the whole park Board's vote seems to mean less than Commissioner Kanenwisher's single vote as a County Commissioner. In his opinion Commissioner Kanenwisher's opinion should only be part of the full Commissioners deliberations and decisions.

After further discussion, it was determined that the suggested changes to the draft were done by three Park Board members not by the full board. John stated his impression from Commissioner Stoltz was to put the draft together and bring it for discussion. Commissioner Foss stated they have now wasted one full hour of discussion when the full Park Board did not have any input. Commissioner Stoltz stated the draft was made so all the Park Board Members could work on this draft, not three of you. He felt the draft is totally out of line and mis-construed from what was asked for. John stated they had a meeting about the draft, line by line. Then it was agreed to have a sub-committee meeting, which was agreed to, in order to work on this draft presented today. We simply thought the discussion would be around those issues.

Commissioner Chilcott stated a few years ago when the Planning Board utilized sub-committees they had some fall outs, thus he would like to see the whole Park Board submit an endorsed document for the Procedures and Administration. Commissioner Kanenwisher stated it is important for the Park Board to know what their duties are and he is not personally going to take any monies from the general fund for the Park Board. Also, in regard to hiring an employee, that person would need to be supervised by another employee, not the Park Board.

In regard to the request for an employee to take the minutes, Commissioner Kanenwisher stated the minutes should simply be the action requested, pertinent facts, and recording the action (vote taken). If the Park Board feels comfortable with that, he can take the minutes, type them up and submit them to the Park Board file. The Park Board can make that decision next week.

John stated the Park Board made a formal request to the Commissioners to provide a Secretary, he therefore requested the Commissioners to take that action today. **Commissioner Stoltz made a motion to supply a secretary to the Park Board. Commissioner Foss seconded the motion.** Discussion: Commissioner Foss stated the schedules of the Commissioners do not always allow that. Commissioner Stoltz stated while he made the motion he will not vote for it. Commissioner Kanenwisher stated there are already some rough edges within the members here and he does not want to cause any issues if someone does not agree with his minutes. **All voted "nay". (4-0)**

**It was agreed the Park Board will go back to the table and re-work the draft prior to meeting with the Commissioners again.**