

CHAMPAIGN PARK DISTRICT
AMENDED
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR BOARD MEETING
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS

January 14, 2026

The Champaign Park District Board of Commissioners (Board) held a Regular Board Meeting on Wednesday, January 14, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. at the Bresnan Meeting Center, 706 Kenwood Road, Champaign, Illinois. The Regular Meeting occurred pursuant to published notice duly given. President Hays presided over the meeting.

Present in person: Vice President Michael R. Somers, Commissioners Jane L. Solon, and Tyler R. Rouse, Sarah Sandquist, Executive Director, Jarrod Scheunemann, Deputy Executive Director, Attorney Guy C. Hall, Courtney Kouzmanoff, Director of Finance, Jimmy Gleason, Director of Facilities & Technology, Bret Johnson, Director of Operations and Planning, Jeannie Robinson, Director of Recreation, Kathryn Glynn, Director of Human Resources, Mitchell Fransen, Park Planner, Joe Kearfott, Assistant Director of Facilities & Technology, and Marguerite Bailey, Secretary/ Administrative Project Manager.

Absent and excused: Commissioner Barbara J. Kuhl

Staff members present in the audience: Alicia Martin, Youth and Teen Program Coordinator, Alexandra Crawford, Dance Arts Supervisor.

A number of community members were present in the audience.

Present virtually: Craig W. Hays, Donna Lawson, Treasurer, Erin Dietmeier, Horticulture Supervisor.

A. CALL TO ORDER

Vice President Somers called the regular board meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Vice President moved agenda item C. Comments from the Public ahead of the agenda item B Presentations.

B. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Some community members spoke about the Douglass Center, Douglass Park, and their interest and suggestions for its utilization.

C. PRESENTATIONS

1. Jennifer Skulski presented to the Board an overview of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Audit being conducted by the Park District. Ms. Skulski noted the phases of the process and the four (4) point priority scale. The audit will provide the Board with information that can be helpful with decisions, budgets, and strategic planning. The Board thanked Ms. Skulski for her presentation.

2. Vice President Somers read into the record the Resolution to honor Katy Denight for her service of twenty-five (25) years, contributing her time, skills, and dedication within the Marketing & Development Department.

D. COMMUNICATIONS

None.

E. TREASURERS REPORT

Ms. Lawson presented the report. She stated the Park District's finances had been reviewed and found to be in appropriate order. Noted was the final installation of property taxes. The amount was less than expected, mostly due to Property Tax Appeal Board (PTAB) appeals, which allow property owners to contest their property's assessed valuations. Commissioner Rouse moved to accept the treasurer's report. Commissioner Solon seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

F. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Sandquist introduced two newer staff members and reported to the Board recent and upcoming events. Alexandra Crawford, Dance Arts Supervisor and Alicia Martin, Youth and Teen Program Coordinator. She noted the New Year's Party hosted at the Martens Center, in which over five hundred (500) participants attended, and the Winter Pickleball tournament, hosted at the Leonhard Recreation Center, was successful. The mural being painted at the Leonhard Recreation Center is underway. Lastly, January 28-January 31, 2026, is the IAPD/ IPRA Conference in Chicago.

G. COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS

Mr. Scheunemann reported to the Board that the Parks Foundation was active at Winter Nights, providing hot cocoa to visitors. The Parks Foundation is grateful for the contribution received from Patrick Harrington for the hot chocolate mix. The Parks Foundation is also in receipt of a donation to be utilized at the Dog Park.

H. REPORT OF OFFICERS

1. Attorney's Report

Mr. Hall reported to the Board that he continues to conduct normal routine business, and also noted the completion of a master agreement with the University of Illinois for various events through the year to provide a smoother rental process.

2. President's Report

None.

