



## AGENDA

### MEETING OF CALHOUN COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

August 5, 2016 – 4 p.m.

Calhoun County Building, 315 W. Green St., Room 1-400, Marshall, MI 49068

1. Call to Order – 4 p.m.
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda ACTION ITEM
4. Approval of July 5, 2016 Minutes ACTION ITEM
5. Public Comment – Limited to 3 minutes
6. Subcommittee Reports
  - a. Trailway Workgroup
  - b. Finance Subcommittee
  - c. Historic Bridge Park Workgroup
  - d. Interactive Map – Staff report
7. Communications
  - a. Thank you letter to Chad Osborne
  - b. Patti Vahary – Horses on Trailway
  - c. Lindsay Wheeler – ATV in Ott & Comments on Metcalf property
8. Unfinished Business
  - a. Ott Biological Preserve Work Group
  - b. Any other new business
9. New Business
  - a. Second Quarter Budget Review
  - b. Girl Scouts: Gold Award Project – Sam Reasons
  - c. Historic Bridge Park – Docent Lead Tours by Vern Mesler
  - d. Volunteer Recognition Program
  - e. Any other new business
10. Community Development Educator Report
11. Commissioners' Time
12. Public Comment – Limited to 3 minutes
13. Adjournment – 5:30 p.m.

The next meeting of the Parks & Recreation Commission is on Thursday September 1, 2016 at 4 p.m.

# MINUTES

## CALHOUN COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Thursday, July 7, 2016  
315 W. Green St., 1-400, Marshall, MI 49068



1. Vice Chair Chapman called the meeting to order at 4:02.
2. Roll Call – Michigan State University Extension Support Staff, Pat Dadow

Present: Annette Chapman, Bill Comai, Jesse Jacox, Lindsey Johnson, Christine Kosmowski (arrived at 4:03), Allyn Miller, John Rodwan, Ron Sootsman, Blaine VanSickle

Absent: Derek King

Also Present: Community Development Educator Ingrid Ault, County Administrator Assistant Brad Wilcox, MSU Extension Support Staff Pat Dadow, MSU Extension Program Assistant Vera Prince

3. Approval of Agenda

*Moved by Member Kosmowski, second by Member Jacox to add agenda item 8d "Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi" event application as an action item and approve the July 7, 2016 agenda of the Calhoun County Parks and Recreation Commission as presented by Ault.*

On a voice vote, Motion **CARRIED**.

4. Approval of Minutes

*Moved by Member Miller, second by Member Jacox to approve the June 2, 2016 minutes of the Calhoun County Parks and Recreation Commission as presented by Sootsman.*

On a voice vote, Motion **CARRIED**.

5. Public Comment

Comment was made by Mr. Lindsey Wheeler that logging was done on Metcalf Lake property and it took all the old big beautiful hardwood trees for profit. Mr. Wheeler was concerned that logging was being

done in along the Trailway and he wanted to know if the Parks and Recreation Commission has plans to save and protect the trees in the Calhoun County owned parks especially the Ott Biological Preserve.

Member Comai responded that this is the main reason for the maintenance and management plan for the Ott Biological Preserve to save the trees. Vice Chair Chapman stated that there has been no logging since 1995 and thanked Mr. Wheeler for his concerns. Community Development Educator Ault will make sure to invite Mr. Wheeler to the public hearing for the Ott Biological Preserve maintenance and management plan.

## 6. Subcommittee Reports

### a. Trailway Workgroup

Community Development Educator Ault stated the Trailway Workgroup is working to select a final meeting date for the work group and hopes to bring the maintenance and management plan to the Parks and Recreation Commission shortly.

### b. Finance Subcommittee

Community Development Educator Ault stated the Finance Subcommittee getting ready to schedule upcoming meetings.

### c. Interactive Map – Staff report

Community Development Educator Ault stated there is nothing new to report.

## 7. Unfinished Business

### a. Ott Biological Preserve Maintenance and Management Plan

Member Chapman stated she thought the workgroup did a marvelous job. She expressed that this was a through document with good details and maps. She suggested the document should include a piece about the historic bridge located in this park.

Community Development Educator Ault stated they have a list of stakeholders and will make public outreach to send the plan to for soliciting input and will be scheduling a public meeting soon for more feedback. Ault also thanked everyone who worked so hard on creating the Ott Biological Preserve Maintenance and Management Plan.

## 8. New Business

### a. Historic Bridge Park Subcommittee

Community Development Educator Ault asked for members to volunteer to be a part of the Historic Bridge Park Subcommittee to create a management and maintenance plan. Member Johnson stated she like would be a part of this committee. Member Chapman mentioned that Vern Messler would most likely want to be on this committee and Member Comai volunteered if he was needed.

b. Annual Park Tour

The Parks and Recreation Commission scheduled the annual park tour for Thursday, September 29 at 11:00 am. The tour will begin at the Calhoun Count Trailhead at Emmett and Raymond and be by golf cart provided the Medical Care Facility is available that day. It will end at Historic Bridge Park with a picnic lunch. The carts can seat a total of fourteen people and extra seats will be offered to other officials such as County Administrators, Emmett Township Officials, or County Commissioners.

c. Locking Historic Bridge Park During Closed Hours

Community Development Educator Ault presented a Memorandum to the Parks and Recreation Commission asking their opinion of whether Historic Bridge Park should be closed every evening and reopened every morning. Members discussed the issues and concerns and gave ideas of alternative ways to deter people from entering the parks after closed hours and to try to prevent vandalism and theft in the County owned parks. Some suggestions were signage, cameras, neighborhood and police watches and positive influences of taking pride in the parks.

*Moved by Member Jacox and second by Member VanSickle to leave the Historic Bridge Park open at this time.*

On a voice vote, Motion **CARRIED**

d. Event Application – Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi

Member Rodwan of the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi explained the Environmental Protection Agency sponsored Tribal Water Workshop and Healing Water Event. Rodwan is requesting to have the event at the Historic Bridge Park pavilion on Tuesday, October 4, 2016.

*Moved by Member Kosmowski and second by Member Jacox that the Parks and Recreation Commission approve the event application of the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi.*

On a voice vote, Motion **CARRIED**

e. Any other new business

There was none.

9. Community Development Educator Report

Community Development Educator Ault gave a visual report of the progress of the Calhoun County owned Parks.

- Updated the kiosk at Historic Bridge Park with a large park map, emergency and park numbers, park rules, and other items of interest.
- Victory Life Church volunteers cleared undergrowth at the Charlotte Highway Bridge and Baurer Road Bridges. Vern Messler met with them to guide project.
- The Juvenile Probation Department cleared weeds and trimmed the landscaped areas, and added mulch to the beds.

