

**Huron Joint Recreation District
Regular Board Meeting – Minutes
Tuesday, January 6, 2025, at 6:30 PM
City Municipal Building, Huron, OH**

Members Present: Tom Solberg, Ed Wimmer, Roger Blevins, Jonathan Merckens, Julie Spitzley

Present from HPRD: Doug Steinwart, Brian Croucher, Rick Reinbolt

Present from City of Huron: None

Members Absent: Mark Claus, Missie-Lowrey-Huntley

Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve November 4, 2025, minutes as presented; by Jonathan Merckens and seconded by Ed Wimmer. Approved unanimously.

Audience Comments: None

1. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Huron WinterFest Recap:** Brian gave a quick recap of the 8th Anniversary of the Dec. 6th, 2025, event. Please with turnout and weather. Partnered with GSP again. GSP's role has been helping with sponsors and the Market at the Harbor House. The event started with the parade – which has grown a bit from last year, Santa & Mrs. Claus, Carriage Rides, Trackless Train, Hot Cocoa Stands, Food Vendors, Live Characters, Face Painting, and Tree Lighting and Fireworks. Brian read the list of sponsors and thanked them for their support with the event and mentioned all the participating groups and departments. Complete list is on recording.
- b. **Grants Update:** Doug updated the board on grants received. 1. Mylander Grant – received \$2,000 for the Movies by the River Series to purchase equipment. 2. BIG Grant – Dock replacement for B&H piers. Now in Stage 2 – construction & bid documents preparing to go out to bid. ODNR Grant funded through US Fish & Wildlife – creates a detailed bid package. Things are picking up again now as the holidays are over.
- c. **Point of Sale Transactions:** Doug discussed the launch of the new Point of Sale Transaction. All points of sale throughout the City will pass the 3% fee onto the consumer. The positive part for Parks & Rec. is that credit cards will now be accepted at Nickel Plate Beach for parking. It had always been cash only and in recent years has presented a few challenges. For Nickel Plate's \$7 fee to park will now be \$7.21 – when passing the 3% on to the consumer. HBB will also be taking credit card payments with a 3% additional cost. Cash and checks will still be accepted. The savings will equate to approximately \$5k for the department.
- d. **Misc. Parks & Recreation:** Brian – presented the Indoor Soccer Program at Woodlands this winter. This is the 15th year of this program. Walking at Woodlands Program going now thru April, M-Th, 6-7:30 when school is open. Indoor yoga is set to begin at the HBB in a couple of weeks. Brian is currently working on building the 2026 recreation calendar. Doug – followed up with an update on the Pier. Cold weather slowed then halted the backfilling process, approximately 65% done with concrete work. Estimated 2 solid weeks of concrete work. Waiting for 40-degree temperatures day/night to finish. The Ice Rink is up and ready to go in Dec. Hopefully in Jan/Feb there will be some useful skating time. This time of year, is when the misc. projects get completed. Rick worked on a free-standing electrical panel. The Women's Restroom will be receiving new lighting, plumbing fixtures, and shower heads, etc. Snow removal has begun and has been constant. The Annual Report for the City should be completed for next meeting. (However as of 01/29/2026 - it is not done!) Staff evaluations have begun – good exercise to do and builds a stronger staff.

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Tom Solberg: Thanked everyone for attending. Julie Spitzley thanked Rick for his hard work and commented on the WinterFest parade. Ed Wimmer thanked the team for their hard work. No further comments from the board or staff.

For more details and specifics please feel encouraged to listen to the audio located on the City Website: https://cityofhuron.org/government/boards_commissions_committees/huron_joint_recreation_district_board.php#outer-470

OTHER MATTERS – ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Ed Wimmer; second by Roger Blevins