

COLUMBUS GOLF AUTHORITY

AGENDA

AUGUST 23, 2023

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Ricky Wright

**Note- Housekeeping measure—please silence cell phones.*

MINUTES: Offered for approval, the minutes of July 18, 2023.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT: Steve Brown – update on course conditions.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT: Jim Arendt

Updates on revenue reports for Bull Creek and Oxbow Creek Golf Courses.

Director’s comments: Briefing on a variety of items.

NEW BUSINESS:

OLD BUSINESS:

PUBLIC AGENDA: Persons registered to speak to the Golf Authority.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

ADJOURNMENT

***Note-Next Meeting—September 26, 2023 @ 4:00 pm--Bull Creek Grill.**

THE COLUMBUS GOLF AUTHORITY MINUTES

JULY 18, 2023

Chairman Ricky Wright called the meeting to order.

Minutes of the June 27, 2023, Authority meeting were approved unanimously.

Chairman Wright announced the first matter for the Authority was an update on the status of the operation of Godwin Creek, which the Fore Kids charity operating the facility was preparing to turn over to the Authority effective Aug. 1, 2023.

Director of Golf Jim Arendt said he is preparing a plan for the subsequent operation of Godwin Creek by the Authority, but many questions remained to be answered before a complete plan could be put into force. Among the questions is how many of the current volunteers helping Fore Kids operate would be interested in continuing to work for anyone other than Fore Kids' Richard Callahan.

Vice Chairman Stephanie Callahan indicated she was recusing herself from her position on the Authority and would have information to present on behalf of Fore Kids, for which she works.

Arendt said he understands the Authority must go before Columbus Council with a request for assistance in funding of the Godwin Creek operation, since there is now no budget governing that course and neither Bull Creek nor Oxbow Creek funds are permitted to be used at Godwin Creek. He said he is in the process of preparing a recommendation to present to Council.

Alonzo Jones made a motion for Arendt to go to Council on behalf of the Authority and for any approved plan resulting from that presentation to be emailed to Authority members for an electronic vote.

Stephanie Callahan said the programs operated by Fore Kids have cost up to \$75,000 a year, and the largest revenue year was \$45,000. The programs include six weeks of activities in the fall and another six weeks in the fall, for which participating kids are not charged. Programs for the Middle School Golf also include 6 weeks in the fall and 6 weeks in the spring.

Arendt said the Authority at this time has no business license allowing it to operate the facility at Godwin Creek after August 1, and the utilities now in the charity's name would have to be put in the name of the Authority, among other issues to be immediately resolved.

As the discussion evolved, Richard Callahan said Fore Kids' programs would continue its programs through Oct. 31. He said if it would help resolve issues and make the transfer of operations at Godwin Creek simpler, the charity would agree to continue to operate through Dec. 31, which would allow the Authority to take over beginning Jan. 1, 2024.

Arendt said that would allow for a better transition and for developing a more complete plan for funding and staffing as the Authority assumes the tasks now being performed by the charity.

Fore Kids would in the future continue its programs for children under an Authority-run administration and would work out details for use of the facility.

In his monthly report, Superintendent Steve Brown said aerification of Bull Creek and Oxbow Creek greens have been completed, although he has at times had to make do with a shortage of inmates on work details.

He said he plans an “aggressive approach” to weed control in coming weeks and plans to fertilize fairways and tees beginning Aug. 1.

A pump station at Oxbow Creek developed a faulty intake valve problem and had to be repaired.

Brown said work is continuing to complete electrical wiring connections and installation of water cooler stations at Bull Creek. When completed, cool drinking water will be conveniently available throughout the course, at the driving range and the clubhouse.

Director of Golf Jim Arendt reported that city tabulations of the revenues and budget outcomes for the fiscal year ended June 30 are not yet available. He said, however, that his point-of-sale records make him “pretty confident” that Bull Creek will have exceeded \$2.2 million in revenue, or more than \$1 million more than it achieved two years ago. Oxbow Creek also will show very good

revenue generation, exceeding \$620,000, he said. “We’ve had two extremely good revenue years,” Arendt said.

Less than three weeks into the new fiscal year, Bull Creek already has generated more than \$240,000, with Oxbow reaching more than \$60,500 thus far in June, at a time when both courses’ greens were being aerated, he said.

Arendt said the 2023-24 fiscal year budgets, approved by Columbus Council, establish goals of \$595,000 for Oxbow Creek and \$1,915,000 for Bull Creek.

Tommy Nobles made a motion, seconded by Kenneth Davis, for Authority approval of the budgets set by Columbus Council. The motion was passed unanimously.

Nikki Siter reported that Oxbow Creek’s new assistant superintendent is Bristow Samford, “an expert hire” who will be a great addition to the work force.

Arendt said Oxbow’s fleet of 33 leased carts, not counting four owned by the Authority, will soon be up for renewal. He said he has been pricing carts and

requested approval to negotiate with Yamaha for a new lease, which could cost up to \$85.46 per cart.