- The remaining pine trees were removed behind the Calhoun County Medical Care Facility that were too close to the power lines.
- A new volunteer has used his own equipment to brush hog and mow unkempt areas in Kimball Pines Park. He is working with Mark Roberts to maintain the disc golf course and he has also moved some big logs to a more appropriate location to prevent motor vehicles in the park.
- Posting of the stolen bench on Facebook has spurred a lot of interest and activity of goodwill in the parks.

Member Chapman proposed to acknowledge volunteers for the good deeds they have done in the County parks. It was suggested that this be added to the board agenda for the next meeting.

Member Kosmowski thought that we could add sites to the clean-up list for volunteers to do at the Annual Krazy for the K-zoo, Saturday, October 1<sup>st</sup> where they give them lunch and a small token of appreciation afterwards.

#### 10. Commissioner's Time

Member Comai inquired about the Metcalf Lake property. Member Kosmowski stated is owned by the city of Battle Creek but has the Calhoun Conservation District managing the land which is in Barry County.

Member Jacox questioned the responsibility of the County maintaining the parks and stated he feels that we should concentrate on Historic Bridge Park and the Trailway which are the most used. He also would like to see a fee established to help manage and maintain the parks. Member Jacox passed out the first nineteen pages of the manual from the Enbridge Endowment and made references to the expectations described in it. County Administrator Assistant Brad Wilcox mentioned that there is a gap in the expectations of the Endowment of reimbursing the County for upkeep of the Parks. Member Jacox explained Mr. Schroeder of the Enbridge Foundation would like to see the project succeed and is willing to help craft the Capital Improvement Plan for Historic Bridge Park.

Member Chapman stated that the Historic Bridge Park Workgroup would be working together on these issues.

#### 11. Public Comment

Mr. Wheeler asked if we could set up an overall plan to preserve trees. Member Comai stated that the Maintenance and Management Plans are documents meant to preserve all natural habitats in the County Parks for the future. Member Chapman thanked Mr. Wheeler for his thoughts, comments and concerns and mentioned that there would be more discussion on this in the future.

#### 12. Adjournment

The July 7, 2016 regular session of the Calhoun County Parks and Recreation Commission adjourned at 5:00 pm.



# Budget Performance Report

Fiscal Year to Date 07/31/16  
Exclude Rollup Account

Account	Account Description	Adopted Budget	Budget Amendments	Amended Budget	Current Month Transactions	YTD Encumbrances	YTD Transactions	Budget - YTD Transactions	% used/ Rec'd	Prior Year Total
Fund 243 - Parks										
Department 15 - Administration										
Division 157 - Community Development										
Business Unit 2751 - Historic Bridge Park										
	<b>REVENUE</b>									
	<i>Other Financing Sources</i>									
400.050	Carry Over Miscellaneous	23,480.00	.00	23,480.00	.00	.00	.00	23,480.00	0	.00
699.000	Transfers In Revenue	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	+++	66,147.42
	<i>Other Financing Sources Totals</i>	\$23,480.00	\$0.00	\$23,480.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$23,480.00	0%	\$66,147.42
	<i>Interest &amp; Rents</i>									
667.000	Rental Revenue	1,500.00	.00	1,500.00	250.00	.00	1,350.00	150.00	90	1,400.00
	<i>Interest &amp; Rents Totals</i>	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$1,350.00	\$150.00	90%	\$1,400.00
	<i>Other Revenues</i>									
671.000	Miscellaneous Revenue	12,500.00	.00	12,500.00	.00	.00	.00	12,500.00	0	24,429.69
676.000	Reimbursements Miscellaneous	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	+++	392.00
	<i>Other Revenues Totals</i>	\$12,500.00	\$0.00	\$12,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$12,500.00	0%	\$24,821.69
	<b>REVENUE TOTALS</b>	\$37,480.00	\$0.00	\$37,480.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$1,350.00	\$36,130.00	4%	\$92,369.11
	<b>EXPENSE</b>									
	<i>Personnel Services</i>									
702.020	Salaries Regular	8,067.00	.00	8,067.00	651.84	.00	4,614.17	3,452.83	57	6,121.16
702.030	Salaries Overtime	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	81.81	(81.81)	+++	138.66
	<i>Personnel Services Totals</i>	\$8,067.00	\$0.00	\$8,067.00	\$651.84	\$0.00	\$4,695.98	\$3,371.02	58%	\$6,259.82
	<i>Fringe Benefit</i>									
719.000	Worker's Comp Expense	529.00	.00	529.00	24.58	.00	191.95	337.05	36	399.47
720.010	Insurance Benefits Hospitalization	2,915.00	.00	2,915.00	247.80	.00	1,795.86	1,119.14	62	2,165.57
720.020	Insurance Benefits Dental	155.00	.00	155.00	12.38	.00	89.72	65.28	58	118.66
720.030	Insurance Benefits Vision	39.00	.00	39.00	3.66	.00	25.85	13.15	66	30.90
720.040	Insurance Benefits Life	9.00	.00	9.00	1.05	.00	4.48	4.52	50	6.60
720.050	Insurance Benefits Unemployment	24.00	.00	24.00	.00	.00	12.43	11.57	52	1.60
721.000	Social Security Expense	618.00	.00	618.00	47.16	.00	339.64	278.36	55	452.02
724.030	Retirement Defined Benefit	464.00	.00	464.00	37.48	.00	270.00	194.00	58	322.75
	<i>Fringe Benefit Totals</i>	\$4,753.00	\$0.00	\$4,753.00	\$374.11	\$0.00	\$2,729.93	\$2,023.07	57%	\$3,497.57
	<i>Other Services &amp; Charges</i>									
801.010	Contractual Services Misc	8,177.00	.00	8,177.00	.00	.00	2,864.00	5,313.00	35	5,530.80
801.030	Contractual Services Property Maintenance	15,358.00	.00	15,358.00	.00	.00	3,711.00	11,647.00	24	17,671.00
808.000	Association Dues Expense	25.00	.00	25.00	.00	.00	33.34	(8.34)	133	34.00
920.020	Utilities Electricity	700.00	.00	700.00	.00	.00	251.50	448.50	36	638.79
934.010	Maintenance Equipment	400.00	.00	400.00	.00	.00	741.26	(341.26)	185	345.06
955.000	Miscellaneous Operating Expense	.00	.00	.00	148.60	4,827.52	148.60	(4,976.12)	+++	6,561.16
	<i>Other Services &amp; Charges Totals</i>	\$24,660.00	\$0.00	\$24,660.00	\$148.60	\$4,827.52	\$7,749.70	\$12,082.78	51%	\$30,780.81
	<b>EXPENSE TOTALS</b>	\$37,480.00	\$0.00	\$37,480.00	\$1,174.55	\$4,827.52	\$15,175.61	\$17,476.87	53%	\$40,538.20



