

Commissioners' Journal
October 23, 2014

The Geauga County Board of Commissioners met in session on October 23, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Chambers located at 470 Center Street in Chardon, Ohio.

It is declared and determined that all formal actions of the Board of County Commissioners concerning and relating to the adoption of all resolutions that were adopted in this meeting, and that all deliberations of the Board of County Commissioners that resulted in such formal action were open to the public and were in compliance with all legal requirements, including section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

The President of the Board, Ralph Spidalieri opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. by leading the Board and audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

THOMPSON TOWNSHIP

Thompson Township Trustee Erwin Leffel thanked the Board of Commissioners on behalf of the people of Thompson for helping with the Thompson Square project and with the sewer project. Mr. Leffel noted that members of the Revitalization Committee along with their Fiscal Officer were in attendance. There was brief discussion on what the revitalization was including, conversion of the Fire Department, Town Hall and Administration Building to natural gas, the renovations to the Town Hall and that the outside of the Administration Building was going to get a new coat of paint. Mr. Leffel thanked the Board again for their assistance.

GEAUGA PARK DISTRICT – NATURE SCOPES

Special Events Coordinator Teresa Runion, Naturalist John Kolar and Michelle Pennel from the Administration Department came before the Board to present information regarding the Geauga Park District's Nature Scopes program. Ms. Runion explained that the program was started in 2003 because there was concern over middle school kids lagging behind in science and that studies show that kids learn better in an environmental classroom. Ms. Runion stated that to present over 5,000 fifth graders have gone through the program. Ms. Runion expressed that they do not know of another type of program across the United States like this that is offered to the schools. It was noted that the program is offered at no cost to the schools, and that the program is funded through civic and individual donations. Ms. Runion talked about the testimonials that they receive from the kids that go through the program, that continue to use the tools provided and that they teach their families how to use them. Ms. Runion explained that the kids are given equipment that includes a pair of binoculars and two field guides.

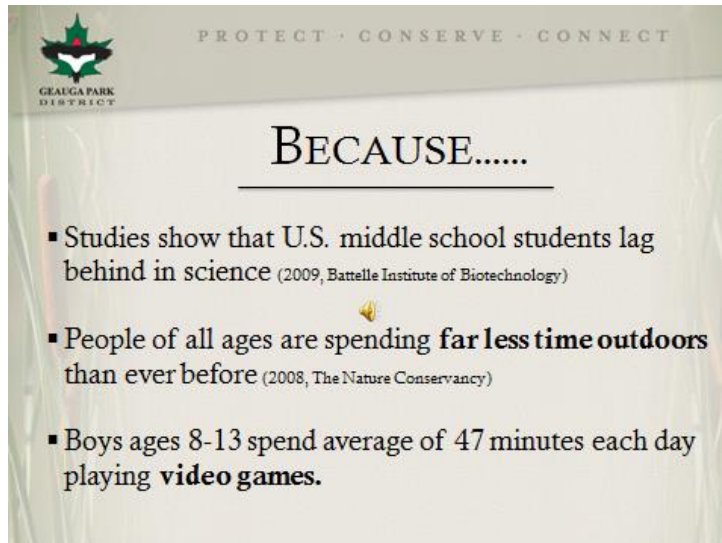
Mr. Kolar expressed he had been involved in the program since the beginning, adding that the program was designed to inspire kids to get outside, introduce them to natural diversity and as a way to plant seeds for the future. Mr. Kolar explained that the kids are told the equipment is on loan and if funding exists they are given them to keep at the end of the program. Mr. Kolar showed the Board how they teach the kids to use the binoculars for daytime and nighttime, as well that they can be used as a microscope, in addition to using them like a telescope to see the stars and constellations. Mr. Kolar explained that they also give the schools a birdfeeder and 50 lbs. of black oil sunflower to attract birds to the school grounds, that the Blackbrook Audobon Society donates a series of 4 Adventure Magazines that are about nature in the United States and Worldwide, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) also puts out the WildOhio for Kids magazines that are about Ohio Wildlife, and that the field guide about Geauga County was designed for this program and is a waterproof guide that folds easily to carry in your pocket, along with the night sky guide that glows in the dark. The field guides are available at the Park District gift shops for purchase.

