

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
OF THE PARK DISTRICT OF LA GRANGE, ILLINOIS  
536 EAST AVENUE, LA GRANGE, ILLINOIS**

**SEPTEMBER 14, 2026**

**President Opyd called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Commissioners Carter, Vear, Weber, Opyd

ABSENT: Commissioner Posey

STAFF PRESENT: Executive Director Jenny Bechtold  
Director of Finance & HR Jamie Hollock  
Director of Recreation Kevin Miller  
Parks, Grounds and Planning Manager Tim White  
GM of Facilities and Operations Anne Paez  
HR & Administration Coordinator Madonna Giampietro

OTHERS PRESENT: Lauterbach & Amen, LLP- Jasleen Kaur  
Marian Honel-Wilson, and Rose Naseef

President Opyd welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained that before the regular board meeting, they have a public hearing related to the sale of bonds and that he will ask for public comments for the BINA hearing and that comments from that period should be related to the BINA hearing only. Once that session is closed, the regular board meeting will begin and there will be another public comment opportunity as outlined in the agenda.

President Opyd asked for any changes to the agenda. Executive Director Bechtold stated that there were no changes to the agenda, but she did want to let the board and public know that the October 19, 2026, meeting is scheduled to be at the Lacey Community Center. She also introduced Anne Paez, General Manager of Facilities and Operations.

**Public Hearing Meeting**

*Public Hearing Concerning the Intent of the Board of Park Commissioners to Sell Not to Exceed \$430,000 General Obligation Limited Tax Park bonds to Provide the Revenue Source to Pay Certain Alternate Bonds and for the Payment of Certain Capital Improvements.*

President Opyd asked for a motioned to enter the Public Hearing. The motion was so moved by Commissioner Carter, seconded by Commissioner Vear and passed by Roll Call Vote as follows:

## **REGULAR BOARD MEETING – SEPTEMBER 14, 2026**

AYES: Commissioners Carter, Vear, Weber, Opyd  
NAYES: None  
ABSENT: Commissioner Posey

President Opyd opened the Public Hearing concerning the intent of the Park District to sell not to exceed \$430,000 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds.

### **Public Comments (BINA Hearing)**

No Comments

With no letters or communications and no further public comments, President Opyd asked for a motion to close the BINA Hearing at 6:03 P.M. The motion was so moved by Commissioner Carter, seconded by Commissioner Vear, and passed by Roll Call Vote as follows:

AYES: Commissioners Carter, Vear, Weber, Opyd  
NAYES: None  
ABSENT: Commissioner Posey

### **Communications, Presentations & Declarations**

#### ***Public Comments (Board Manual Section #152)***

President Opyd mentioned that public comments are limited to three minutes and commentors should state their name and address.

Marian Honel-Wilson, 950 8<sup>th</sup> Ave, La Gange, spoke on behalf of the Community Diversity Group of the La Grange area. She mentioned that they had their 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Race Unity Rally and that they have their Annual Diversity Days on Friday, September 18, 2026. Then they will be looking forward to their next Building Inclusive Conference next February.

#### ***2025-2026 Audit Presentation by Lauterbach & Amen, LLP***

Jasleen Kaur from Lauterbach & Amen stated she was in attendance to present the audit results for fiscal year ending April 30, 2026. She provided a brief overview of the audit process and reported that this year, once again, resulted in a clean audit opinion, reflecting outstanding work which was also awarded a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting.

### **Consent Agenda**

President Opyd asked for a motion to approve Item 3.1 Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of July 13, 2026; Item 3.2 Approval of the Financial Reports dated August 10, 2026; Item 3.3 Approval Financial Reports dated September 14, 2026; Item 3.4 Approval of the Consolidated Vouchers for August dated August 10, 2026; Item 3.5 Approval of the Consolidated Vouchers for September dated September 14, 2026.

## **REGULAR BOARD MEETING – SEPTEMBER 14, 2026**

The motion was so moved by Commissioner Vear, seconded by Commissioner Weber, and passed by Roll Call Vote as follows:

AYES: Commissioners Vear, Weber, Carter, Opyd  
NAYES: None  
ABSENT: Commissioner Posey

### **Staff Reports**

#### **Executive Director Jennifer Bechtold**

- Executive Director Bechtold presented her report. She added that she provided the Board with a draft of updated Conduct Ordinances for them to review, and it will be added to the agenda for next month's meeting for approval.

Executive Director, Bechtold also added that the bathrooms at Denning Park have been completed. President Opyd asked how the doors will be opened/locked. Manager Tim White answered that the doors will be on a timer from 7am until 9pm he added that he will work on putting up a sign indicating the button in the bathroom which locks the door from the inside when in use.

#### **Finance & Human Resources Jamie Hollock**

- Director Hollock presented her report.

#### **Director of Recreation Kevin Miller**

- Director Miller presented his report.

