



REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Board of Park Commissioners

February 9, 2026

7:30 PM – Village Hall Council Chambers

PRESENT

Commissioners: President Patrick Lahey, Vice President Allison Frazier (via phone), Patrick Duffy, Julie Adrianopoli, Cecilia Clarke, Julia Goebel, and Mike Murdock (via phone)

Secretary/Executive Director: Chris Lindgren

Visitors: Alan Golden, Walter Keats

1.0 REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 p.m. President Lahey also offers some announcements.

1.1 ROLL CALL

1.2 MOTION TO BRING VICE PRESIDENT FRAZIER AND COMMISSIONER MURDOCK IN VIA PHONE

Commissioner Duffy moves and Commissioner Goebel seconds the motion to bring Vice President Frazier and Commissioner Murdock into the meeting via phone.

By a voice vote; **motion carried.**

2.0 CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Adrianopoli moves and Commissioner Murdock seconds the motion to approve the Consent Agenda of February 9, 2026.

By a roll call vote, voting *Yes*, Commissioners: Duffy, Adrianopoli, Goebel, Clarke, Murdock, Frazier and Lahey. Voting *No*, none. Abstain, none. Absent, none; **motion carried.**

3.0 COMMUNICATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE

There is nothing in addition to what is in the packet.

4.0 PUBLIC COMMENT/RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

President Lahey explains public comment to the audience and states that the policy is located on page three of the packet.

5.0 STAFF REPORTS

5.1 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Director Lindgren gives his report to the board.



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2026 IPRA/IAPD Conference

The District had both staff and Board attend our annual state conference in Chicago on January 29-31. This is the largest state parks and recreation conference in the country with thousands of professionals, commissioners and elected officials. I heard from many staff that had great takeaways from conference such as program ideas, new products, lessons learned and new connections.

NRPA 30 Under 30

We are thrilled to announce that Lucy Mellen, our Sustainability Coordinator, is featured in the National Parks & Recreation Magazine and named one of the top young professionals transforming the field in 2026. This is their 30 Under 30 list and we are so happy for Lucy to receive this important designation!

Outdoor Ice Rinks

We have three outdoor ice rinks located at Mallinckrodt Park, Thornwood Park and Gillson Park. Thank you to our parks team that worked around the clock to build the ice in sub-zero temperatures. This is a labor intensive process to build and to maintain. The community has been using them regularly with positive feedback. We are happy to provide this great amenity that is free and open to the community.

Pop-Up School Day Off Program

The District worked closely with D39 & D37 prior to the school closing due to extreme cold and was able to offer a Pop-Up School Day Off program for those that needed childcare. The recreation team quickly shifted to find the staff, space and logistics to make sure we had an option for families in need of childcare. Marketing jumped in to help communicate and spread the word as well. The staff was able to open up 100 spaces and the program filled within a few hours. We had 51 kids attend the program on January 23rd. I am so proud of the efforts of the team to put the community first and step up to meet the challenge.

5.2 PARKS AND PLANNING REPORT

Superintendent Wallace gives his report to the board.

Gillson & Langon

Permit closeout process is almost complete on both projects and is expected to be completed by April/May.

Hibbard

The ECC playground surfacing will be completed May 29 thru June 5.

CRC Reconstruction

The entryway tile has been completed. Staff has been working in the facility as well to move the project along. Electrical upgrades are being done in the classrooms.



Parks Division

Staff was running 24-hour days for four days straight to get the ice rinks up and running. Snow and ice operations continue.

Building Services

Staff have been working at CRC on the reconstruction. They have also done HVAC repairs at Golf. In addition, staff is getting the pool pump room ready for the upcoming season. Staff have also been lining up contractors for the capital plan work to take place at the beach house at Gillson.

Commissioner Adrianopoli asks about the ice rinks outdoors and how the team decides what to do based on weather. Superintendent Wallace explains that he's been working with the team and looking at the long-term weather outlook. Commissioner Adrianopoli asks if there is somewhere families can get ice skates for the ice rinks. The district does not offer skate rentals outside of Centennial.

5.3 RECREATION REPORT

Superintendent Merrill gives some highlights from the rec report.

Camp Registration

Staff has been working hard to get ready for camp registration. Right on the back side of that, we have spring and summer program registration.

Rookie Basketball

We have a new rookie basketball program that has been a huge hit with the community. President Lahey says that the adjustable hoops, a recent capital project that was completed, allows us to run this program.

