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

OCTOBER 20, 2025

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

PRESENT:	Commissioners, Carter, Weber, Vear, Opyd
ABSENT:	Commissioner Posey
STAFF PRESENT:	Executive Director Jenny Bechtold Director of Finance & HR Jamie Hollock Director of Recreation Kevin Miller GM of Parks Maintenance Larry Buckley GM of Facilities and Operations Mike Hay HR & Administration Coordinator Madonna Giampietro
OTHERS PRESENT:	John Pluto, Ray Sipla, Rose Naseef, Charles Gillat, Sydney Dudek

President Opyd welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for any announcements or changes to the agenda and there were none.

Communications, Presentations & Declarations

Public Comments (Board Manual Section 152)
President Opyd explained that the public comments are limited to three minutes and commentors should state their name and address prior to their comment.

John Pluto, 718 East Ave, La Grange, addressed the board regarding his concerns about the herbicide product and process at Sedwick Park.

Sydney, 412 Gilbert Ave, Western Springs, expressed her concerns about the basketball court which is part of the Gilbert Park renovations.

Consent Agenda
President Opyd asked for a motion to approve Item 3.1 Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of September 8, 2025, amended to match to audio recording; Item 3.2 Approval of the Financial Reports dated September 30, 2025; and Item 3.3 Approval of the Consolidated Vouchers for October

dated October 20, 2025. 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

Staff Reports
Executive Director Jennifer Bechtold

- Director Bechtold presented her report and gave an update on the referendum projects. She included that the Park District is moving forward with the remediation plan from TSC for Sedgwick Park and once the plan has been reviewed by the Park District, Wight & Company, and the insurance company, it will then go to review to the EPA. These remediation plans have been incorporated into the site plans, and the site plans are in the permitting process with the Village. Commissioner Vear asked how long the process will take from the EPA. Executive Director Bechtold answered that the EPA review can take up to three months.

  Commissioner Opyd asked if the timetable for the Community Center and Park would be complete by the end of this season. Executive Director Bechtold responded that it would be completed but that the only item which might not be complete would be the color coating of the multisport court due to temperature.

  Executive Director Bechtold added that a design concession was made regarding Gilbert Park, which added a barrier to the south side of the multi-sport court. She also mentioned that this court is not necessarily a destination court, it is a neighborhood park with little parking. It was noted that we have several other parks that have sport courts in neighborhood parks, very similar to the Gilbert Park design without incidents or complaints. She added that the lights turn off at 10pm to comply with the Village's noise ordinance.

  President Opyd added that, once completed, if there is inappropriate usage of the court, we can make changes to the court hours if it is deemed necessary. He added that the Park District has been approved for an OSLAD Grant based on the previously voted on plans and we would not want to possibly jeopardize that funding if a change was made to the plan at this stage.

Finance & Human Resources Jamie Hollock

- Director Hollock presented her report.
  President Opyd asked if there is an increase in budget for healthcare. Director Hollock answered that there will be anywhere between a 6%-9%

increase. PDRMA was able to secure plans a little lower than the anticipated 13% increase.

Director of Recreation Kevin Miller

- Director Miller presented his report. He added that the Trunk-or-Treat event was postponed due to the possibility of severe weather and rescheduled for 10.25.2025. He also added that there was a mistake in his report on the White Sox Summer programming numbers. The numbers in the report were last year's numbers.

  Commissioner Vear stated that the data presented was very informative and looks like the performing arts are doing well.

  President Opyd asked if there are plans to run programs again which were less successful in terms of number of participants. Director Miller responded that it will be based on the data that we have. Some low-participant programs will be offered again in the fall to see if the numbers increase and if not, we will reassess if they should be offered again.

Parks Facilities and Operations

- General Manager Hay presented his report. He added that the Fitness Center will roll out Student Holiday Passes. A fitness survey will be sent out in November for participant feedback. For facilities, he included that fees were increased on room rental rates, and Executive Director added that all facility fees, including outdoor spaces and athletic fields, will see an increase based on a competitive analysis.

Parks & Maintenance Larry Buckley

- General Manager Buckley presented his report. Executive Director Bechtold noted that we have been partnering with the Village to have them clean out the catch basins.

Action Items

Discussion and/or Approval for An Ordinance Providing for the Issue of not to Exceed $419,000 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2025A, for the Payment of Land Condemned or Purchased for Parks, for the Building, Maintaining, Improving And Protecting of the same and the Existing Land and Facilities of the Park District, to Provide the Revenue Source for the Payment of Certain Alternate Bonds of the Park District, and for the Payment of the Expenses Incident Thereto, Providing for the Levy of a Direct Annual Tax to Pay the Principal and Interest on Said Bonds, and Authorizing the Sale of Said Bonds to the Purchaser Thereof.