#### **General Manager of Facilities and Operations**

- General Manager Paez presented her report.

#### **Parks, Grounds & Planning Manger**

- Manager White presented his report. He added that Adam Rudofski has accepted the full-time Park Maintenance II position.

### **Action Items**

*Discussion and/or Approval of Policy Manual Updates-Sections 227, 614, 628, and Retirement of Section 738.*

Executive Director Bechtold explained that as staff continue to review and update the Board Policy Manual, they have proposed the following changes:

- Section 227 – Longevity Recognition: This is a new policy establishing employee recognition awards based on continuous full-time years of service.
- Section 628 – Park System Priority of Use and Rental Allocation Policy: Section 628 has been updated and consolidated with the provisions of

## REGULAR BOARD MEETING – SEPTEMBER 14, 2026

existing Section 738 to create one comprehensive policy governing priority of use, allocation, and permitting of Park District athletic fields and facilities.

- Section 738 will be retired.
- Section 614 – Volunteer Participation: This policy has been updated to more clearly define the role of volunteers and the district's expectations regarding volunteer screening, training, supervision, safety requirements, and standards of conduct.

Commissioner Weber asked if the conduct ordinance is replacing policy 628 and 738. Executive Director Bechtold answered that the Conduct Ordinance packet she gave the commissioners is for review to be approved at next month's board meeting. He pointed out that for Section 628 it states that "any group of 10 or more players, either organized as a team or not, has the opportunity to apply for use of an athletic field". Then he pointed out that the Conduct Ordinance packet contradicts that and says, "any group of 15 or more". Executive Director Bechtold will review conduct ordinances to ensure accuracy for next meeting.

Commissioner Vear asked for clarity on Letter C in Policy Section 628. He indicated that it is confusing by including the word non-profit. Executive Director Bechtold replied that she can clean it up to be clearer regarding priority use.

The board and staff discussed priority use as it pertains to the Babe Ruth field at Sedwick. They also touched on the difference between recreational play and travel play.

Commissioner Vear asked about Section 628, number ten, if a specific decibel could be added to the policy. President Opyd added that he believes that would be covered by the village noise ordinance. Executive Bechtold added that it would be considered under the village noise ordinances, but the use of a public address system is subject to approval, and the Park District can address the decibels in the approval process.

Executive Bechtold asked for a motion to approve new Section 227- Longevity Recognition; revised Section 628- Park System Priority of Use and Rental Allocation Policy; revised section 614- Volunteer Participation; and retired Section 738. The motion was so moved by Commissioner Weber, seconded by Commissioner Carter and passed by Roll Call Vote as follows:

AYES: Commissioners Weber, Carter, Vear, Opyd  
NAYES: None  
ABSENT: Commissioner Posey

*Discussion and/or Approval of Ordinance 026-04, and Ordinance Declaring*

## **REGULAR BOARD MEETING – SEPTEMBER 14, 2026**

### *Certain Personal Property Surplus and Authorizing its sale or Trade.*

Executive Director Bechtold presented the ordinance seeking to dispose of or sell the items listed in Exhibit A, a Ford F-450XL Truck.

President Opyd asked for a motion to approve Ordinance 026-04, an Ordinance Declaring Certain Personal Property Surplus and Authorizing its Sale or Trade. The motion was so moved by Commissioner Weber, seconded by Commissioner Vear and passed by Roll Call Vote as follows:

AYES: Commissioners Weber, Vear, Carter and Opyd

NAYES:

ABSENT: Commissioner Posey

### *Approval of the FY2025/20206 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report.*

Commissioner Vear moved to approve the FY2025/2026 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Carter and passed by Roll Call Vote as follows:

AYES: Commissioners Vear, Carter, Weber, and Opyd

NAYES:

ABSENT: Commissioner Posey

## **Board Business**

### **Old Business**

### **New Business**

## **Committee Reports**

### *Administration Committee*

No report at this time.

### *Parks and Facilities Committee*

No Report at this time.

### *Recreation & Cultural Programming Committee/Arts & Cultural Affairs Committee*

No report at this time.

## **Public Comments (Board Manual Section #152)**

No Comments

## **Board Comments**

Commissioner Vear commented on the success of the BASE program.

Commissioner Weber welcomed Anne Paez to the Park District team and added congratulations to Director Hollock on the positive financial report.

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING - SEPTEMBER 14, 2026**

President Opyd recognized the job well done by Director Hollock with the financial audit. He also added that in speaking with a resident at Denning Park how delighted she was to see the disc golf and park being used by children and families.

**Adjournment**

President Opyd moved for adjournment at 6:53 P.M. The motion was so moved by Commissioner Vear, seconded by Commissioner Weber and passed unanimously by Voice Vote.



Brian Opyd, President



Jennifer Bechtold, Board Secretary

*Approved-October 19, 2026*