# Budget Performance Report

Fiscal Year to Date 07/31/16  
Exclude Rollup Account

Account	Account Description	Adopted Budget	Budget Amendments	Amended Budget	Current Month Transactions	YTD Encumbrances	YTD Transactions	Budget - YTD Transactions	% used/ Rec'd	Prior Year Total
Fund 243 - Parks										
Department 15 - Administration										
Division 157 - Community Development										
Business Unit 2751 - Historic Bridge Park	Totals	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$924.55)	(\$4,827.52)	(\$13,825.61)	\$18,653.13	+++	\$51,830.91



# Budget Performance Report

Fiscal Year to Date 07/31/16  
Exclude Rollup Account

Account	Account Description	Adopted Budget	Budget Amendments	Amended Budget	Current Month Transactions	YTD Encumbrances	YTD Transactions	Budget - YTD Transactions	% used/	Rec'd	Prior Year Total
Fund 243 - Parks											
Department 15 - Administration											
Division 157 - Community Development											
Business Unit 2752 - Kimball Pines											
	<b>REVENUE</b>										
	Other Financing Sources										
400.050	Carry Over Miscellaneous	7,685.00	.00	7,685.00	.00	.00	.00	7,685.00	0		.00
	Other Financing Sources Totals	\$7,685.00	\$0.00	\$7,685.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,685.00	0%		\$0.00
	Local Contributions										
580.000	Local Contribution Revenue	20,000.00	.00	20,000.00	.00	.00	.00	20,000.00	0		.00
	Local Contributions Totals	\$20,000.00	\$0.00	\$20,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20,000.00	0%		\$0.00
	Other Revenues										
671.000	Miscellaneous Revenue	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	10,000.00	(10,000.00)	+++		.00
	Other Revenues Totals	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	(\$10,000.00)	+++		\$0.00
	<b>REVENUE TOTALS</b>	\$27,685.00	\$0.00	\$27,685.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	\$17,685.00	36%		\$0.00
	EXPENSE										
	Personnel Services										
702.020	Salaries Regular	1,345.00	.00	1,345.00	108.64	.00	769.04	575.96	57		547.81
702.030	Salaries Overtime	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	13.63	(13.63)	+++		7.75
	Personnel Services Totals	\$1,345.00	\$0.00	\$1,345.00	\$108.64	\$0.00	\$782.67	\$562.33	58%		\$555.56
	Fringe Benefit										
719.000	Worker's Comp Expense	89.00	.00	89.00	4.10	.00	32.00	57.00	36		34.67
720.010	Insurance Benefits Hospitalization	486.00	.00	486.00	41.30	.00	299.31	186.69	62		193.86
720.020	Insurance Benefits Dental	26.00	.00	26.00	2.06	.00	14.93	11.07	57		10.62
720.030	Insurance Benefits Vision	7.00	.00	7.00	.62	.00	4.37	2.63	62		2.76
720.040	Insurance Benefits Life	2.00	.00	2.00	.18	.00	.75	1.25	38		.60
720.050	Insurance Benefits Unemployment	4.00	.00	4.00	.00	.00	2.08	1.92	52		.13
721.000	Social Security Expense	103.00	.00	103.00	7.88	.00	56.66	46.34	55		40.12
724.030	Retirement Defined Benefit	78.00	.00	78.00	6.24	.00	45.01	32.99	58		28.75
	Fringe Benefit Totals	\$795.00	\$0.00	\$795.00	\$62.38	\$0.00	\$455.11	\$339.89	57%		\$311.51
	Other Services & Charges										
801.010	Contractual Services Misc	24,420.00	.00	24,420.00	.00	.00	3,680.00	20,740.00	15		1,600.00
801.030	Contractual Services Property Maintenance	25.00	.00	25.00	.00	.00	580.00	(555.00)	2320		2,820.00
808.000	Association Dues Expense	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	33.33	(33.33)	+++		33.00
920.020	Utilities Electricity	950.00	.00	950.00	.00	.00	199.71	750.29	21		961.36
934.010	Maintenance Equipment	150.00	.00	150.00	(13.31)	.00	61.19	88.81	41		96.70
955.000	Miscellaneous Operating Expense	.00	.00	.00	(34.00)	.00	231.47	(231.47)	+++		724.00
	Other Services & Charges Totals	\$25,545.00	\$0.00	\$25,545.00	(\$47.31)	\$0.00	\$4,785.70	\$20,759.30	19%		\$6,235.06
	<b>EXPENSE TOTALS</b>	\$27,685.00	\$0.00	\$27,685.00	\$123.71	\$0.00	\$6,023.48	\$21,661.52	22%		\$7,102.13
	Business Unit 2752 - Kimball Pines Totals	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$123.71)	\$0.00	\$3,976.52	(\$3,976.52)	+++		(\$7,102.13)



# Budget Performance Report

Fiscal Year to Date 07/31/16  
Exclude Rollup Account

Account	Account Description	Adopted Budget	Budget Amendments	Amended Budget	Current Month Transactions	YTD Encumbrances	YTD Transactions	Budget - YTD Transactions	% used/Rec'd	Prior Year Total
Fund 243 - Parks	Account Description	Budget	Budget Amendments	Amended Budget	Current Month Transactions	YTD Encumbrances	YTD Transactions	Budget - YTD Transactions	% used/Rec'd	Prior Year Total
Department 157 - Administration										
Division 157 - Community Development										
Business Unit 2753 - Ott Preserve										
	<b>REVENUE</b>									
	Other Financing Sources									
400.050	Carry Over Miscellaneous	3,024.00	5,875.00	8,899.00	.00	.00	.00	8,899.00	0%	.00
	Other Financing Sources Totals	\$3,024.00	\$5,875.00	\$8,899.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,899.00	0%	\$0.00
	State Grants									
539.000	State Grant Revenue	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	+++	(667.26)
	State Grants Totals	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	+++	(\$667.26)
	Local Contributions									
580.000	Local Contribution Revenue	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	+++	200.00
	Local Contributions Totals	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	+++	\$200.00
	<b>EXPENSE</b>									
	Personnel Services									
702.020	Salaries Regular	1,345.00	.00	1,345.00	108.65	.00	769.03	575.97	57	547.78
702.030	Salaries Overtime	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	13.64	(13.64)	+++	7.76
	Personnel Services Totals	\$1,345.00	\$0.00	\$1,345.00	\$108.65	\$0.00	\$782.67	\$562.33	58%	\$555.54
	Fringe Benefit									
719.000	Worker's Comp Expense	88.00	.00	88.00	4.08	.00	31.99	56.01	36	34.61
720.010	Insurance Benefits Hospitalization	486.00	.00	486.00	41.30	.00	299.31	186.69	62	193.85
720.020	Insurance Benefits Dental	26.00	.00	26.00	2.06	.00	14.93	11.07	57	10.55
720.030	Insurance Benefits Vision	7.00	.00	7.00	.60	.00	4.25	2.75	61	2.75
720.040	Insurance Benefits Life	2.00	.00	2.00	.17	.00	.72	1.28	36	.61
720.050	Insurance Benefits Unemployment	4.00	.00	4.00	.00	.00	2.09	1.91	52	.13
721.000	Social Security Expense	103.00	.00	103.00	7.84	.00	56.58	46.42	55	40.04
724.030	Retirement Defined Benefit	78.00	.00	78.00	6.26	.00	45.02	32.98	58	28.66
	Fringe Benefit Totals	\$794.00	\$0.00	\$794.00	\$62.31	\$0.00	\$454.89	\$339.11	57%	\$311.20
	Other Services & Charges									
801.010	Contractual Services Misc	.00	.00	.00	14.00	.00	95.00	(95.00)	+++	2,313.00
801.030	Contractual Services Property Maintenance	660.00	.00	660.00	.00	.00	120.00	540.00	18	650.00
808.000	Association Dues Expense	25.00	.00	25.00	.00	.00	33.33	(8.33)	133	33.00
955.000	Miscellaneous Operating Expense	200.00	.00	200.00	.00	.00	704.13	(504.13)	352	334.46
	Other Services & Charges Totals	\$885.00	\$0.00	\$885.00	\$14.00	\$0.00	\$952.46	(\$67.46)	108%	\$3,330.46
	Capital Outlay									
980.000	Equipment Equipment	.00	5,875.00	5,875.00	(14.00)	.00	5,861.00	14.00	100	.00
	Capital Outlay Totals	\$0.00	\$5,875.00	\$5,875.00	(\$14.00)	\$0.00	\$5,861.00	\$14.00	100%	\$0.00
	<b>EXPENSE TOTALS</b>	\$3,024.00	\$5,875.00	\$8,899.00	\$170.96	\$0.00	\$8,051.02	\$847.98	90%	\$4,197.20
	Business Unit 2753 - Ott Preserve Totals	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$170.96)	\$0.00	(\$8,051.02)	\$8,051.02	+++	(\$4,664.46)