Kenneth Davis made a motion, seconded by Ken Crumpler, approving negotiation of a new lease contract for the Oxbow fleet. The motion passed unanimously.

Arendt said the new Bull Creek clubhouse, for which funding was approved by voters as part of the 2022 Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST), will begin this year with design of the new structure. He said he would like to see the current gas golf carts replaced by electric carts when that building is ready for operation. The design should include storage areas beneath the building for the electric cart fleet. Gasoline carts cannot be stored beneath such a structure under fire safety regulations, he said.

Such a new fleet of carts also could include a GPS system, which would include restrictions limiting access to areas where carts should not be driven. "This would be a step up for us, but may require an increase in cart rental fees," he said.

Arendt said a cooler problem in the grill was resolved recently when Coca-Cola provided an operating cooler to assist in continuing operations.

He also announced that Adam Cooper of Columbus, a former Columbus State University golf team member, has been hired as the new assistant golf professional. He began work July 17.

Advertising is also beginning to seek candidates of a new position of marketing manager, which will help generate revenue for the golf courses and improve operations, he said.

The new Starter House is now functional and training of staff and volunteers in its operation will begin soon, Arendt said.

The annual election of Authority officers was held, with Chairman Ricky Wright the sole nominee for the chairman's post.

William Roundtree and Kenneth Davis were nominated for the vice-chairman post. Written votes tallied in that contest showed Roundtree receiving six votes and Davis receiving two votes. Roundtree becomes the new vice-chairman.

A motion to adjourn, made by Ken Crumpler and seconded by William Roundtree, passed by unanimous vote.

Present at the meeting were Ricky Wright, Stephanie Callahan, Jim Houston, Ken Crumpler, Tommy Nobles, Ken Davis, William Roundtree, Alonzo Jones and Richard Mahone.

Sales By Department

Oxbow Creek Golf Course

Saturday, July 1, 2023 - Monday, July 31, 2023

Item by Department, Category, and Sub-Category	Sales					Refunds			Total		
	Qty	Sales	Tax	Cost	Margin	Qty	Sales Refund	Tax Refund	Qty	Sales	Tax
Cart Fees	1,025	\$11,577.21		\$0.00	100.00%				1,025	\$11,577.21	
Food & Beverage	3,450	\$6,778.38		\$18.00	99.73%				3,450	\$6,778.38	
Green Fees	2,688	\$34,858.44							2,688	\$34,858.44	
Pro Shop	1,533	\$12,612.70		\$3,956.80	68.63%				1,533	\$12,612.70	
Total	8,696	\$65,826.73	\$5,914.75	\$3,974.80	93.96%		\$0.00		8,696	\$65,826.73	\$5,914.75

Sales By Department

Bull Creek Golf Course

Saturday, July 1, 2023 - Monday, July 31, 2023

Item by Department, Category, and Sub-Category	Sales						Refunds			Total		
	Qty	Sales	Tax	Cost	Margin		Qty	Sales Refund	Tax Refund	Qty	Sales	Tax
Cart Fees	5,409	\$103,717.13		\$25.00	99.98%					5,409	\$103,717.13	
Food & Beverage	9,436	\$27,618.79		\$2,541.83	90.80%	(15)	(\$57.29)			9,421	\$27,561.50	
Gift Certificate	7	\$631.00								7	\$631.00	
Green Fees	5,858	\$63,178.05								5,858	\$63,178.05	
Memberships	64	\$16,483.27								64	\$16,483.27	
Pro Shop	2,959	\$31,241.67		\$11,784.61	62.28%					2,959	\$31,241.67	
Total	23,733	\$242,869.91	\$20,671.68	\$14,351.44	94.09%	(15)	(\$57.29)	(\$5.16)		23,718	\$242,812.62	\$20,666.52

Sales By Department

Oxbow Creek Golf Course

Tuesday, August 1, 2023 - Thursday, August 31, 2023

Item by Department, Category, and Sub-Category	Sales						Refunds			Total		
	Qty	Sales	Tax	Cost	Margin		Qty	Sales Refund	Tax Refund	Qty	Sales	Tax
Cart Fees	612	\$6,937.78		\$0.00	100.00%					612	\$6,937.78	
Food & Beverage	2,040	\$4,060.87		\$23.40	99.42%					2,040	\$4,060.87	
Green Fees	1,707	\$22,251.48								1,707	\$22,251.48	
Pro Shop	968	\$8,856.36		\$2,932.93	66.88%	(1)	(\$269.99)			967	\$8,586.37	
Total	5,327	\$42,106.49	\$3,777.12	\$2,956.33	92.98%	(1)	(\$269.99)	(\$24.30)	5,326	\$41,836.50	\$3,752.82	