They noted that over 900 students are in the program this year and that all but two schools which will be added next year are involved in the program. Mr. Kolar stated that last two will be added and they include Cardinal and St. Anslems. At this time none of the Amish Schools participate. Mr. Kolar explained that they do a student introduction to binoculars where they show the kids how to use them and adjust them to their eyes, then go on a school yard exploration. The teachers are provided with lesson plans and information because they are required to do at least one field trip and use the binoculars, as a way to incorporate nature into the classes. Mr. Kolar stated that during the winter they do an astronomy program that includes an inflatable skydome and learn about the stars and constellations. There is a binocular blitz at the end of the school year that is a hands-on outdoor exploration experience. In addition there are VIP programs that involve the families throughout the year, noting that the Heron hike and American Woodcock Adventure in the spring are two of those events.

Commissioners' Journal
October 23, 2014

Mr. Kolar showed the Board how to properly use binoculars and asked them to participate in searching for a bird that was placed on display today in chambers. First you look, lock your eyes on what you're looking at and then lift the binoculars to your eyes and using the focusing knob to bring it into clearer view. Mr. Kolar asked the Board to identify the bird he had posted on the chambers wall, and what marks it has that could help them figure out what they were looking at.

Mr. Kolar showed the following power point presentation:



Commissioners' Journal
October 23, 2014

GEAUGA PARK DISTRICT
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THE NATURE SCOPES PROGRAM.....

- Supports **Ohio Learning Standards** for 5th grade science through hands-on activities
- Teaches that outdoor scientific inquiry begins with an up-close-and-personal relationship with Nature
- Demonstrates that kids will explore the outdoors when given the right tools and quality instruction

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TEACHING KIDS TO EXPLORE.....

With
Binoculars



Not A
Television



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Students learn to use binoculars AS A FIELD SCOPE.....

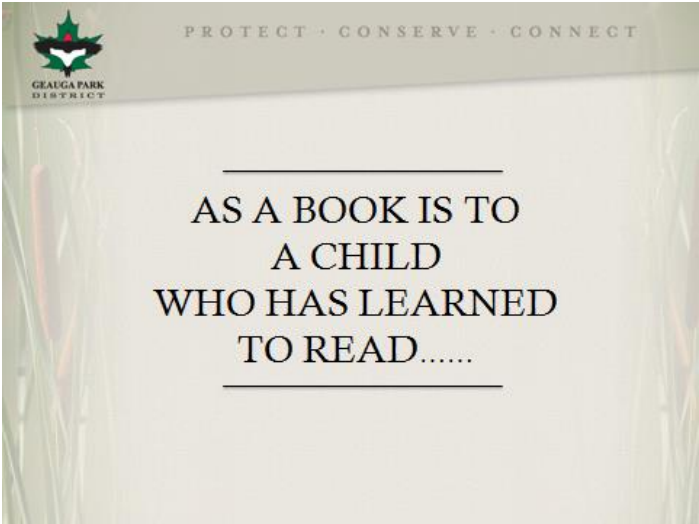


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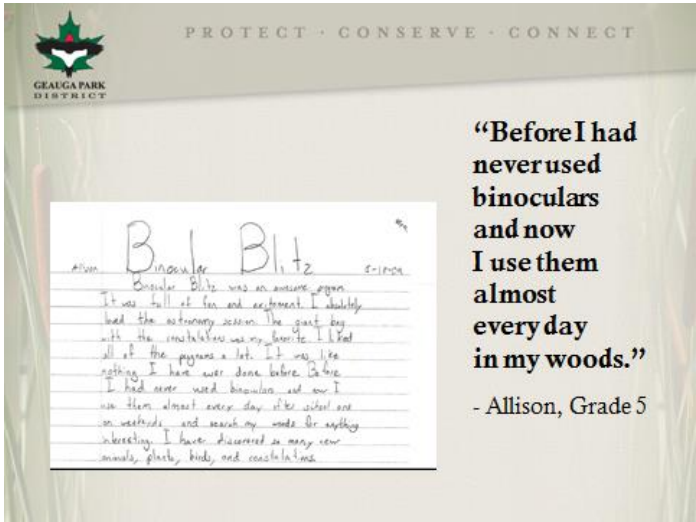
AND AS A MICROSCOPE.



Commissioners' Journal
October 23, 2014



.....so are binoculars to a child who has
learned to explore Nature.