I. CONSENT AGENDA

Vice President Somers stated that all items on the Consent Agenda noted below are considered routine and shall be acted upon by one motion, and if discussion is desired, that item shall be removed and discussed separately. Commissioner Rouse moved to approve all items on the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Solon seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

1. Approval of Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, December 10, 2025
2. Approval of Minutes of the Executive Session, December 10, 2025
3. Approval of Minutes of the Joint CPD/UPD Board Meeting, December 5, 2025
4. Approval of an Ordinance No. 691(675) An Ordinance Defining Meeting and Adopting Procedures for Electronic Attendance At Meetings Of The Champaign Park District

J. NEW BUSINESS

1. Approval of Disbursements

Commissioner Rouse made a motion to approve the list of disbursements for the period beginning December 11, 2025, and ending January 14, 2026. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Solon. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Commissioner Rouse—yes, Vice President Somers—yes, and Commissioner Solon. The motion passed 3-0.

2. Approval of Health Insurance Plan

Ms. Glynn reported to the board that she provided the information requested by the board in December. She welcomed any questions that the board may have. A discussion was held regarding the next annual medical insurance process and cost evaluation. Commissioner Rouse moved to approve the current Blue Cross Blue Shield medical plan as presented for the 2026 plan year. Commissioner Solon seconded the motion. The motion passes 3-0.

3. Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the Destruction of Recordings of Executive Sessions

Ms. Bailey reported to the board that staff will continue to maintain a record of all minutes as required by state law. Only the listed audio recordings will be destroyed. Commissioner Rouse move to approve of a resolution authorizing, approving, and ordering the destruction of the verbatim audio records of the following closed sessions: June 28, 2023, July 12, 2023, July 26, 2023, August 9, 2023, September 13, 2023, November 8, 2023, December 13, 2023, January 10, 2024, February 14, 2024, February 28, 2024, March 27, 2024, May 22, 2024, and June 12, 2024. Commissioner Solon seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

K. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. FY2026/27 to FY2024/35 Capital Improvement Plan

Mr. Johnson noted that a printed copy of the proposed plan was provided to the Board. He provided an overview of the projects with estimated budget figures and photos per location. There was a discussion regarding projects, increased budgeted amounts, playground equipment, and the potential of receiving funding to be allocated to Dog Park and Turnberry Ridge Park. The Board appreciated the new format and noted it is easier to read.

2. Champaign Park District Quarterly Report

Ms. Kouzmanoff reported to the Board the financial standings for the second quarter. The Park District has received approximately sixty-eight percent (68%) of the anticipated revenue, and expenses are at approximately forty-one percent (41%).

3. Champaign Parks Foundation Quarterly Report

Ms. Kouzmanoff reported to the board the financial standings of the Parks Foundation for the second quarter. Noted changes to the report are titles and naming conventions to be more in line with current use. Current revenue is \$380,000.00, and expenses are \$123, 000.00.

4. Policy Review

a. Investment Policy

Ms. Kouzmanoff reported to the Board the recommended changes made in the investment policy. There were no issues raised. Staff will seek approval of the policy at the next regular meeting.

b. Scholarship Policy

Ms. Kouzmanoff reported to the Board that the scholarship policy changes include formatting updates, removing the threshold, adding language pertaining to double-dipping, and adding language that reflects the Park District's current practices and process. Noted were potentially federal changes to funding.

c. 2026 Policy Review Schedule

Ms. Bailey reported to the Board that, due to accreditation guidelines, new PDRMA-recommended policies, and new laws, the Park District would need to review approximately forty-four (44) policies. The proposed schedule is a recommended plan to spread out the review process over the next few months, with review during Study Sessions and requested approval at Regular Board meetings.

L. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board considered convening into Executive Session under the Illinois Open Meetings Act, specifically 5 ILCS Par. 120/2 (c)(5) The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired. (c)(11) Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting. (c)(21) For discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under this Act, whether for the purpose of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06. Commissioner Rouse moved to convene into executive session, upon such basis. Commissioner Solon seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Commissioner Solon – yes, Vice President Somers – yes, and Commissioner Rouse – yes. The motion passed 3-0.

M. RETURN TO REGULAR MEETING

The Board reconvened the regular meeting at 7:52 pm following the executive session.

N. EXECUTIVE SESSION ACTION

Commissioner Solon moved to approve making available for public viewing the specified Executive Session Minutes. Commissioner Rouse seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

O. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

None.

P. ADJOURN

Commissioner Solon moved to adjourn at 7:53 pm. Commissioner Rouse seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Approved:

Michael R. Somers, Vice President

Marguerite Bailey, Secretary