



**Board Meeting Minutes
May 26, 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 pm.

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

Commissioners Bianco, Berrelez, Tallman, Carr and Starkey were present, along with Director Staton and Director Babicz. The following members of the public were present, JoAnn Freeman, Island Lake Resident.

3. Approval of Minutes – May 12, 2026 – Regular Session Minutes

A motion to approve the Regular Session minutes from May 12, 2026, was made by Commissioner Starkey and seconded by Commissioner Berrelez. 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

None

6. Approval of Disbursements – May 13, 2026 – May 26, 2026, = \$167,132.63

A motion to approve the disbursements from May 13, 2026-May 26, 2026, in the amount of \$167,132.63 was made by Commissioner Tallman and seconded by Commissioner Bianco. Roll call: All aye

Discussion: Director Staton reviewed the report with the Board.

7. Committee Reports

A.) Recreation

Director Babicz gave a brief report on upcoming summer dates for Camp Wauconda, Pee Wee Camp, Phil's Beach Opening date, and Cops & Bobbers.

Discussion: Director Babicz reviewed with the Board seasonal staffing and how the new onboarding process has been working for the summer season.

B.) Finance

Director Staton reviewed the Lauterbach & Amen Monthly Financial report.

Discussion: Director Staton noted that this is the last report to finish the fiscal year. Director Staton noted that some funds for ADA features at the Marina can be paid for out of the NISRA

fund. He noted that the biggest expenses in the capital fund for this past year were for the Osage Park redevelopment and the Bangs Lake Marina project.

C.) Park Maintenance

Director Staton gave a brief report. A few maintenance staff members are on vacation before the summer hits. Staff have been busy installing marinas, performing general ground and building maintenance and the start of Wauconda Fest set-up.

D.) W-Fest

June 3 is the next meeting for Wauconda Fest. Staff have secured the liquor licenses, ordered t-shirts, and have started recruiting volunteers. The Commissioners asked Director Staton to make sure that we added bike parking to this year's fest.

E.) Comprehensive Plan

Director Staton reviewed the 2-week look ahead for the Bangs Lake Marina project. He has another meeting tomorrow.

Discussion: Director Staton reviewed with the Board that the end date for the project is still the same, but the lower half completion date will be slightly behind the original June 10 date expected to be June 17. Commissioners would like the digital sign added to the timeline with a discussion on painting and refreshing the buildings and installing FUEL signage from the lake side.

F.) Administration

Director Staton reviewed his written report. The next Tri meeting will be June 17. Director Staton is in contact with Public Works due to road work on the bike course and the need for alternative routes. Public Works feels the primer layer of asphalt should be down for the Tri providing a smooth surface. He thanked the Board for participating in the Memorial Day Parade and gave an update on the Go Gov App.

Discussion: The Board asked for an update on the Sedgebrook tennis courts. Staff are waiting for a specific company to connect with Director Staton. Director Staton said he will look at other potential companies that can assist with the tennis courts being repaired this year most likely in the Fall.

8. New Business

A. Discussion – Bangs Lake Marina Reimbursement

Director Staton reviewed with the Board an idea for a reimbursement plan for the slip holders at the Bangs Lake Marina.

Discussion: Through discussion, Board consensus was to come up with a 3-tier reimbursement structure and the option for a credit on account or a refund based on which tier the slip holder falls in. The amount per tier should be a set amount with a credit on the household at a slightly higher amount. Staff will provide an update at the next meeting.

B. Discussion – Phil's Beach Slide

Discussion: Director Staton talked to Volo Auto Museum through Mayor Sode, and they are not interested in the old slide from Phil's Beach. Commissioner discussion included asking for staff to include the Rileys in the decision-making process, whether staff should consider a silent Bid or simply scrap it and whether there is liability to the District if we sell it. Consensus by the Board is to remove the slide once staff have researched options.

C. Approval - Professional Services Agreement Amendment 02-Hitchcock Design

A motion to approve Amendment #2 to the Professional Services Agreement with Hitchcock Design for a cost not to exceed \$13,700 was made by Commissioner Tallman and seconded by Commissioner Berrelez. Roll call: All aye

Discussion: Director Staton reviewed with the Board the additional services that Hitchcock Design, Inc will be providing from the original contract. Additional work was needed for the fuel containment/water quality structure and additional permitting through IDOT.

9. Unfinished Business

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

The project is complete but will remain on the agenda for further conversation.

Discussion: Commissioner Starkey raised concern that the new structure is above the water line and needs a barrier on the Phil’s Beach side and the aesthetics are not pleasing from the lake side. He revisited the need for signage stating no trespassing on Phil’s Beach.

10. Commissioners’ Comment

Commissioner Carr thanked Director Staton and Director Babicz for their preparation for the Memorial Day Parade; the remaining members of the Board agreed with the sentiment.

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

13. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 pm was made by Commissioner Berrelez and seconded by Commissioner Starkey. 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.