



Board Meeting Minutes
July 8, 2025 – 6:00 pm
Community Center
600 N. Main Street, Wauconda, IL

1. Call to Order – Pledge of Allegiance
At 6 pm Commissioner Starkey called the meeting to order.
2. Roll Call: Commissioners –Berrelez, Carr, Bianco, Tallman, and Starkey
Commissioners Tallman, Carr, Bianco, Berrelez and Starkey were present along with Executive Director Staton and Director Babicz. The following members of the public attended the meeting: JoAnn Freeman, Carrie Dehne and Zach Miller.
3. Approval of Minutes – June 10, 2025 – Regular Session Minutes
A motion to approve the Regular Session Minutes from June 10, 2025, was made by Commissioner Carr and seconded by Commissioner Tallman. Roll call: All aye
June 17, 2025 - Special Meeting Minutes
A motion to approve the Special Meeting Minutes from June 17, 2025, was made by Commissioner Tallman and seconded by Commissioner Berrelez. Roll call: All aye, Commissioner Bianco abstain.
Discussion: Commissioner Bianco was not in attendance at the June 17 meeting. The minutes will be updated.
4. Comments from the Public
Carrie Dehne, Phil’s Beach Lifeguard, was presented with a Certificate of Excellence in Safety for her 5-Star audit on June 11, 2025. Director Staton also acknowledge the effort of the entire Beach Staff in earning 4 out of 5 stars during their first Audit of the season.
5. Communications
None
6. Approval of Disbursements – June 11, 2025 – June 24, 2025, = \$61,685.94
A motion to approve the disbursements from June 11, 2025-June 24, 2025, in the amount of \$61,685.94 was made by Commissioner Bianco and seconded by Commissioner Berrelez. Roll call: All aye
June 25, 2025 – July 8, 2025, = \$179,691.36
A motion to approve the disbursements from June 25, 2025-July 8, 2025, in the amount of \$179,691.36 was made by Commissioner Carr and seconded by Commissioner Tallman. Roll call: All aye
7. Committee Reports

A.) Recreation

Director Babicz reviewed her written report. Highlights- Fest review for Car Show, marketing materials, Bags Tournament, special events coming up, program updates and Phil's Beach events.

Discussion: Commissioner Starkey inquired if the Jon Rand Band for the July 10 concert will be a full band and stated that for the Full Moon Rising at Phil's Beach, the timing might be off. He also inquired if we are looking into other Yoga companies for Yoga on the Beach that can provide a more consistent schedule.

B.) Finance

No report

C.) Park Maintenance

Director Staton reviewed Director Drinkwine's written report. Highlights- Fest set up and clean up, repairing equipment and tree trimming, edging, new basketball hoops. and equipment for Osage park.

Discussion: Commissioner Starkey spoke with a neighbor of Phil's Beach and asked about the landscaping around the slide.

D.) W-Fest

Deposits were less than last year with closing Thursday and the heat on Sunday. The wrap-up meeting will be in August.

Discussion- By August 1 Board can send Director Staton comments/suggestions from this year's Fest.

E.) Comprehensive Plan

Spreadsheet has been updated on the website for Osage Park. Director Drinkwine and a staff member were out at Osage today starting the playground.

Discussion- Commissioner Starkey asked about the Open for Use cell on the timeline on the website? Will we update that soon with August 1 or August 15? After this week, the timeline should be more accurate. Signage will need to be updated and created soon. It was suggested that staff reach out to pickleball patrons to look at our signage for the pickleball courts.

Commissioner Starkey asked where the topic of Sedgebrook Park improvements could live within the meeting agenda? Director Staton said tht updates should be given during the Comprehensive Plan Updates and it could be added to Old Business as well. This topic will be revisited after Osage Park is completed.

F.) Administration

Director Staton reviewed his written report. Highlights- Fireworks went off well. Director Staton would like to talk to the Village about helping to get our park back in order after the fireworks in future years. The Community Center southeast side has been repaired, Guns and Hoses Golf Outing is coming up on August 5, Tunnels to Towers Exhibit will take place July 12 and July 13 at Cook Park.

Discussion: Commissioner Starkey brought up the idea of volunteers to assist with cleaning up after the fireworks in the future. Reach out to Clubs in the area similar to adapt a highway programs.. The Board is appreciative of staff and their efforts during the Fireworks. Staff will look into obtaining the flyer for the Tunnels to Tower Exhibit to assist with promotion.

A consensus was made by the Board to add a July 22 Board Meeting to review the status of Osage Park, discuss the Public Comment Policy, and conduct regular Park District Business..

8. New Business

- A. Approval of Budget and Appropriation Ordinance 2025-04 – An Ordinance Adopting the Combined Annual Budget and Appropriation of Funds For the Wauconda Park District Lake County, Illinois For the Fiscal Year Beginning on the First Day of May 2025 and Ending on the Thirtieth (30th) Day of April 2026.

A motion to approve the Budget and Appropriation Ordinance 2025-04 was made by Commissioner Tallman and seconded by Commissioner Carr. Roll Call: All aye.

- B. Discussion and Approval – Featherstone, Inc. Construction Management Agreement – Bangs Lake Marina

Tom Featherstone gave a brief presentation on what Featherstone does and how it could benefit the Park District with the Marina project. Featherstone, Inc would be an extension of the Park District and an advocate that would make sure the project stays on task and is bid at the most efficient costs.

Discussion: What would our contacts and team look like for the Park District? Four staff total in different phases. With multiple bids, who is the contractor on the job? Featherstone would act as the general contractor. How is the timeline met? Featherstone has a track record of being on time with schedule. They are on sight full-time to adjust the timeline as needed. Pressure is taken off the Executive Director to manage the project on behalf of the Park District. Lets him commit to other operations of the District. . Is some of what Featherstone would do a duplication on what Hitchcock would do? There would be some discounts on Hitchcock’s contract and some operations may be duplicated to ensure completion of each task in the project.

A motion to approve the proposal from Featherstone Inc, for the Wauconda Park District- Marina Master Plan & Concept Design Phase Proposal for Cost Estimating Services not to exceed \$20,000 was made by Commissioner Bianco and seconded by Commissioner Tallman.

9. Unfinished Business

- A. Approval – Public Comment Policy
Tabled until the July 22 meeting.

10. Commissioners Comment

None

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 the Board that were discussed in executive session

13. Adjournment – Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Berrelez, and seconded by Commissioner Bianco at 7:27 pm. Voice vote: all aye, none opposed.

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.