# Budget Performance Report

Fiscal Year to Date 07/31/16  
Exclude Rollup Account

Account	Account Description	Adopted Budget	Budget Amendments	Amended Budget	Current Month Transactions	YTD Encumbrances	YTD Transactions	Budget - YTD Transactions	% used/ Rec'd	Prior Year Total
Fund 243 - Parks										
Department 15 - Administration										
Division 157 - Community Development										
Business Unit 2754 - Calhoun County Trailway										
	REVENUE									
	Local Contributions									
580,000	Local Contribution Revenue	15,000.00	.00	15,000.00	2,192.00	.00	3,012.00	11,988.00	20%	650.00
	Other Revenues									
671,000	Miscellaneous Revenue	15,025.00	.00	15,025.00	700.00	.00	700.00	14,325.00	5	4,000.00
	Other Services & Charges									
801,010	Contractual Services Misc	600.00	.00	600.00	1,400.00	800.00	1,576.00	(1,776.00)	396	1,264.00
801,030	Contractual Services Property Maintenance	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	110.00	(110.00)	+++	.00
808,000	Association Dues Expense	25.00	.00	25.00	.00	.00	.00	25.00	0	.00
934,010	Maintenance Equipment	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	1,723.00	(1,723.00)	+++	.00
955,000	Miscellaneous Operating Expense	29,400.00	.00	29,400.00	1,366.00	.00	2,016.00	27,384.00	7	881.42
	Other Services & Charges Totals	\$30,025.00	\$0.00	\$30,025.00	\$2,766.00	\$800.00	\$5,425.00	\$23,800.00	21%	\$2,145.42
	EXPENSE TOTALS	\$30,025.00	\$0.00	\$30,025.00	\$2,766.00	\$800.00	\$5,425.00	\$23,800.00	21%	\$2,145.42
	Business Unit 2754 - Calhoun County Trailway Totals	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$126.00	(\$800.00)	(\$1,713.00)	\$2,513.00	+++	\$2,504.58
	Division 157 - Community Development Totals	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$1,093.22)	(\$5,627.52)	(\$19,613.11)	\$25,240.63	+++	\$42,568.90
	Department 15 - Administration Totals	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$1,093.22)	(\$5,627.52)	(\$19,613.11)	\$25,240.63	+++	\$42,568.90
Fund 243 - Parks Totals										
	REVENUE TOTALS	98,214.00	5,875.00	104,089.00	3,142.00	.00	15,062.00	89,027.00	14	96,551.85
	EXPENSE TOTALS	98,214.00	5,875.00	104,089.00	4,235.22	5,627.52	34,675.11	63,786.37	39	53,982.95
	Grand Totals	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$1,093.22)	(\$5,627.52)	(\$19,613.11)	\$25,240.63		\$42,568.90

## PROPOSAL for docent-led tours of the Calhoun County Historic Bridge Park

Objective: Conduct guided tours of the five historic bridges in the Calhoun County Historic Bridge Park (Vern Mesler is available to act as docent to lead the tours)

The tours would be an opportunity to:

- raise awareness of the Calhoun County parks, specifically the Historic Bridge Park
- educate the general public about the historic background, fabrication and restoration of each of the five bridges, including truss design and bridge components (eye bars, bridge pins, recessed nuts, rivets, etc.)
- educate specific groups with tours customized for their area of interest (e.g. engineers, transportation officials, blacksmiths, boy scout and girl scout groups, etc.)
- provide an integrated learning context for K-12 school students and teachers (e.g. history and geometry; art and manufacturing; geography and history, etc.)

Scheduling of tours:

- two scheduled tours per year (possibly to coincide with local events such as the Marshall historic homes tour)
- several “on demand” tours per year
- tours to be scheduled through the Calhoun County Parks and Recreation Commission in collaboration with Vern Mesler

Fees: A fee is proposed in order to provide additional funds to go toward maintenance of the bridges, to cover travel costs for the docent, and to help prevent a situation where a group schedules a tour and is a no-show. Fee for scheduled tours could be nominal fee; per-person fee for “on demand” tours could depend on the size of the group.

# Calhoun County's Restored Bridges



## DIXON'S BRIDGE

At the northeast point of Historic Bridge Park is the Michigan Central Railroad Bridge near F Drive North which is known as Dixon's Bridge. This massive stone-arch bridge was built around 1890 and once served as a single lane road for F Drive North and was the original entrance to the park.

Historic Bridge Park is also home to five historic road bridges that have been restored and relocated in the park. They feature a variety of truss designs and manufacturing techniques dating back to the late 1800's and 1900's.

**133<sup>RD</sup> AVENUE BRIDGE** - It has the honor of being the **first** bridge placed in the park

Formerly spanning the Rabbit River in Hopkins Township in Allegan County, Michigan, this bridge was built in 1897 by the Michigan Bridge Company for \$715. This small bridge is only 64' long, and for 96 years, it carried farm residents over the river on its single span.

