

BOARD OF REGENTS
EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

SECTION: 15
DATE: December 5, 2014

**RECOMMENDATION
APPROVAL OF BOATHOUSE DEVELOPMENT
AND LEASE AGREEMENT**

ACTION REQUESTED

It is recommended that the Board of Regents approve the development and lease of a boathouse on Ford Lake in Ypsilanti Township and authorize Eastern Michigan University (EMU) President Susan Martin to execute the formal Boathouse Development and Lease Agreement. The boathouse will support the EMU Women's Rowing Team and will be available for limited public use.

STAFF SUMMARY

EMU is partnering with Ypsilanti Township and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund (DNRTF) to improve Lakeside Park in the township along Ford Lake. The parties agreed that a boathouse would be constructed on the lake, primarily for the benefit of EMU's Women's Rowing team, which currently rows on the lake but is in need of an enhanced facility.

The Township contributed the parkland and the following parties contributed monetary amounts to the construction of the Boathouse:

DNRTF awarded a \$500,000 grant.

EMU is contributing \$550,000. The EMU Board approved capital expenditures of \$450,000 on April 20, 2010 as part of FY10-11 budget and another \$100,000 on June 18, 2013 as part of FY13-14 budget for a total of \$550,000.

Washtenaw County Parks committed \$250,000

Together, these funds total the amount needed for the project expenses.

Because the project has State funding, all components -- including the Boathouse -- will be accessible to the public. The Township will own the land and the boathouse and will lease it to the University for 99 years for \$1 per year. The lease will provide that the University will have full control over the Boathouse. The ground lease is contingent upon EMU Board of Regents approval and approval of the Township Board, and DNR, and must require the Boathouse to generally be accessible to the public per DNRTF rules.

The Boathouse should be completed by early spring 2015 and the ground lease will be executed upon completion of construction.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

In addition to the \$550,000 contribution, the annual operating costs will be approximately \$25,000 per year.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION

The proposed Board action has been reviewed and is recommended for Board approval.



University Executive Officer
Gloria A. Hage

Date