Commissioners' Journal
October 23, 2014



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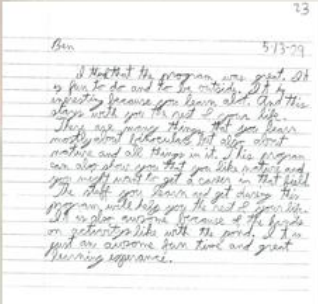
“I already taught my brother how to use the binoculars.”

- Marcella , Grade 5



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Ben 5/13/09

I think that the program was great. It is fun to do and to be outside. It is interesting because you learn about. And this stays with you for the rest of your life. They ask you things that you know mostly about. I learned a lot about nature and all things in it. This program can also show you that you like nature and you might want to get a career in that field. The staff you learn and get during this program will help you the best if you like or get into a field with the park. I have found an answer for time and great learning experience.

“This program shows you that you like Nature and you might want to get a career in that field.”


- Ben, Grade 5





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Wesley 5-13-09

I think the program was amazing. My favorite part was the Outpost. First, because we got to see the big geologic things. It was so much fun. We got to see the lake. You guys made it for and looking for things. I did it now guys. I was so much about everything. Another part I like was the forest. I learned you get to make like you can move. I think you guys for being and find things and things. One more thing for people. We are all the things. Not just me but you guys too.

“All of you guys knew so much about everything!”

- Wesley, Grade 5

Commissioners' Journal
October 23, 2014



Mr. Kolar stated that this was inside the star dome.



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“The field guide helps me identify the stars.”

- Amanda, Grade 5



Dear Nature Scopes Donor,

I love the outdoors a lot. I use the wonderful binoculars and guides. This summer I built my own treehouse and I use my binoculars there, every morning and evening when walking to my barn. I look at the stars. The guides help me identify the stars. Thank you again.

Sincerely,
Amanda
St Helen School





GEAUGA PARK DISTRICT

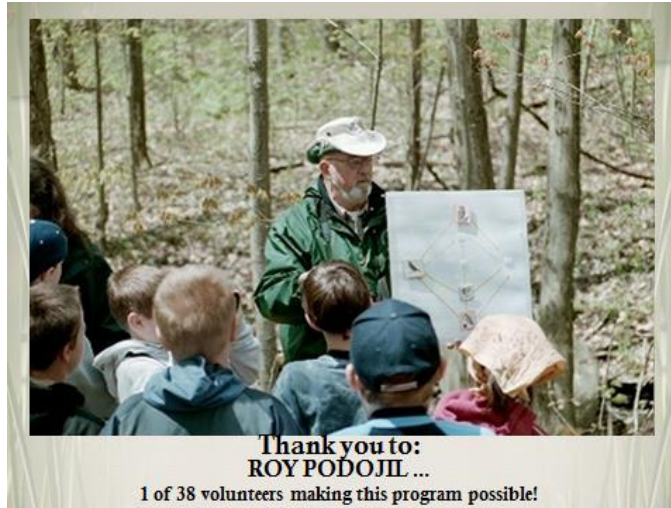
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“When you can observe animals from a distance, without interrupting or scaring them away, you learn more about their natural behaviors. I use my binoculars a lot. Thank you!”

-Mariah, West Geauga High School
2003-04 Nature Scopes Participant

Commissioners' Journal
October 23, 2014



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GEAUGA PARK DISTRICT

***NATURE SCOPES* 2014-15:**
THE NUMBERS

- 5+ interactive Sessions & 1 Field Day
- 14 Geauga County Schools
- Over 900 5th graders
- \$27 per student
- 32 Caring Volunteers
- \$30,000 per year to support *Nature Scopes*



Commissioners' Journal
October 23, 2014

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NATURE SCOPES
IS WORKING!


- **100%** of teachers say the program helps students meet **Ohio's Science Education Standards**
- **84%** of students feel more aware of and connected to **Nature**
- **89%** of students are more likely to explore outdoors

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A gift of just \$27 provides:


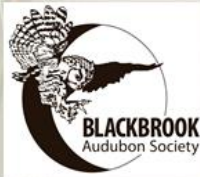
**1 PAIR OF BUSHNELL BINOCULARS &
2 FIELD GUIDES** for each student.



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Blackbrook Audubon Society.....

- Provides Audubon Adventures magazines for all *Nature Scopes* participants.



WHAT A GREAT PARTNERSHIP!