It was removed from Allegan County in 1998 to the Calhoun County Road Commission shop, where it was repaired, cleaned and repainted. Once restored, the bridge was re-erected in the Calhoun County Historic Bridge Park in 1999 to serve as a pedestrian bridge.



## 20 MILE ROAD BRIDGE



The **second** bridge erected in June 2000, originally spanned the St. Joseph River in Clarendon Township in Calhoun County. Little is known about the history of this bridge. County records date it to 1906, but the Township meeting records were lost in a fire, and there are not any known surviving newspapers documenting the bridge.

Restoration of this bridge required extensive work because of its severe rusting. Forty percent of the 20 Mile Road Bridge is replacement steel, including all four inclined end posts and the top chord cover plate. The vertical members were cut back to good steel and new steel was added. Almost 3000 rivets were used to restore and reassemble the bridge. This

bridge was finished with the 3-coat paint system standard for Michigan Department of Transportation bridges.

## GALE ROAD BRIDGE

The Gale Road Bridge was the **third** bridge restored for Historic Bridge Park. Formerly spanning the Grand River on Gale Road in Ingham County, it was built in 1897 by the Lafayette Bridge Company of Lafayette, IN.

The bridge is a single span Pratt through truss. It is approximately 122' long, 15' wide and 21' high. It is significant because it was built at a skew of 13 degrees. Typically, bridges were built to cross perpendicular to the river bank. This

bridge was much more complicated to restore because the members had to fit the skewed angles. The deck of a straight bridge is rectangular. The deck of a skewed bridge such as the Gale Road Bridge is a parallelogram with no right angles.

The Gale Road Bridge was removed from its original location in 1998 and restored at the Calhoun County Road Commission shop. The bridge was re-erected in the Calhoun County Historic Bridge Park using methods similar to those of the late 1800's including a gin-pole.



## BAUER ROAD BRIDGE



The Bauer Road Bridge is a wrought iron Pratt truss bridge that is approximately 78' long. It was built by the Penn Bridge Works in Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania, around 1880. It spanned the Looking Glass River in Clinton County, Michigan, and is the **fourth** historic bridge restored for the Calhoun County Historic Bridge Park. It was erected in the park in 2005.

The Tallman Road Bridge also spanned the Looking Glass River in Clinton County and was identical to the Bauer Road Bridge except for its length. It was used for parts in the restoration of the Bauer Road Bridge.

## CHARLOTTE HIGHWAY BRIDGE

In 1886, the Charlotte Highway Bridge was built across the Grand River in Ionia County south of Portland, Michigan. It is a single span wrought iron double intersection Pratt through truss with pinned connections and is 180 feet long. There are few double intersection Pratt truss bridges left in Michigan. This bridge was well preserved, and the only major restoration required was the replication of ten riveted floor beams. The original floor beams had deteriorated, and over the years steel plates and angles had been arc welded to the original wrought iron floor beams.

On July 19, 2001 the Charlotte Highway Bridge was removed from its picturesque cut stone abutments.

A gin pole was used in the assembly of the Charlotte Highway Bridge. The bridge spans the entrance to Historic Bridge Park and is the show piece of the park. It is a lasting testament to the skills of early craftsmanship of an era gone by.

The Charlotte Highway Bridge is the **fifth** historic bridge to be erected in Calhoun County's Historic Bridge Park.

**Guided tours of the bridges may be arranged by calling the Calhoun County Parks Department at (269) 781-0782.**





## CALHOUN COUNTY

### Office of Community Development

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July 7, 2016

Chad Osborn  
Director of Facilities, Operations and Technology  
Battle Creek Public Schools  
315 W. Goodalle  
Battle Creek, MI 49014

Dear Chad,

The Office of Community Development and the Parks and Recreation Commission would like to express our gratitude for your kind donation and interest in enriching the Calhoun County Parks.

We really appreciate the wonderful replacement bench for the Trailway, thank you! It is truly inspiring to have kindness passed on to others for no other reason than generosity.

Generous acts like yours are what keep our Parks and Trailway enjoyable for all.

Sincerely,

Derek King  
Chair, Board of Commissioners  
Chair, Parks and Recreation Commission

The bench has been placed along the Trailway in the Ott Biological Preserve



## Ingrid Ault

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**From:** Ingrid Ault  
**Sent:** Monday, August 01, 2016 11:32 AM  
**To:** County Parks  
**Subject:** RE: two horses riding down thru Bridge park and on the trails down to Kimball

Hi Patti:

Well this is disheartening. This topic is addressed in the park rules that are posted in the kiosks at all of the parks.

### Article V – Animals and Pets

a) Pets are permitted in the parks unless posted otherwise.  
Hooved animals are not permitted in the park without a  
Special Use Permit.

I will alert staff and the Parks and Recreation Commissioners that we now have horses on the Trailway.

Thanks for keeping me up to date on park activities.

Ingrid Ault  
Community Development Educator  
Calhoun County & MSU Extension  
315 W. Green St.  
Marshall, MI 49068  
Main: (269) 781-0784  
Direct: (269) 781-0769

Keep up to date with [parks at our Facebook page!](#)

*"This message has been prepared on resources owned by Calhoun County, MI. It is subject to the Electronic Communications Policy of Calhoun County."*



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**From:** County Parks  
**Sent:** Monday, August 01, 2016 9:46 AM  
**To:** Ingrid Ault  
**Subject:** FW: two horses riding down thru Bridge park and on the trails down to Kimball

**From:** Patti Vahary [<mailto:j.vahary@comcast.net>]  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 30, 2016 7:09 PM  
**To:** County Parks  
**Subject:** two horses riding down thru Bridge park and on the trails down to Kimball

Patti Vahary contacted you on 7/30/2016 6:08:49 PM

We saw late this afternoon two horse back riders on the trails going between county bridge park and Kimball pines. Also they rode thru the Bridge Park around people in the parking lot. Not only they were riding the bike trails but they were side by side not letting hikers or bike riders have the right away. Just wanted to let you know since I did not see anything posted about horseback riding. Some people we saw that encountered the horses did not know whether it was allowed so no one said anything to them. We were not able to catch up with the riders to let them know. We live nearby and just wanted to give you a heads up in case this happens again.

From: W. Lindsay Wheeler  
218 Leland Dr. S.  
Battle Creek, MI 49015  
[wheelerplatsis@hotmail.com](mailto:wheelerplatsis@hotmail.com)

20 July 2016

To: Calhoun Parks and Recreation Committee

Subj: Quad Confrontation in the OTT

This event happened on July 19, 2016 at approx. 1:15pm. It happened at the Northern leg of the Trailways and curve going south; the very northern part of the property.

I was going to attend the Calhoun Conservation District Board meeting and found out that the meeting was moved to next week. So, driving back from Marshall, I decided to stop in at the Ott and relax and take in any inspiration for my comments to the Ott Management Plan. I was counting rings on a tree felled by the Trailways construction when I heard motorcycle sounds. I rushed up to the trail, and there were two quads with young boys on them. I yelled "Stop". I was walking up to them and beginning to tell them that they are not to be here and to turn around and go back.

Well, they gunned their quads and one shot thru the forest to my right to turn around and then the other guy shot by me on the trail. The boy that went thru the woods got stuck. The boy was gunning and gunning the quad that was stuck. So I pushed him off the quad and grabbed the keys and turned around and headed back to the parking lot. (Yes, I was furiously mad.)

I turned around and told him he was not to be in the Ott on vehicles. I then turned the keys into the Emmett Township police.

At the Emmett Police station, in our conservation, they told me that have received a lot of calls of motorcycle noises in the Ott. (My personal opinion: I don't think they do anything about them.)

While in the Library, my nephew came up to me and told me it was the next door neighbor kids. I didn't recognize them at the time because they had helmets on.

I have lived on and still work for Terry Roach who owns Top of the Hill Christmas Tree Farm on 8920 Verona Rd, Battle Creek. The farm butts up to the northwest side of the Ott Biological Preserve. The back road of the tree farm which is East/West road goes into a trail straight into the Ott that matches up with the Northern East/West Trailways trail.

Well, four days before this quad altercation, Friday morning, July 15, 2016, I began work at 8am in the morning on the farm and I heard very large motorcycle sounds in the Ott. So I went to investigate. But before I got to the corner, I saw two large offroad motorcycles leaving the Ott

by way of the Christmas Tree Farm and entered our neighbor's property which is addressed from Verona Rd. I then changed direction and went to the property and a very large guy on the motorcycle was doing a loop on their property. I stopped him and told him that no motorcycles or anything else was to be on the Ott.

A little background: As I've said, I used to live on the Christmas Tree Farm. I lived there off and on for about three years. I used to walk Terry's golden retriever on the Ott everyday and sometimes also in the evening. I've walked a lot of the property, off trail as well. I have witnessed a lot of stuff.

Much earlier, I told the neighbor of these kids that no motorized traffic is allowed on the Ott. I have seen constant breaches of this in the Ott.

When I lived on the property, one guy in particular, a very thin, small, squirrely faced guy would be on the Ott almost every week or twice a week. I've watched him once, doing "scouting mission". He'd stop, stand up on the quad and look around. I've seen him so much in the Ott that this guy comes off as a hunting nut and thought to myself that this guy sees the Ott as his personal Hunting park. One time, during deer season, I caught him on a quad with another guy with a deer. I stopped him and asked him about it and he told me that the deer ran into the park. I have heard shots ring out in the Ott during deer season.

Furthermore, let it be noted that on the day of the quad altercation, I noticed the back gate was unlocked. I'm afraid that people are going in there and picking up firewood. I also noticed that the tree that I was counting rings on, the stump was there. So, in the Trailways construction, they cut a tree that didn't need to be cut. It is also laying there on the floor. Maybe, someone is going to come in later in the year and haul that out too.

The place is being robbed and poached all year long, in my opinion. There is even mushroom hunting on the place.

In conclusion, within four days, I caught four people using motorcycles/quads in the Ott. And I don't think Emmett Township does anything. I mean what does Emmett Township officers do all day? It is not like there is a lot of crime going on in Emmett.

Plan of action: Obstacles, like logs, flat on the ground, chained in place at the ends so they can't be moved, must be put on the trails to prevent motorized vehicles. People walk over them.

W. Lindsay Wheeler

From: W. Lindsay Wheeler  
218 Leland Dr. S.  
Battle Creek, MI 49015  
[wheelerplatsis@hotmail.com](mailto:wheelerplatsis@hotmail.com)

July 28, 2016  
5/5 in correspondence

To: Battle Creek City Commissioners (Please see cc for further routing.)

Subj: Calhoun Conservation District meeting July 26; More Logging on Metcalf Lake;  
Report on Metcalf Lake development history.

Attachments: Metcalf Lake Woodlot Management Plan

First off, there is no record in the *Enquirer*, that the City of Battle Creek notified/informed the people of Battle Creek that they received a Nature Preserve. There is no article on the gift to the city in the newspaper. Many people never knew this existed.

History of Logging at Metcalf Lake Nature Preserve: In an email from Christine M. Zuzga dated March 18th 2016, people were calling the City about the logging and the hunting going on at Metcalf Lake. In a CCD letter to the Assyrian Township, a copy sent to Battle Creek, dated March 10th, the line reads "A timber harvest has been conducted (February, March 2016) that will provide income to allow CCD to continue serving the public..." Logging at Metcalf started IN February.

On Thursday, July 28, I ran into Timmons who is an Assyrian Township Supervisor and informed me that he started to tax Metcalf Lake Property because nothing was being done on the property and that if nothing is done in two years—he will start taxing it again. So this event was the catalyst for moving Battle Creek to lease the property to the Calhoun Conservation District for turning it into a park. Timmons said he looked it up and it was to be for a park, and he wanted the park up and running for his constituents. (For the record, Timmons also mentioned that it needed to be logged. I told him it was supposed to be a Nature Preserve and he poo-pooed that and commented that Nature Preserves are routinely logged so that "young trees can grow". [His responses mirrored exactly the same excuses as the CCD people!])

The Calhoun Conservation District held a board meeting at Paddler's Creek, in Emmett Township on July 26, 2016 at 12:30pm. The Chairman of the Board arrived after the meeting was started. I was the only Battle Creek resident there. Public comment was allowed in the first part of the meeting. I asked them, while pointing out the Deed Agreement with the Baileys that this was to be a Nature Preserve. Tracy Bronson immediately quipped that "There is no legal definition of a Nature Preserve."

I then asked that I know that she has already made a sign for the place and I said, it should read "Metcalf Lake Nature Preserve". She also shot that down; "Not going to happen." (or words to that effect)

I complained about all the large trees being cut down and the loss of public treasures.

I complained that the loggers cut only one side of a double trunk tree and said that was bad logging practices and one of the board members mocked me for this. I also complained about a 40-foot pine tree stripped of all branches hence it was dead, and was left standing. Meaning there was no "forest management" going on there whatsoever.

One board member was as hostile to anything I said as the staff was at the Calhoun Conservation District Office when I first visited. He called my attention to the Lease agreement and a sentence there on page 4 which reads:

*"Lessee shall manage the woodlot in a manner that provides for proper forest health, timber production...Any timber sale monies received will be used to continue the services of the Calhoun Conservation District."*

They did other business and then got to a section of the meeting that dealt with Metcalf Lake. Their forester Jim B. submitted a woodlot management plan. The Chairman of the CCD board gave me his copy. It is attached.

