

SHALL establish a board of parks and recreation AND A DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND RECREATION, with powers and duties as [hereinafter] specified IN THIS SECTION.

(b) The board shall consist of [three] EIGHT members, appointed by the county commissioners, of whom each commissioner shall appoint [one] TWO. ONE MEMBER SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION. THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SHALL ANNUALLY SELECT, FROM ITS MEMBERSHIP, AN EX-OFFICIO MEMBER FOR THIS BOARD, WHO SHALL SERVE WITHOUT VOTING PRIVILEGES. All members of the board, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE EX-OFFICIO MEMBER, shall be appointed for four years from the first day of January of the year of their appointments or until their successors are appointed. Vacancies, except those at the expiration of a term, shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointments and for the unexpired term. All members of the board shall serve without compensation, except that they may be reimbursed for necessary and proper expenses incurred while performing their duties thereon.

(d) The board, with the approval of the county commissioners, may accept real and personal property of all kinds suitable for public parks, open space programs, and recreational purposes, legal title to which shall always be in the board of county commissioners. The county commissioners [may] SHALL appropriate in the annual budget of the county such sums as [may] SHALL be necessary to purchase land, construct improvements, and defray expenses for the maintenance of park and recreation areas under the control of the board and for the support of the park and recreational programs. The acquisition of property, with the approval of the county commissioners, may be by purchase, condemnation, grant, bequest, devise, or lease of the fee or any lessor interest, development right, assignment, covenant, or other [contractual] CONTRACTUAL right necessary for park and recreation programs. The county commissioners have the power to sell or in any manner dispose of these parks and recreational properties. ~~HOWEVER, IF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SELL OR OTHERWISE DISPOSE OF ANY PARK OR RECREATIONAL PROPERTY, THEY SHALL REPLACE THE PARK OR PROPERTY WITH COMPARABLE FACILITIES, OR JUSTIFY THE SALE OR OTHER DISPOSITION.~~

(e) The board, subject to budgetary policies and appropriations of the county commissioners, may [initiate] ESTABLISH, adopt, direct, or cause to be conducted or directed, a comprehensive program of public recreation in schools, parks, or other lands or buildings, either publicly or privately owned. It further may develop, equip, operate, maintain, issue permits for the use of any facilities made available to the board, and make charges where appropriate. THE INITIATIVE FOR ALL PROGRAMS SHALL COME FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC.