

**CHAMPAIGN PARK DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS**

July 8, 2026

The Champaign Park District Board of Commissioners (Board) held a Regular Board Meeting on Wednesday, July 8, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. at the Bresnan Meeting Center, 706 Kenwood Road, Champaign, Illinois, this being the principal office of the Champaign Park District (Park District). The Regular Meeting occurred pursuant to published notice duly given. President Michael R. Somers presided over the hearing and meeting.

Present in person: President Michael R. Somers, Commissioners Craig W. Hays and Tyler R. Rouse, Sarah Sandquist, Executive Director, Attorney Guy C. Hall, Courtney Kouzmanoff, Director of Finance, Bret Johnson, Director of Planning and Operations, Jeannie Robinson, Director of Recreation, Joe Kearfott, Assistant Director of Facilities & Technology, and Marguerite Bailey, Secretary/ Administrative Project Manager.

Absent and excused: Vice President Jane L. Solon, Commissioner Barbara J. Kuhl, and Deputy Executive Director Jarrod Scheunemann.

Present in the Audience: Many members of the community, Mr. Collin Carlier, Mr. Mike Royce, and Mr. Dennis Witte, representatives from the Spectate Group.

Present virtually: Alexi Silveerman, Courtney Cuthbertson, Eric Helfer, Ethan Kessler, Fenton Dowling, Michael Miller, TJ Blakeman, Kim Nelcyk, Carmen Zych, and Joe Arbogast.

REGULAR MEETING

A. CALL TO ORDER

President Somers called the Regular Meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

B. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

The Board received comments from the following community members regarding the ice arena presentation on the meeting agenda: David Johnson, Bo Cheeman, Valerie Burkhart, Marisa Siero, Brett Puegh, Nicholas Minor, Elizabeth Bartlett, Yolano Willoughby, Katie Churchhill, Sarah Vee Benevento, and Vince Dorso.

C. PRESENTATION

1. Spectate Group – Champaign Ice Arena Presentation

Mr. Carlier, Mr. Royce, and Mr. Witte presented the Board with a proposal for an ice arena with a suggested location in the downtown Champaign area. The estimated cost of the proposed project is approximately \$ 48 million dollars. The Board thanked the representatives for the informational presentation.

D. COMMUNICATIONS

None.

E. TREASURERS REPORT

Ms. Kouzmanoff presented the report. Commissioner Hays moved to accept the Treasurer's Report for the month of June 2026. Commissioner Rouse seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

F. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Sandquist thanked President Somers and Vice President Solon for assisting with the staff breakfast. She highlighted several upcoming events, including the Flamazing Race scheduled for August 14, 2026, a car wash fundraiser sponsored by Crew Car Wash on July 10th – July 11th, 2026, and a Teen CU Round the district night on July 10, 2026. She noted the updates being made to some of the parks with the installation of five (5) sculptures and new lighting to illuminate the Double Dutch sculpture at West Side Park.

G. COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS

Ms. Sandquist reported to the Board that the foundation continues to meet regularly to coordinate the upcoming Ties and Tennies event. Tickets are on sale, and media promotions will begin. Ms. Bailey reported that a few foundation members will conduct a walk-through of the I Hotel and review the contract on Thursday, July 9, 2026.

H. REPORT OF OFFICERS

1. Attorney's Report
Mr. Hall reported that normal routine business was being completed along with some freedom of information requests and contracts/ agreements for review.
2. President's Report
President Somers reminded the Board members of the upcoming Special Meeting scheduled for July 13, 2026 to focus on the visioning. He noted the resources available for review.

I. CONSENT AGENDA

1. 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 Hays moved to approve all items on the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Rouse seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

1. Approval of Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, June 10, 2026
2. Approval of Minutes of the Executive Session Meeting, June 10, 2026
3. Approval of Minutes of the Study Session Meeting, June 24, 2026
4. Approval of Minutes of the Executive Session Meeting, June 24, 2026
5. Approval of a Budget Amendment for the Approval of Budget Line Transfers – Champaign Urbana Special Recreation Open Space Land Acquisitions Development Grant
6. Approval of an Agreement with Nyhart for Actuarial Services for two (2) years

J. NEW BUSINESS

1. Approval of Disbursements

Commissioner Hays made a motion to approve the list of disbursements for the period beginning June 11, 2026, and ending July 8, 2026. Commissioner Rouse seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Commissioner Rouse – yes, Commissioner Hays – yes, and President Somers –yes. The motion passed 3-0.