At this time, I asked to give public comment on the plan. They denied it. The Chairman of the Board, Gregory Fountain, gave me his time. I politely pointed out that they have the phrase "select harvest". I asked that an attachment be made to

this plan to include parameters of this “select harvest” because last time their action on “select harvest” meant that all marketable trees were cut down. I asked that parameters be set for this “select harvest” such as the two largest specimens of each tree species be left alone and some mid-grade trees. They laughed me off. One board member, the hostile one, said, “we are not going to be restricted” (or words to that effect). Then, they voted to approve this logging plan. Moreover, I also found out that the loggers thinking they were on the Metcalf Lake, cut trees on a neighboring property! This means that the loggers were given free rein to cut any tree out there they found valuable!

More news, they are planning to log Hart Lake.

### Observations and Conclusions

They have NO intention of operating, maintaining a Nature Preserve. How do I know that—They would not, cannot define the term. The whole office and most of the board are hostile to Nature conservancy. *The term “nature preserve” is self-explanatory!* And when persons refuse to engage in speaking truthfully and honestly about the definition of words/phrases, shows the sign of bad character and charlatanism. This is scandalous and repugnant. I refer to my June 23 report to the City Commission when the office staff retorted, “We are not a preservation society”.

In Appendix I of this report, I provide definitions for the term “nature preserve” and it means “protecting”, “preserving” and in an official US Forestry Glossary publication a nature preserve is one “maintained in a natural condition”. None of this has gone on at Metcalf. These people are refusing to even honor the simple definition of the phrase “nature preserve”. Preserve means to Preserve. The deed specifically stated “KEPT as a nature preserve”, and the office staff categorically claimed that it was NOT a preservation society.

These people have no legitimacy or reason to operate Metcalf Lake.

Second, according to Ted Dearing, the City of Battle Creek had plans to log it. They also don’t know the meaning of the term “nature preserve”. The City Attorney either was incompetent or colluded with the CCD to skirt the phrase “nature preserve”. The term “nature preserve” doesn’t appear in the Lease agreement! And Timmons was taken aback when it was mentioned that this was to be a Nature Preserve. Again, timber harvesting is not part of being a Nature Preserve. Yet that is in the Lease

agreement. It is as if the CCD dictated the Lease agreement. The board member specifically pointed out they are in compliance with the Lease:

*“Lessee shall manage the woodlot in a manner that provides for proper forest health, timber production, wildlife habitat, and public recreation and enjoyment.”* (pg 4 of Lease agreement)

Timber production is NOT part of a Nature Preserve. The Lease should've mentioned that any tree cutting was to be done solely for Parking lot purposes. Second, the Lease can NOT abrogate the Deed. The Deed says it is to be a Nature Preserve: preserved in its natural condition. The Lease advocating Timber harvesting is in contradiction to the Deed. The Lease is null and void. The Lease must be in compliance with the Deed.

There is an article on the Internet about the Nature Conservancy logging a huge tract of their park in the West. But this logging is done to create a “diversity” in the forest:

*“Often that prescription involves selective harvesting of trees **to favor a diverse presence** of tree sizes and species that were once present on the landscape.”* (“Logging for Nature”, The Nature Conservancy.)

<http://www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/regions/northamerica/unitedstates/washington/logging-for-nature.xml>

The logging operation at Metcalf destroyed all the diversity of Sizes of trees. This is my major complaint and the fundamental core. The CCD turned Metcalf into a toothpick forest, all the same size. There are NO large specimens of any species out there. They robbed the place blind. What I recommended at the CCD meeting is in complete compliance and parallels the line quoted above, the “favor[ing] a diverse presence of tree sizes”. That is what I have always recommended and said. Chopping down all the marketable trees is NOT a nature preserve nor does it favor diversity. Metcalf Lake has no diversity. There was NO Forest management going on out there.

Moreover, get this from the CCD website:

*“Brandt Woods is leased for wildlife management from September 1 through December 31 annually and **timber harvests occur on a rotational basis every two years.**”*

<http://www.calhouncd.org/brandt-woods>

What this means is that they will be CONSTANTLY Harvesting trees on Brandt as well as Metcalf Lake. No tree will be allowed to grow huge. They are using the phrase “select harvesting” as a way of stripping any property they manage for funding their projects.

We all hear about “Corporate Greed”, this is a case of Government Greed. In all but one the definitions provided in Appendix I, the word “protection” is used every time. A Nature preserve is one that Protects animals and plants. The Trees at Metcalf were not protected nor the animals protected with the selling of hunting rights on the property. The Federal Definition (in Appendix I) states

*“A physical and biological unit in as near a natural condition as possible which exemplifies typical or unique vegetation...”*

There was UNIQUE Vegetation on Metcalf Lake and that consisted of very large Oak and Walnut trees that are RARE in Michigan! That is the purpose of a nature preserve, is to preserve --- in a near natural condition --- unique vegetation.

The City of Battle Creek failed in its job of Public Trust. There was a conscious effort to keep this from the City Commission and the citizens of Battle Creek, complaints about the logging, and the nature of the Deed to the city. There was a conscious effort to Deliberately MISCHARACTERIZE Metcalf Lake as a Park instead of a Nature Preserve. This is a scandal that touches now three government bodies, the administration staff of Battle Creek, the Calhoun Conservation District board members and staff, the Assyrian Township and the retired state forest ranger. The deed restrictions said, it was to be for public use --- yet the only people to use the property was the BC Police Department who used it for tactical training which is FORBIDDEN by the deed! My supposition is that some BC city staff wished to keep this place a secret from both the City Commissioners and the people of Battle Creek as a private place for them. Other government officials got wind of this and hatched a scheme to force this out of closet. My supposition that CCD agents in a hunt for new revenue knew about this and conspired with Assyrian Township officials to force Battle Creek to lease this land to the CCD because Battle Creek city officials wanted to log it as well! From what I learned from Ms Bronson is that state law prohibited City of BC logging of the property and taking the money out of Barry County; any money gained from logging had to stay in Barry County. So, the City of Battle Creek, by pressure from the Assyrian Township, leased Metcalf to the CCD to log.

And the lease expressly states the reason for the logging:

*“Any timber sale monies received will be used to continue the services of the Calhoun Conservation District”.*

The Bailey Family did not deed this property to the City of Battle Creek to fund the services of the CCD! The CCD took advantage of this and chopped down all the trees and then Ms. Bronson telling us this is about “forestry management”, “forestry health”, making “canopy holes”. The logging of Metcalf had nothing, nothing to do with any “science” out there. This was blazen fraud and destruction of public treasures by the CCD. This is Government Greed. In a letter dated Feb. 29, 2016 Ted Dearing, in a letter to the BC city attorney, tells her:

*“The CCD has been eliminating some trees but in a strategic manner to assist in growth and maintenance of the current vegetation”.*

There was no “strategic manner”. He states again that

*“I believe the logging was purely for maintenance purposes”.*

In talking to a BC city staff member on Thursday, after I attended the CCD meeting, this staff member wanted to make excuses for the CCD to continue logging the woods. It is amazing to behold that everybody concerned in Metcalf Lake thinks this place was to be a “Park”. This misrepresentation is either bumbling incompetence or direct collusion to hide the facts of the deed.

