Commissioners Langworthy, Jr. called the meeting of the Osceola County Parks Commission to order at 6:10 p.m. at the Osceola County courthouse. The pledge to the Flag was given, followed by prayer.

Present: Commissioners Langworthy, Jr., Thompson, Jacobs, Gregory, Tiedt, Powell, Wemple and Maturen.
Absent: Commissioners VanEpps and Elkins
Park Personnel: Carl Baumgras, Julie Homan, Crittenden Park: Mike & Judy Murray, Rose Lake Park: Mike & Karen Tribley.
Others: Skyweb – Demo Demosthenous & Tom Fiting

Public Comments: None given.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Commissioner Tiedt, supported by Commissioner Gregory to approve the agenda with an addition of 8B Skyweb. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Prior Minutes: Motion by Commissioner Tiedt, supported by Commissioner Maturen to approve the minutes of July 21, 2015 as written. Motion carried unanimously.

Finance Committee Report:
Recommendation by Commissioner VanEpps, supported by Commissioner Elkins to approve the claims in the amount of $5,718.78. Recommendation carried unanimously. Commissioner Tiedt moved to approve, Commissioner Gregory seconded, Motion carried unanimously.

Recommendation by Commissioner VanEpps, supported by Commissioner Elkins to approve budget amendment 2 for $2000.00 increases to both Maintenance and Travel and decrease health insurance by $4000.00. Recommendation carried unanimously. Commissioner Tiedt moved to approve, Commissioner Wemple seconded, Motion carried unanimously.

Recommendation by Commissioner Elkins, supported by Commissioner VanEpps to approve the $717.12 to Lansing Sanitary of Kalamazoo for supplies needed. Recommendation carried unanimously. Commissioner Tiedt moved to approve, Commissioner Thompson seconded, Motion carried unanimously.

Recommendation by Commissioner Elkins, supported by Commissioner VanEpps to approve the new proposed wage schedules for 2016. Recommendation carried unanimously. Commissioner Tiedt moved to approve, Commissioner Wemple seconded, Motion carried unanimously.

Recommendation by Commissioner Elkins, supported by Commissioner VanEpps to increase the volunteer hours from 20 to 26 hrs per week for camping privileges. Recommendation carried unanimously. Commissioner Tiedt moved to approve, Commissioner Gregory seconded, Motion carried unanimously.

Directors Report: Parks Director Carl Baumgras gave the following report. He discussed 2016 budget preparation, the 5 year plan for the County Recreational Plan, staff needs at both parks, dress code policy at public beaches, early and late season discounted rates, work on cutting expenditures on credit card cost, electric use and disposal costs, pet waste problems, WIFI, and the wrap up for managers meeting on Sep. 28th. For Crittenden Park discussion regarding staffing, restroom flooring, zero turn mower, and 2015 purchases of a movie projector, repair pavilion electric, stabilize restroom flooring, new boat dock, repair zero turn, and a new weed eater. For Rose Lake Park discussion regarding the mini golf fund raiser, leaf cleanup and snow removal bids, Razzeque days, buried barrels, and 2015 purchases of the gatehouse, mini golf project, tree removal, storage building, gravel for roads, toilets for handicap, and pavilion repairs.

Financial Report: Parks Executive Secretary/Bookkeeper Julie Homan gave the following financial report. Park balances as of August 25, 2015 were as follows: Revenues - $251,639.11, Expenditures - $150,783.24, 1st Merit Bank balance: $94,641.28, with cash on hand with the County Treasurer office of $36,557.31. Motion by Commissioner Tiedt, supported by Commissioner Gregory to approve A/P for a total of $12,456.82. Motion carried unanimously.

Commission Maturen left the meeting at 7:10.

Skyweb: Proposals from Skyweb of Saginaw for WIFI at both parks was received and discussed with Skyweb in attendance. Tom Fiting and Demo Demosthenous of Skyweb spoke to the commissioners regarding the WIFI solutions for both parks. They reviewed the internet needs for rural areas and the speed that internet services provide. They discussed 70% of problems with internet service is the routers and they have developed their own routers. Questions were received from the commissioners regarding leasing, pricing, completion in 2016, towers, and the government bidding process. Both parties agreed to keep in close contact and to work through WIFI solutions for both parks.

Golf Cart Policy: The Golf Cart/ATV/UTV/ORV policy was reviewed for continuation. The policy was to sunset at the end of 2015 and the commissioners decided, after discussion with the managers at both parks to continue with this policy. Motion by Commissioner Thompson, supported by Commissioner Wemple to place the Golf Cart/ATV/UTV/ORV policy into effect permanently. Motion carried unanimously.

2016 Budget Review: Review of the 2016 budget process was received from the Parks Director. A proposed budget of $252,700.00 was presented and discussed. Motion by Commissioner Tiedt, supported by Commissioner Wemple to submit a preliminary budget of $252,700 for 2016 to Osceola County Administrative Support. Motion carried unanimously.
2015/2016 Projected Plans for Improvement: The Commissioners did not review these reports at this meeting.

The 5 Year Plan: The Parks Director submitted a Parks Priorities for a Five Year Plan of development to be included with the Osceola County Recreation Plan. After review of the monies submitted and dates involved, the Parks Commissioners made the following motion for submission. Motion by Commissioner Wemple, supported by Commissioner Thompson to approve the Parks Priorities Five Year Plan as written. Motion carried unanimously.

Employee/Commissioner Comments:
Rose Lake Manager stated the Halloween party over the weekend had 120 kids trick or treat, showed a scary movie, had a haunted walk path for the event and everyone enjoyed themselves. He discussed the mini golf project with a donation of lumber from Pro Build of Cadillac, the water/plumbing lines are showing from the roads deteriorating, bicycle signs and barriers have worked well to eliminate problem areas for kids on bikes, would like to use sheet vinyl for future beach slides. He asked for approval of continuation of David Jordan, a maintenance worker to stay and work at the park through October 6, 2015. Motion by Commissioner Thompson, supported by Commissioner Tiedt to approve Rose Lake Maintenance Personnel David Jordan to work through October 6, 2015. Motion carried unanimously.

Crittenden Manager discussed a good turnout for Halloween and they had the Evart Fire Department put together a presentation with a fire truck present and was well received by the 80-90 people present.

Commissioner Langworthy thanked all the staff for the record year we are having and in appreciation would like to have a catered picnic at Rose Lake for staff on September 29th after the walk around meeting. Commissioner Tiedt commented on a great job by staff.

Public Comments: None given.

Motion by Commissioner Wemple, supported by Commissioner Thompson to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Future meetings for the Finance Committee will be held on September 1st at 1:00 p.m. and a future Park Commissioner meeting to be held September 29th at 9:00 a.m. with a Walk Around at both parks followed by an appreciation meal for all park personnel.

Respectfully submitted,

Draft until approved at the next Osceola County Parks Commission Meeting