2. Approval of a Supplemental Budget and Appropriation Ordinance #694

Ms. Kouzmanoff presented the ordinance. Commissioner Hays moved to approve Ordinance No. 694 and adopt a supplemental budget for FY 2026/2027 as proposed. Commissioner Rouse seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: President Somers –yes, Commissioner Rouse – yes, and Commissioner Hays - yes. The motion passed 3-0.

3. Approval of a Resolution for the Executive Director to Approve Change Orders

Commissioner Hays moved to approve a Resolution authorizing the Executive Director to execute Change Orders, Amendments, and Time Extensions for Board-approved projects with an updated amount not to exceed \$25,000.00 to be consistent with the Executive Director's purchasing authority. Commissioner Rouse seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

4. Approval of Purchase and Installation of Wesley Park Playground Equipment Replacement

Commissioner Hays moved to approve the purchase and installation of the Welsey Park playground equipment and pour-in-place surfacing from NuToys Leisure Products, through OMNIA and Sourcewell Partners contract, and authorize the Executive Director to enter into an agreement in the amount of \$357,104.00. Commissioner Rouse seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

5. Approval of Bid for Springer Cultural Center Concrete Coating

Commissioner Hays moved to award the contract to the lowest responsible bidder and authorizing the Executive Director to enter into an agreement with Duce Construction in the amount of \$28,250.00. Commissioner Rouse seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

6. Approval of Operations Department Shop Parking Lot Reconstruction

Mr. Johnson provided information on the deterioration of the current asphalt and answered questions posed by the Board regarding future projects in the same vicinity. Commissioner Hays moved to award the contract to the lowest responsible bidder and authorize the Executive Director to enter into an agreement with Chandler Construction, and accept alternate 1, in the amount of \$345,475.84. Commissioner Rouse seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

7. Approval of Bid for Dodds Tennis Center A/C Installation

Commissioner Rouse moved to award the contract to the lowest responsible bidder and authorize the Executive Director to enter into an agreement with United Mechanical Group, in the amount of \$333,800.00. Commissioner Hays seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

8. Approval of Talent Buying and Booking Agent Services Agreement – Virginia Theatre

Commissioner Rouse moved to award the Talent Buying and Booking Agent Services contract to Kevin L. Maynard and authorize the Executive Director to negotiate and execute a one-year agreement on behalf of the Champaign Park District. Commissioner Hays seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

K. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Champaign Parks Foundation – FY2025/26 4th Quarter Update (Unaudited)

Ms. Kouzmanoff reported to the Board that the unaudited ending balance is \$3.6 million. Part of that figure is a restricted amount of \$ 1.2 million to be used for the Martens Center.

2. Champaign Park District - FY2025/26 4th Quarter Operating and Capital Update (Unaudited)

Ms. Kouzmanoff reported to the Board that fourth-quarter financial reports differ from those of other quarters due to the adjustments required to ensure accurate accrual balances. The Finance Department is currently preparing for the annual audit. Staff anticipates providing a draft in the fall, in accordance with Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) guidelines and state requirements to avoid potential penalties.

L. EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Somers read into the record that the Board may convene into Executive Session under the Illinois Open Meetings Act, specifically 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) for the discussion of the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body, or legal counsel for the public body, and (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, and 5ILCS 120/2(c)(5) for 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, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting Commissioner Rouse moved to convene into executive session, upon such basis. Commissioner Hays seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Commissioner Hays – yes, President Somers -yes, and Commissioner Rouse – yes. The motion passed 3-0.

L. RETURN TO REGULAR MEETING

The Board reconvened the regular meeting at 8:08 pm following the executive session.

M. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

None.

N. ADJOURN

Commissioner Hays moved to adjourn at 8:09 pm. Commissioner Rouse seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Approved:

Michael R. Somers, President

Marguerite Bailey, Board Secretary