Seasonal Hiring

Staff are working very hard on seasonal hiring, reviewing resumes and conducting interviews.

5.4 OPERATIONS REPORT

Superintendent Thomas gives the board highlights from the Operations Report.

IPRA Pro Connect

Eric Gonzalez, HR Assistant, was chosen to be a mentor in this program.

IPRA Award for Solar Panel Film

The Marketing team placed 2nd in the long-form film category for the solar panel information. They were given an award at the IPRA Agency Showcase.

5.5 FINANCE REPORT

Superintendent Foy gives the board highlights from her Finance report.



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Projections for 12/31/2025 are in the packet. We are looking at a projected fund deficit of \$1.6M based on the information we have now. Projections had us at \$2.3M and budget had us a \$3.1M fund deficit, so we are doing significantly better.

Property Taxes

We are still waiting on property taxes in the amount of around \$700,000.

OSLAD

We still have the other half of the OSLAD Grant sitting on the books as a receivable. Superintendent Foy does not know when we will receive the other half.

Operating Expenses

Operating Expenses are under projections in every category. We are not expecting any increase in salary and wages.

Capital

We have about \$477,000 of capital carrying over.

Accounting Manager

We are looking for a new Accounting Manager and hope to start reviewing resumes soon.

2024 Certificate of Achievement

The district has gotten the Certificate of Achievement for Financials 18 years in a row. We hope to get it again in 2025.

6.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

7.0 NEW BUSINESS

7.1 SUSTAINABILITY PLAN UPDATE – LUCY MELLEN

Lucy Mellen gives her update to the board. The video of her presentation and the presentation are available on our website.

The compost drop-off program has grown about 500lbs each month since it started. Because of this, we are expanding the drop-off locations. Commissioner Duffy asks if the community has access to the compost after it is ready. Lucy responds that is not something they currently offer but we can certainly ask.

Commissioner Goebel asks how the board can help spread the word about all the sustainable practices we have adopted in the district. Lucy answers that our marketing department does a great job of highlighting the



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sustainability practices of the district. There is continued education in our newsletters and print newsletters. We are also hoping to revamp the sustainability webpage this year, which will serve as a great resource.

7.2 CONSIDERATION OF HVAC UNITS FOR THE WILMETTE GOLF CLUB

Commissioner Goebel moves and Commissioner Clarke seconds a motion for the purchase and installation of three rooftop HVAC units for the Wilmette Golf Club in the amount of \$81,213 with Premistar.

Commissioner Duffy asks for an expansion of the term “reached the end of their useful life.” Director Lindgren explains that we define “end of useful life” as we are spending more money maintaining it than it will be to replace it. Commissioner Adrianopoli asks if there is a bidding process on projects over a certain amount. Director Lindgren answers that \$60,000 is the bidding threshold for materials and supplies per the Park Code, while \$30,000 is the bidding threshold for labor. This work is above the threshold and we are using the quote from an already competitively bid entity. There are jobs that have been pre-bid publicly and this falls in-range for our capital budget. Commissioner Murdock asks if this is similar to a cooperative where we get a discount on the equipment purchase. Director Lindgren answers, yes, this is a purchasing cooperative which bids a larger scale. Commissioner Murdock asks if we have the ability to request the actual equipment cost on both of the HVAC projects. Director Lindgren answers that we have that right. Commissioner Murdock requests that staff get that information and report back to the board.

By a roll call vote, voting *Yes*, Commissioners: Duffy, Adrianopoli, Goebel, Clarke, Murdock, Frazier and Lahey. Voting *No*, none. Abstain, none. Absent: none; **motion carried.**

7.3 CONSIDERATION OF HVAC EQUIPMENT AT MALLINCKRODT

Commissioner Clarke moves and President Lahey seconds a motion to approve the capital equipment purchases for Mallinckrodt for \$118,515 with Premistar.

Commissioner Goebel inquires about the Golf course building to be bigger than Mallinckrodt, indicating the Mallinckrodt project should be a lesser amount. Commissioner Murdock explains that the equipment for Mallinckrodt involves a boiler unit as well as an air conditioning unit which drives up the cost.

By a roll call vote, voting *Yes*, Commissioners: Duffy, Adrianopoli, Goebel, Clarke, Murdock, Frazier and Lahey. Voting *No*, none. Abstain, none. Absent: none; **motion carried.**

8.0 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, Commissioner Adrianopoli moves and Commissioner Duffy seconds a motion to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting.

By a voice vote; **Motion Carried.**

Minutes Approved on: **March 9, 2026.**