



Board Meeting Minutes
March 10, 2026 – 6:00 pm
Community Center
600 N. Main Street, Wauconda, IL

1. Call to Order – Pledge of Allegiance

2. Roll Call: Commissioners –Berrelez, Carr, Bianco, Tallman, and Starkey
Commissioner Berrelez, Tallman and Starkey were present, Commissioner Carr attended remotely, Commissioner Bianco was absent due to a work conflict. The following members of the public were present, JoAnn Freeman, Island Lake Resident and Kevin Burke from Featherstone, Inc.

3. Approval of Minutes – February 24, 2026 – Regular Session Minutes
A motion to approve the Regular Session Minutes from February 24, 2026, was made by Commissioner Berrelez and seconded by Commissioner Tallman. Roll call: All aye

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 a Thank you letter from Wauconda Grade School for a donation the Park District gave for their 17th Annual Gecko Gala. Director Staton shared with the Board an invitation from the Village of Wauconda to The ABCs of Green Infrastructure meeting on Monday, March 16.

6. Approval of Disbursements – February 25, 2026 – March 10, 2026, = \$161,483.47
A motion to approve the disbursements from February 25, 2026-March 10, 2026, in the amount of \$161,483.47 was made by Commissioner Berrelez and seconded by Commissioner Tallman. Roll call: All aye

Discussion: Director Staton reviewed a few items outside of the normal in the report which included new fitness equipment payment and payment to RVI (new name for Hitchcock Design) for final design work on the Bangs Lake Marina Project.

7. Committee Reports

A.) Recreation

Director Babicz reviewed her written report with highlights that included: Easter event numbers, Silver Sneakers membership numbers, Basketball and Adult Volleyball ending this week and Spring/Summer Program Registration starting March 9.

B.) Finance

Director Staton will provide a Finance report at the next meeting along with the first draft of the 2026-2027 budget.

C.) Park Maintenance

Director Staton reviewed Director Drinkwine's report, stating that most of Director Drinkwine's report is also in the Administration Report.

Discussion: Commissioner Starkey asked if there was a follow-up on the completion of the fence replacement at Phil's Beach, as part of the Village's Bangs Lake Outflow Project. Director Staton will follow up again with the Village, he did not receive a response to his first inquiry. This topic will be added to Old Business for the next meeting agenda.

D.) W-Fest

Next meeting is scheduled for March 18. Topics will include security, gates, and committee members starting to contact volunteers.

E.) Comprehensive Plan

Director Staton stated that he will provide an update to the Comprehensive Plan next meeting with a copy of the Budget Report.

Discussion: Commissioner Starkey would like to see the Comprehensive Plan in a format that allows it to be updated at a moment's notice.

F.) Administration

Director Staton reviewed his written report with highlights that included: Bangs Lake Marina Redevelopment Project. He will be attending training next week on Procor software. This is a project management software used by Featherstone. Director Staton will receive updates daily through this software. The next Triathlon Meeting is scheduled for March 18. Directors Staton and Babicz attended the NISRA Awards Banquet on Monday, March 9. He informed the Board know that he and Deputy Chief Combs have been working with a request to hold a public assembly at Memorial Park on March 28.

8. New Business

A. Approval - Aronson Fence – Fence Repairs at Phil's Beach = \$7896

A motion to approve a proposal from Arson Fence for the repair of two 32' sections of fence located at Phil's Beach and Phil's Beach Parking lot in the amount not to exceed \$8000 was made by Commissioner Tallman and seconded by Commissioner Berrelez. Roll call: All Aye

B. Approval Ordinance 2026-01 – An Ordinance Declaring As Surplus and Authorizing the Sale Or Other Conveyance Or Disposal of Surplus Personal Property Of the Wauconda Park District, Lake County, Illinois

A motion to approve Ordinance 2026-01 An Ordinance Declaring as Surplus and Authorizing the Sale of Other Conveyance or Disposal of Surplus Personal Property of the Wauconda Park District, Lake County, Illinois was made by Commissioner Tallman and seconded by Commissioner Berrelez. Roll call: All aye

