

A.R.P.A. COMMITTEE
OCTOBER 26, 2023

***CONFERENCE ROOM 302– ADMINISTRATION OFFICE, COUNTY COMPLEX
255 CLAY STREET, LAPEER, MI 48446***

Chairman Kevin Knisely called the meeting to order at approximately 11:30 a.m. in Conference Room 302 in the Administration Office on the third floor of the County Complex.

Commissioners Present: Commissioners Kevin Knisely and Tom Kohlman.

Commissioners Excused: Commissioner Gary Howell.

Others: Moses Sanzo, County Controller/Administrator; Jackie Arnold, CFO; Doreen Clark, Office Manager; John Bustle, Building & Grounds/Parks Director, and Jillian Weiss, Special Events Coordinator.

AGENDA

The agenda was reviewed.

Motion by Mast, supported by Kohlman, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES

The minutes from the September 28, 2023 ARPA Committee Meeting were briefly reviewed and discussed.

Motion by Kohlman, supported by Mast, to approve the minutes from the September 28, 2023 A.R.P.A. Committee Meeting, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

TORZEWSKI COUNTY WATERPARK IMPROVEMENT PROJECT OPTIONS

John Bustle stated that they worked with H2A Architects to develop three options for the Committee's consideration related to the Torzewski County Waterpark Improvement Project. Jillian Weiss, Special Events Coordinator, gave a 72-page powerpoint presentation detailing all three options and what is provided in each of the options. Option #1 provides the most updates all throughout the waterpark area, bathrooms, new entrance, shaded seating, mechanical improvements, lockers, signage, and fencing. Option #1 also includes another pavilion inside the waterpark area which would generate some new revenues for individuals who want to utilize it for birthday parties and special events, however, this option is not included in Option #2 or #3. Lengthy questions and discussion followed regarding the various options, potential revenue, potential for charging a basic vehicle "entrance fee" to the entire park for those utilizing the new disk golf area and other park amenities. Jackie Arnold, CFO, also provided some other funding options for other expenses, if needed down the road. Building & Grounds/Parks would need to proceed with an RFP for the project if the Committee decides to commit ARPA funding for the proposed project. It was a consensus to have the CFO prepare revenue and operating cost projections and bring back to the ARPA Committee on November 9th for Option #1.

SAVE AMERICA'S TREASURES GRANT MATCH

Moses Sanzo, County Administrator/Controller, and Sarah Whaley, Emergency Management Coordinator, were present to provide information regarding grant funding that the County has applied for through the National Parks Service that is specific to preserving historic landmark properties through a program called "Save America's Treasures." The grant, if awarded, requires a 1:1 match, which would possibly require up to \$750,000 for each project. The County has applied for the grant for both the Historic Courthouse and Forrest Hall at General Squier Memorial County Park as they are listed on the National Historic Registry and would like ARPA funds be set aside for the potential match. Questions and discussion followed.

Motion by Kohlman, supported by Mast, to recommend to the Full Board to approve up to a maximum of \$750,000 of grant match funding for the Save America's Treasures grant program through the National Parks Service for the County's Historic Courthouse and up to another \$750,000 maximum for Forrest Hall at General Squier Memorial County Park, in which the grant is targeted to helping preserve historic landmark buildings and properties that are listed on the National Historic Registry, to be paid from Fund 281 (expense category 2.35, Tourism). Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN

Motion by Mast, supported by Kohlman, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. 1:10 p.m.

Kevin Knisely, Chairman
Lapeer County A.R.P.A. Committee

Minutes prepared by Doreen Clark, Office Manager