As to the intention of why this land was deeded to the City, Ms. Bronson, the Exec. Director of the Calhoun Conservation District in an email dated March 2, 2016, writes,

**“Jim said he discussed the harvest with quite a few neighbors because they were under the impression that Mr. Bailey didn’t want any trees removed ever”.**

This is in clear daylight! The Forester knew of the intentions. The Forester told that to Ms. Bronson, and when I confronted them at the meeting at Paddler’s grove, she tells me that “There is no legal definition of a nature preserve”. And all these people telling me I’m an idiot! People are lying all around. They knew the conditions and continued in the process of logging! And this email was sent to Kevin Smith and at the BC city commission meeting—no one responded to Dave Rook’s concern over the

logging at Metcalf. As soon as this was said, and known---all logging should have stopped at Metcalf! 354 trees were removed at the CCD's profit of \$90,000. And "quite a few people" knew that Mr. Bailey didn't want any trees cut down!

As the Ott Biological Preserve, in Emmett Township, is a Nature Preserve for Research and Educational opportunities, Metcalf Lake is a Nature Preserve that doubles as a park for light recreation. A Nature Preserve is to maintain the natural conditions and protect fauna and flora and preserve a diversity of tree sizes.

There is to be NO logging whatsoever at Metcalf anymore! Period. End of Story.

## **Recommended Actions**

1. The property is to be returned to the Bailey Family for the City broke the deed agreement, to wit: "kept as a nature preserve".

If the Bailey Family doesn't want this property returned, then the following actions are recommended:

1. The name of the parcel shall be named "Metcalf Lake Nature Preserve".
2. The Lease be withdrawn completely from the CCD.
3. That the rules and bylaws of the Wilderness and Natural Areas, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act of 1994 be adopted and used as the guiding principles of the Metcalf Lake Nature Preserve. A synopsis of the rules is in Appendix II.
4. No logging will ever be allowed at Metcalf. NEVER.
5. No hunting will ever be allowed at Metcalf. Never.
6. A full and public hearing and depositions taken to discover what went wrong and if there was collusion between city and state officials to defraud the people of Battle Creek of their Unique treasures of Large trees.

## **Appendix I: Definitions of "Nature Preserve"**

- a) From Dictionary.com: nature preserve

a piece of land protected and managed to preserve its flora and fauna; also called nature reserve

<http://www.dictionary.com/browse/nature-preserve>

- b) From: *Wildland Planning Glossary*, Charles F. Schwarz, z Edward C. Thor Gary H. Elsner. PACIFIC SOUTHWEST Forest and Range FOREST SERVICE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE Experiment Station P.O. BOX 245, BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94701 USDA FOREST SERVICE GENERAL TECHNICAL REPORT PSW-13 /1976

[First entry] Natural Preserve. See Natural Area Preserve and Natural Area, Research

Natural Area Preserve (Natural Reserve, Natural Area, Research Natural Area) 1. An area which retains a natural or relatively natural condition. Within it, wild parks, sanctuaries, refuges or wilderness can be designated. To qualify as a Natural Area Preserve, a site should be under protection, usually by a nonprofit agency or a Government agency. (U.S. Bur. Outdoor Recreation 1974) 2. A physical and biological unit in as near a natural condition as possible which exemplifies typical or unique vegetation and associated biotic, soil, geologic and aquatic features. **The unit is maintained in a natural condition by allowing physical and biological processes to operate, usually without direct human intervention.** (Buckman and Quintus 1972) 3. Also frequently used as a synonym for Natural Area, Research.

[http://www.fs.fed.us/psw/publications/documents/psw\\_gtr013/psw\\_gtr013.pdf](http://www.fs.fed.us/psw/publications/documents/psw_gtr013/psw_gtr013.pdf)

- c) From Wikipedia Nature reserve

A nature reserve (natural reserve, bioserve, (natural/nature) preserve or (national/nature) conserve) is a protected area of importance for wildlife, flora, fauna or features of geological or other special interest, which is reserved and managed for conservation and to provide special opportunities for study or research. Nature reserves may be designated by government institutions in some countries, or by private landowners, such as charities and research institutions, regardless of nationality. Nature reserves fall into different IUCN categories depending on the level of protection afforded by local laws

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nature\\_reserve](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nature_reserve)

- d) From Free Dictionary.com: nature reserve  
An area set aside chiefly to protect its wild plants and animals.

<http://www.thefreedictionary.com/Natural+preserve>

- e) From Merriam-Webster: nature preserve  
an area where animals and plants are protected and that has few buildings or homes

<http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/nature%20preserve>

## Appendix II: Michigan DNR, State Legislation

Part 351, Wilderness and Natural Areas, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act of 1994 sets the general guidelines under which the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) is to identify, dedicate, and administer Wilderness, Wild, and Natural Areas.

Highlights include:

An annual review of state lands must be completed to identify potential new areas

Dedicated and proposed natural areas are to be maintained or restored so as to protect and preserve their natural values

Requires the MDNR to "enlist the voluntary cooperation and support of interested citizens and conservation groups"

An emphasis on identifying potential natural areas near urban areas

Provides for the dedication of private land or land under the control of other governmental units

Any citizen may submit dedication recommendations

Prohibits the following activities:

- "Removing, cutting, picking, or otherwise altering vegetation, except as necessary for appropriate public access, the preservation or restoration of a plant or wildlife species, or the documentation of scientific values and with written consent of the MDNR", or for an easement
- Exploration or extraction of minerals A commercial enterprise, utility or permanent road
- Any use of mechanical transport (includes bicycles and motorboats), except when necessary for an emergency - this is a misdemeanor offense
- Use of motorized equipment, except for MDNR approved management

[http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-31154\\_31260-54429--00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-31154_31260-54429--00.html)

W. Lindsay Wheeler

Cc: BC City Attorney, BC City Manager, Assistant City Manager Ted Dearing, BC Parks and Recreation Department Kevin Smith, BC Planning Manager Christine M. Zuzga, file folder on Metcalf Lake for historical research (Requested that this report be mentioned "as Reports received" at upcoming City Commission meeting, 2 Aug. 2016)

This Report is #5 in a succession of reports on Metcalf Lake.

#4 Violation of Deed, June 30, 2016

#3 Violation of Open Meeting Act, June 27, 2016

#2 Report on Metcalf, June 23, 2016

#1 Handwritten note request for a cease and desist by the city on logging operations, June 22, 2016

Furthermore, this report is sent to the BC Enquirer, the Arborist at Leila Arboretum, board and staff at CCD, Calhoun County Commissioners, Calhoun Parks and Recreation Department.