C. Approval – Motion To Approve By Omnibus Vote Bangs Lake Marina Project - Bid Package B

Contract 02 Earthwork – DK Contractors, Inc. = \$236,842

Contract 03 Site Utilities – DK Contractors, Inc. = \$140,300

Contract 04 Concrete and Concrete Paving – Rasch Construction and Engineering, Inc = \$517,300

Contract 05 Misc. Metals – Mueller Ornamental Iron Works, Inc. = \$22,500

Contract 06 Fencing – Proline Fence Company = \$37,915

Contract 07 Electrical – Krause = \$153,561

Contract 08 Asphalt Paving – Chadwick Contracting Co. = \$59,950

Contract 09 Landscaping – Sexton Landscape Concept = \$93,416

Total Bid Package B = \$1,261,784

A motion to approve eight contracts for the Bangs Lake Marina Project, including 02 Earthwork, 03 Site Utilities, 04 Concrete and Concrete Paving, 05 Misc. Metals, 06 Fencing, 07 Electrical, 08 Asphalt Paving, 09 Landscaping, as recommended by Featherstone, Inc., the District's construction manager, for a total cost of \$1,261,784 was made by Commissioner Berrelez and seconded by Commissioner Tallman. Roll call: All aye

Discussion: Kevin Burke from Featherstone was in attendance to answer questions from the Board regarding the eight (8) bids that were being recommended by Featherstone. He stated that the contractors have been vetted and they are currently waiting for a date for NICOR to cut gas to the property and are working on some permitting questions with the Village of Wauconda to begin work. Director Staton stated he is working to have information on the FAQ section of the website about the project by the end of the week. Commissioner Starkey asked if there is an allocation for signage. Kevin stated they can look at the budget for signage and for painting existing facilities.

D. Approval – Motion To Approve By Omnibus Vote Bangs Lake Marina Project – Owner Purchase Items. Acquired from Joint Purchasing Cooperative

Parkreation, Inc – Icon Shelter = \$25,989

Team REIL, Inc. – Kayak Launch = \$59,185

NuToys – Game Tables = \$7,146

Doty and Sons Concrete Products, Inc. – Concrete Bag Games = \$1,525

Total by Owner Purchase = \$93,845

A motion to approve the purchase of a shelter from Parkreation, Inc, Kayak Launch from Team Reil, inc., Game Tables from NuToys, and Concrete Bags Games from Doty and Sons Concrete Products for a total cost not to exceed \$93,845 was made by Commissioner Tallman and seconded by Commissioner Berrelez. Roll call: All aye

Discussion: Kevin Burke from Featherstone stated that the kayak launch and Dock price includes materials and installation and the NuToys price includes the glider bench.

E. Approval – Purchase of Polaris RANGER 500 = \$11,821.93

A motion to approve the purchase of a 2026 Polaris Ranger 500 from Nielsen Enterprises for a cost not to exceed \$12,000 was made by Commissioner Berrelez and seconded by Commissioner Tallman. Roll call: All aye

Discussion: Director Staton informed the board that the current utility vehicle no longer works, and staff use the utility vehicle not only for maintenance but also for events like the Fest, Triathlon, and large special events. Director Drinkwine will look to make the utility vehicle street legal and it will have a cab attached so that it can be taken to several parks.

F. Discussion and Approval Seasonal Mowing Agreement

A motion to approve a mowing agreement with Eric's Landscape for lawn maintenance at Country Ridge Park, Osage Park, Meadowview Park, Fishbook Park, Orchard Hills Park, Beach Park, and Water Stone Park for a total cost not to exceed \$22000 was made by Commissioner Tallman and seconded by Commissioner Berrelez. Roll call: All aye

Discussion: Director Staton advised the Board that contracting with Eric's Landscape for mowing will free up the maintenance staff to complete additional projects in the district. Director Drinkwine will hire two less seasonal employees this summer. The consensus of the Board was this is worth trying and they will evaluate after this summer to see what full-time staff were able to accomplish by using outside resources.

G. Review – FY26/27 Budget

Director Staton will provide the first draft of the budget at the next meeting.

9. Unfinished Business

10. Commissioner's Comment

Commissioner Berrelez stated that she had a lovely time at the Legislative Breakfast. Commissioner Carr echoed that statement.

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

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:59 pm was made by Commissioner Tallman 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.