



**Board Meeting
August 25, 2026 – 6:00 pm
Community Center
600 N. Main Street, Wauconda, IL**

1. Call to Order – Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Carr called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

2. Roll Call: Commissioners – Berrelez, Starkey, Tallman, Bianco, and Carr

Commissioner Berrelez, Starkey, Carr and Tallman were present, along with Director Staton and Director Babicz. Commissioner Bianco arrived at 6:16 pm. The following members of the public were in attendance: Wauconda Park District staff members Bruce Theys and Cari Holmes, Sarah Johnson from Speer Financial, Inc., Kevin Burke from Featherstone, Inc., JoAnn Freeman, Island Lake Resident and Cydnie Babicz, family member.

3. Approval of Minutes – August 18, 2026 – Special Session Minutes

A motion to approve the Regular Session Minutes was made by Commissioner Starkey and seconded by Commissioner Berrelez. Roll call: All aye; Commissioner Bianco abstained

4. Comments from the Public - Those wishing to comment during the public comment section of the

Board Meeting may do so, provided they follow the District's Public Comment Policy located on the District's website at <https://www.waucondaparks.com/general/policies/>. Public comments will be limited to three (3) minutes for each speaker.

None

5. Communications

Director Staton presented the Board with a letter from the Village explaining their progress with weed management on Bangs Lake.

Discussion: Commissioner Starkey inquired if there were meetings regarding Bangs Lake through the Bangs Lake Advisory Committee. Commissioner Carr responded that there are no meetings at this time. Director Staton responded that he will reach out to the Village and find out about the status of the committee.

6. Approval of Disbursements – August 12, 2026 – August 25, 2026 = \$261,421.67

A motion to approve the disbursements from August 12, 2026 – August 25, 2026, in the amount of \$261,421.67 was made by Commissioner Berrelez and seconded by Commissioner Tallman.

Roll call: All aye

Discussion: Director Staton reported that the larger deductions in the disbursements are payments for the Bangs Lake Marina project.

7. Committee Reports

A.) Recreation

Director Babicz presented the Board pictures of the new floor in the Beach House and the new kayak launch at the Bangs Lake Marina. Staff have been interviewing for the Recreation Supervisor position (Athletics/Fitness). Shane Bonner's last day with the district was August 21, as he accepted a position with the Dundee Township Park District.

B.) Finance

Director Staton reviewed the Monthly Financial Report for the Month End of July 31, 2026, from Lauterbach & Amen. As a recap, Camp Wauconda and Phil's Beach had great seasons revenue wise. Higher expenses are from health insurance, and the field trip costs for camp.

Discussion: Commissioner Carr inquired if Silver Sneakers is making a difference. Director Staton replied that the numbers are lower than he anticipated but are picking up. Commissioner Carr inquired about the bond payment coming due. If the Marina Fund cannot fund this payment this year due to construction, where would the payment come from? Director Staton advised that funds would be transferred from another fund balance (most likely the Recreation Fund or Corporate Fund) to make up the difference. We currently have healthy fund balances in both funds. The Marina Fund also has a fund balance at this time.

C.) Park Maintenance

Maintenance staff have been a huge help with the Beach House renovations. They have put up the new pedestrian crossing signs by Phil's Beach.

Discussion: Commissioner Starkey asked if there might be a warranty for the fencing outside of Phil's Beach with how badly it is peeling. Director Staton replied that he will look into it.

D.) W-Fest

No report

E.) Comprehensive Plan

A report will be given at the next meeting.

F.) Administration

The Board discussed an email Director Staton received on the refund process for the Bangs Lake Slip holders. The discussion led to Board consensus that the process staff took was sufficient and no additional refunds would be issued.

8. New Business

A. Presentation - Quarterly Service Awards

Cindy Babicz- 5 years

Cari Holmes- 15 years

Bruce Theys- 5 years

Director Staton gave a brief presentation for each of the three staff members that were receiving a Service Award for this quarter.

B. Presentation – General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2026 - Financing Plan
Sarah Johnson from Speer Financial, Inc presented the Planning Packet- June 25, 2026, to the Board.

Discussion: None

C. Discussion – Bangs Lake Marina Timeline and Construction Update

Kevin Burke from Featherstone, Inc., was on hand to review the progress at the Bangs Lake Marina and to answer any questions from the Board.

Discussion: Commissioner Starkey said that he is happy to see the buildings are painted and the doors being replaced. Featherstone is still waiting for the IDOT permit, it is in the review period right now and they have until October 15, 2026. Conversation was had on updating the FAQ page on the website and confirmation that water will be turned on this Thursday.

D. Approval – Purchase Ford F350 Dump Truck - \$70,330 – Sutton Ford

A motion to approve the purchase of a 2027 Ford F350 Dump Truck from Sutton Ford in the amount not to exceed \$70,330 was made by Commissioner Starkey and seconded by Commissioner Bianco. Roll call: All aye

Discussion: Commissioner Carr asked if this was within the budgeted amount, which Director Staton responded that it was. Staff will also be able to discontinue use of the rental truck.

E. Approval – Wauconda Fire District Permission to purchase DRAM Shop Insurance for rental on September 13

A motion to approve the purchase of Dram Shop Insurance for the Wauconda Fire District's annual rental at Phil's Beach on September 13, 2026, was made by Commissioner Tallman and seconded by Commissioner Berrelez. Roll call: All aye

Discussion: None

9. Unfinished Business

A. Bangs Lake Outflow Project – Phil's Beach Fence

B. Sound Proofing at Osage Park

C. Sedgebrook Park Tennis Court Timeline

D. Phil's Beach Slide

Discussion: Based on Commissioner request, for future agendas, B. should read as Punchlist at Osage Park and C. should read as Sedgebrook/Larkdale Tennis Court Timeline.

10. Commissioners' Comment

Commissioner Bianco apologized for arriving at the meeting late.

11. Executive Session – If needed for the

1. Litigation – Pending or Imminent 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(11)
2. Personnel – Appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1)
3. Real Estate – Purchase or Lease (Buy) 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5)
Setting Price for Sale/Lease 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (6)

12. Issues to be voted on by Board that were discussed in executive session

None

13. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 pm was made by Commissioner Starkey and seconded by Commissioner Berrelez. Voice vote: All aye

The Wauconda Park District is subject to the requirements of the American's With Disabilities Act of 1990. Individuals with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and require certain accommodations in order to allow them to observe and/or participate in this meeting, or who have questions regarding accessibility of the meeting or the facilities, are requested to contact Tim Staton at (847) 526-3610 promptly to allow the Wauconda Park District to make reasonable accommodations for these persons.