President Opyd asked for a motion to approve Ordinance 025-03 as presented. The motion was so moved by Commissioner Vear, seconded by Commissioner Carter and passed by Roll Call Vote as follows:

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

Discussion and/or Ratification of Resolution R25-04 of OSLAD Grant Program Resolution of Authorization for Sedwick Park.

President Opyd asked for a motion to ratify Resolution R25-04 authorizing submission of the OSLAD Grant Application for Sedgwick Park improvements totaling $1.2 million, including a $600,000 matching grant. The motion was so moved by Commissioner Vear, seconded by Commissioner Weber and passed by Roll Call Vote as follows:

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

Discussion and/or Approval of Resolution R25-05, Risk Management Policy and Procedure Manual.

Executive Director Bechtold explained that there was one update suggested by Commissioner Vear for page 12, under the heading, Medical Emergency, to include the statement to look for visible medical alert identification bracelets, necklaces, etc. that may provide important information to first responders.

Commissioner Weber moved to approve Resolution R25-05 adopting the updated Risk Management Manual as presented, replacing the previous manual in its entirety. The motion was 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 Change Order to Design, Engineering and Construction Management Professional Services Proposal (Addition of OSLAD Grant Funds)

President Opyd asked for a motion to approve Change Order #001 to the Wight & Company Construction Management Services Agreement, increasing the contract amount by $600,000 to provide construction management services for the OSLAD grant-funded Gilbert Park improvement project. The motion was so moved by Commissioner Carter, seconded by Commissioner Weber and approved by Roll Call Vote as Follows:

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

Board Business

Old Business
New Business
Discussion and/or Approval of Website Redesign RFP Selection.

Executive Director Bechtold presented the staff-recommended website redesign proposal from Prolific Digital to improve the user experience for our community and streamline internal functions for staff.

President Opyd asked if they will be providing support for the site. Executive Director Bechtold answered that Prolific will be hosting the website and would be providing support.

Executive Director Bechtold asked for a motion to approve that the Board authorize the Executive Director to execute an agreement with Prolific Digital for website redesign services in the amount of $65,000, with a total project cost not to exceed $75,000, pending final approval of the agreement by the Executive Director and Legal Counsel. The motion was so moved by Commissioner Weber, seconded by Commissioner Carter, and approved by Roll Call Vote as follows:

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

Discussion and/or Approval of United States Tennis Association (USTA) Grant Funding Opportunities.

Executive Director Bechtold explained that as part of the referendum-funded improvements at Gilbert Park, the Park District is moving forward with the reconstruction of the existing tennis courts. During this process, staff identified an additional grant funding opportunity through the USTA Facility Assistance Program.

President Opyd asked for a motion for the Park Board approve applying for the USTA Facility Assistance Grant for the Gilbert Park Tennis Court Reconstruction Project, with potential maximum grant funding of up to

$105,000. The motion was so moved by Commissioner Carter and seconded by Commissioner Vear and passed by Roll Call Vote as follows:

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

Discussion and/or Approval on Authorization of Delegates/Alternates for the 2026 Annual IAPD Meeting.

Commissioner Vear moved that the Park Board designate the Executive Director, Jennifer Bechtold, as the delegate, and the Director of Recreation, Kevin Miller, as the first alternate. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Weber and past by Roll Call Vote as follows:

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

Discussion and/or Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the Village of La Grange-Fire Department Training.

Executive Director Bechtold presented the draft of the IGA with the Village of La Grange for the Fire Department to use the structure at 4903 Willow Springs Road for firefighter training exercises.

Commissioner Carter moved that the Board approve the draft Intergovernmental Agreement with the Village of La Grange for Fire Department training use at 4903 Willow Springs Road, with final approval authorized for the Executive Director and legal counsel. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Weber and passed by Roll Call Vote as follows:

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

Committee Reports
Administration Committee
No report at this time.

Parks and Facilities Committee
Commissioner Carter commented that the park projects are coming along nicely, and he is excited to see each park as they are completed.

Recreation & Cultural Programming Committee/Arts & Cultural Affairs Committee
No report at this time.

Public Comments (Board Manual Section #152)
No comments

Board Comments
Commissioner Weber asked when Spring Park would be completed and opened. Executive Director Bechtold responded that it will be soon; that we are just waiting for a few items. We could possibly see a soft opening later this week or early next week and an official grand opening will be scheduled.

Commissioner Vear commented on the accolades for the recreation department for how well the athletic programs are being run by Liam Sise. Commissioner Weber agreed, as a parent volunteer for athletic programs.

Commissioner Vear also commented on the plant list from Bedrock as he thought it was great information to share with our community.

President Opyd added to the compliments for Liam to include the entire recreation team which support him.

Adjournment
President Opyd asked for a motion to adjourn at 7:05 P.M. The motion was so moved by Commissioner Carter, seconded by Commissioner Weber and passed unanimously by Voice Vote.

Brian Opyd, President

Jennifer Bechtold, Board Secretary
Approved November 10, 2025