Sales By Department

Bull Creek Golf Course

Tuesday, August 1, 2023 - Thursday, August 31, 2023

Item by Department, Category, and Sub-Category	Sales					Refunds			Total		
	Qty	Sales	Tax	Cost	Margin	Qty	Sales Refund	Tax Refund	Qty	Sales	Tax
Cart Fees	3,079	\$57,346.02		\$17.50	99.97%				3,079	\$57,346.02	
Food & Beverage	5,498	\$15,466.64		\$1,524.80	90.14%	(5)	(\$9.62)		5,493	\$15,457.02	
Gift Certificate	8	\$906.00							8	\$906.00	
Green Fees	3,563	\$39,514.11							3,563	\$39,514.11	
Memberships	46	\$11,400.00							46	\$11,400.00	
Pro Shop	1,607	\$18,165.26		\$6,528.41	64.06%				1,607	\$18,165.26	
Total	13,801	\$142,798.03	\$12,311.92	\$8,070.71	94.35%	(5)	(\$9.62)	(\$0.86)	13,796	\$142,788.41	\$12,311.06



Golf Director Report-Wednesday, August 23, 2023, submitted by Jim Arendt

Updates:

- Nikki Siter report
- Reserves
 - Bull Creek
 - Oxbow Creek
- Larry Nelson-PGA HOPE-September 11, Patriot Day @ Bull Creek
- Pratt & Whitney Golf League-32-36 on the first day
- 9-hole cart rate
- Memberships-Adam Cooper-big help, over 300 members
- City Manager's Day of Golf – Thursday, October 5
- Starter House-in action!
- Hole location progress report
- Ice machine, 2 commercial refrigerators
- City Championship September 16/17, Senior City Championships October 28/29
- Back Columbus Blue-September 29
- Titleist/XXIO fitting day September 22
- Beer
- Budget matter

**SAVE THE
DATE**

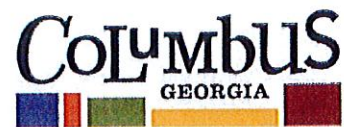
**CITY
MANAGER'S
DAY OF
GOLF**

**THURSDAY
OCTOBER 5, 2023**

**BULL CREEK GOLF
COURSE**

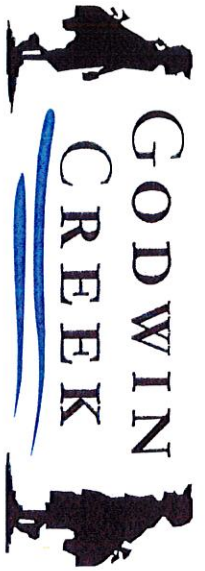


**11:30 AM: Registration Opens
12:00 PM: Lunch is served.
1:00 PM: Golf begins**



We do amazing.

**PLEASE RESPOND TO THE LINK PROVIDED
NO LATER THAN SEPT. 22ND**



Capital Equipment-Maintenance

Toro Triplex mower (used)	\$30,000
Tractor (used)	\$25,000
6 Existing Yamaha Golf Carts (used)	\$13,500
Front Loader	\$30,000
Toro Green mower	\$25,000
Zero Turn John Deere mower (new)	\$11,500
Air Tank/accessories	\$1,000
Small tools	\$3,000
Yamaha utility vehicle	\$11,000
Total	\$150,000

*move used John Deere sprayer from Bull Creek to Godwin Creek

Capital Equipment-Operations

Computer, POS system	\$5,000
Printer	\$500
Netting	\$5,000
Mats	\$0

Total	\$10,500
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Other projects

Parking lot paving/stripping
Bridge repair
Dredge creek and pond
Update bathroom
Roof repair

*note potential of Economic Development assistance per Rob Scott

FY24 Maintenance -Godwin Creek

Labor	\$44,000
Chemicals	\$8,000
Parks Maintenance-Irrigation	\$4,500
Operating Materials	\$2,500
Auto Parts	\$2,500
Building Maintenance	\$750
Security	\$1,200
Membership	\$300
Education	\$500
Travel	\$500
Fuel	\$5,500
Electricity	\$7,500
Water	\$9,000

*Use of Bull Creek inmate crew - 2/3 days week

Total	\$86,750
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FY24 Operations- Godwin Creek

Labor	\$45,000
Office Supplies	\$1,200
Operating Materials	\$4,000
Building Maintenance	\$2,400
Security	\$1,000
Electricity	\$4,500
Water	\$750
Phone,tv,internet	\$2,400
Food	\$3,500
Merchandise	\$6,000
POS software	\$3,500

Total	\$ 74,250
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Total Operations

\$161,000

FY24 Revenue-Godwin Creek

Green Fees	\$42,000
Cart Fees	\$8,000
Food	\$9,000
Merchandise	\$10,000
Support from donations/other	\$50,000
Clinics/Programs	\$42,000

Total	\$161,000
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*projecting 6000 green fees @ \$7, 1000 cart fees @ \$8
 **projecting 40 weeks of \$300 weekend clinic fees,
 200 program fees of \$150