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Thank you
2012 & 2013 NATURE SCOPES DONORS

Mrs. Louise Alexander	Mr. Brian Gingerich
Mr. & Mrs. William Angstrom	Ms. Emilie Gottsegen
Mr. & Mrs. Milind Bhanoo	Eugene & Barbara Hamlow
Sister Julie Boehnlein	Mrs. Kathy Hanes
Mr. Thomas Braund	Mssrs. Robert & Albert Hanes
Mr. John Buda	Mr. & Mrs. Chris Hann
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Brobst	Ms. Ruth Holm
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Cashion	Mr. & Mrs. Jon Howard
Mrs. Margaret Clause	John & Kelly Janoch
Mr. Ian Cooper	Mr. John Kolar
Ms. Fran Cverna	Dr. Gerald Lackey
Mr. Robert Denne	Kathy Keare Leavenworth
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Dively	Mr. & Mrs. John Leech
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Emch	Mr. Dan LeScoeze
Mr. Charles Fletcher	Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Maglott
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Francis	Mr. Brandon Manley
Mr. & Mrs. Brent Gardner	

Commissioners' Journal
October 23, 2014



Mr. Kolar thanked the Board for allowing them to come and talk about this inspirational program that they are so proud of. Ms. Runion read several thank you notes from the kids that have participated in the Nature Scopes program. Commissioner Spidalieri stated that he had gone out to spend time with his daughter in a deer blind and the first thing she grabbed going out the door was her binoculars, adding that he feels it is such a great program and the passion they have helps make the programs and thanked them. There was some discussion about the cost of the binoculars and the field guides and Ms. Runion explained that the cost of the equipment per child is just under \$27.00 because they are able to purchase in bulk and get lower costs on the items used.

APPROVE MINUTES

Motion: by Commissioner Samide, seconded by Commissioner Rear to approve and execute the minutes for the meeting of October 21, 2014.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Samide</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Rear</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>

Commissioners' Journal
October 23, 2014

COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE - OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION APPENDIX E – DISBURSEMENT REQUEST FORM AND CERTIFICATION #1 AND FINAL – WOODIN ROAD RESURFACING PROJECT

Construction Manager Pete Seliskar stated that the project had been completed and they are requesting to release funds.

Motion: by Commissioner Samide, seconded by Commissioner Rear to approve and authorize Ralph Spidalieri, Board Member/Chief Executive Officer, to execute the Ohio Public Works Commission Appendix E – Disbursement Request Form and Certification #1 and Final in order to release funds from the state portion of the OPWC grant for the Widening and Asphalt Resurfacing of Woodin Road (CH 25) in Chardon and Hambden Townships, in the amount of \$300,000.00.

Roll Call Vote:	Commissioner Samide	Aye
	Commissioner Rear	Aye
	Commissioner Spidalieri	Aye

MAINTENANCE – FACILITYDUDE PROPOSAL AND AGREEMENT

Director Glen Vernick explained that this software will allow them to generate work orders and preventative maintenance by automatically sending tasks to the employees that will help set up monthly tasks and tracking. Commissioner Rear stated that he had sat in on the presentation regarding this program and that it was nice that when the employee is changing a light bulb or a belt by entering that information into the program, when the task is automatically generated that information will be included in the work order to help save time. County Administrator David Lair added that CORSA is subsidizing part of the cost of it. Mr. Vernick added that they will also be using it to look at trends in maintenance and help them with older equipment that may have to be replaced by tracking the amount of work put into a unit that may over time be more cost effective to replace.

Motion: by Commissioner Samide, seconded by Commissioner Rear to approve and authorize the President of the Board to initial and execute the FacilityDude Proposal and Agreement for CORSA Preventive Maintenance Program to provide FacilityDude Management Software for the Maintenance Department for a one (1) year term with an option to renew for additional years, in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00.

Roll Call Vote:	Commissioner Samide	Aye
	Commissioner Rear	Aye
	Commissioner Spidalieri	Aye

MAINTENANCE – SERVICE CONTRACT AGREEMENT – ZEIGLER EARTHWORKS, INCORPORATED

Mr. Vernick explained that about ten feet outside the Courthouse there is a manhole and about twice a year they have to do a clean out, but by adding another manhole this will make it easier to do that clean out. Mr. Vernick stated that they are trying to do this in conjunction with the City of Chardon replacing sidewalks.

Motion: by Commissioner Samide, seconded by Commissioner Rear to approve and execute a service Contract Agreement with Zeigler Earthworks, Incorporated for the installation of new sanitary manhole and replacement of existing main sewer lines at the Geauga County Courthouse for the Year 2014 in an amount not to exceed \$7,200.00.

Roll Call Vote:	Commissioner Samide	Aye
	Commissioner Rear	Aye
	Commissioner Spidalieri	Aye

MAINTENANCE – SERVICE CONTRACT AGREEMENT – PETERSEN CONSTRUCTION AND CONTRACTING

Mr. Vernick explained that they are moving the reception area at the Senior Center by reconfiguring the current library to a reception area that will include sliding windows and the addition of an office for the maintenance coordinator. Mr. Vernick stated that they are going to install an additional sidewalk to re-direct how people are entering and exiting the building. Mr.

Commissioners' Journal
October 23, 2014

Rear stated that this was being done due to do the security review that was done of the building.

Motion: by Commissioner Samide, seconded by Commissioner Rear to approve and execute a service Contract Agreement with Petersen Construction and Contracting to perform work at the Geauga County Senior Center Reception Office and Sidewalk for the Year 2014 in an amount not to exceed \$25,000.00.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Samide</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Rear</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>

PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE – VICTIM/WITNESS - VICTIM OF CRIME ACT (VOCA) AND STATE VICTIM OF CRIME ACT (SVAA) GRANT AWARD AND ACCEPTANCE

Victim Witness Advocate Cindi Haycox stated that the Board had approved her grant application during the summer and that it had been approved and that she was requesting the Board approve and accept the award.

Motion: by Commissioner Samide, seconded by Commissioner Rear to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the Victim of Crime Act (VOCA) 2014-2015 Grant Award and Acceptance Form for the Geauga County Prosecutor Victim/Witness Program in the amount of \$63,992.00. As part of this grant, \$47,992.00 is being requested from Federal VOCA funds #2015-VOCA-10202074 (#2015 VAGENE005) with a local match from the County General Fund of \$16,000.00. This grant is for the period October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2015.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Samide</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Rear</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>

OTHER

The Board reviewed upcoming events.

MEETINGS

Thu., 10/23 The Commissioners will hold Budget Hearings beginning at 1:00 p.m.

Tue., 10/28 The Commissioners will hold a Budget Hearing beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Tue., 10/28 The Commissioners will hold regular session that will include a Public Hearing at the 10:30 a.m. on the proposed vacation of a portion of Woodhill Drive (TR 731) in Montville Township

Thu., 10/30 The Commissioners will hold Budget Hearings beginning at 8:30 a.m.

*Tue., 11/4 **The Regularly scheduled Commissioners' meeting is cancelled.***

Thu., 11/6 Geauga Soil and Water Conservation District Annual Dinner / Election, 6:00 p.m. Fairgrounds School Building

Sat., 11/8 Geauga 4-H Member and Volunteer Recognition Luncheon Ceremony, 11:00 a.m. Chow Down

*Tue., 11/11 **County offices will be closed for general business in observance of Veteran's Day. Twenty-four hour operations will continue to operate as usual.***

The Regularly scheduled Commissioners' meeting is cancelled.

Wed., 11/12 Geauga County Township Association Meeting, Middlefield, 6:30 p.m.

Thu., 11/13 The Commissioners will hold regular session

Commissioners' Journal
October 23, 2014

Thu., 11/13 The Planning Commission meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Planning Commission meeting room, Bldg. #1C, 470 Center Street, Chardon

Fri., 11/14 NOACA: External Affairs 8:30 a.m., Policy 9:30 a.m., and Planning and Programming 11:00 a.m., Cleveland

Mon., 11/17 Family First Council, 2:00 p.m. at Job and Family Services

Tue., 11/18 The Commissioners will hold regular session

Tue., 11/25 The Commissioners will hold regular session

Thu., 11/27 County offices will be closed for general business in observance of Thanksgiving Day. Twenty-four hour operations will continue to operate as usual.

The Regularly scheduled Commissioners' meeting is cancelled.

Fri., 11/28 County offices under the hiring authority of the Board of Commissioners will be closed for general business.

BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, COMMISSIONER SAMIDE ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 11:04 A.M.

Geauga County Board of Commissioners

Ralph Spidalieri

Blake A. Rear

Mary E. Samide

Christine Blair, Commissioners' Clerk

Commissioners' Journal
October 23, 2014

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