



Minutes of
The Regular Board Meeting of Park Commissioners
5:30 p.m. Thursday, June 25, 2026
Robert N. Blackwell Admin Building
Pekin, IL 61554

1. Call to order. President Dralle called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance. All stood to recite the pledge of allegiance.
3. Roll call.
The following Commissioners were present: Greg Ranney, Mike Dralle, Gary Gillis, Sue McMillan, and Kristen Walraven. Commissioners absent were Kyle Cain and Steve Sours. Also, in attendance were: Cameron Bettin, Executive Director; Chip Hill, Business Manager/Board Secretary; Tony Maxison, Chief of Park Police; Alisha Dault, Miller Center Administrator; Cory Proehl, Director of Golf; Shawn Powers, Superintendent of Recreation; Scott Clausen, Superintendent of Parks; Keith Knox, Parkside Fitness Manager; Shawna Burnice, Superintendent of IRVSRA; and Michael Seghetti, Park District Attorney. Staff absent were: Casey Smith, Superintendent of Marketing & Communications and Ericka Davis, Superintendent of Human Resources & Risk Management.
4. Additions to and/or deletions from the agenda, if any. None.
5. Public Comments: None.
6. Consent Agenda:
 - A. Approval of the June 11, 2026 meeting Minutes.
 - B. Approval of the Bills and Payroll for 06/09/2026 thru 06/22/2026 in the amount of \$304,752.96.
 - C. Approval of Bills to be paid 06/26/2026 in the amount of \$39,151.22.

Motion to accept the Consent Agenda as presented or to accept all items in the Consent Agenda except the item withdrawn.

Move to accept all items in the Consent Agenda as presented:
Motion Gary Gillis; Second Greg Ranney.
All ayes by a voice call vote - Motion carried.

Motion to pass all items of business listed in the Consent Agenda by omnibus vote.

Move Kristen Walraven; Second Gary Gillis.
All ayes by a roll call vote - Motion carried.

7. Park Foundation Representative Report:
Commissioner Gillis mentioned that Commissioner Cain has taken it upon herself to map and log the benches in Mineral Springs Park and elsewhere to assist the Foundation with their discussion on memorial benches. He mentioned that Friends in Harmony were at the meeting and donated another \$3,000 for the PAV. They approved the purchase of ten benches to replace those at James Field. They approved the purchase of five banners to be dispersed to the various Park District departments that utilize them. The Foundation is in discussion on their bench policy and gifting catalog. The Parkside Garden will be at the MC Farmers Market. Commissioner Dralle asked if the benches being replaced at James Field have plaques? Yes, they do and will be put on the new benches.
8. Fair Board Representative Report:
Commissioner McMillan mentioned that the Fair Board had their meeting at the Arena and conducted the first of two walks through the buildings for the fair. They would like to power wash the inside of the LRB, but were talked out of it because it would probably be a costly project and messy. It was talked about maybe getting 4-H volunteers to scrub the walls, etc. There was discussion on the setting up of the google shared drive for the Board. They also had discussion on and approved the set-up of a donation software so it will be easier to receive donations. It takes Venmo, Paypal and other formats of banking. They received \$31,866 from State which some of it is being used to fix the fan in the LRB, power wash the outside of the LRB, and to purchase a new wireless mic and sound system for the LRB. They are working with J. Ackerman to recognize older farmsteads that date back 100 to 150 years with the same family. The Fair dates are July 27-29.
9. Budget Summary Report: The ED did not have a report. Him and the Business Manager are still going through it making any

adjustments/corrections and will have a more detailed report at the next meeting. He asked if the Board had any questions though and there were none.

10. Executive Director's Report:

The ED mentioned IAPD putting on a Governance and Leadership workshop in Normal the end of July and handing out a flyer. He told the Board that if they were interested in going to let him know and he would sign them up. He mentioned that he is working with the Park District Attorney who has been in touch with the Trustee of the PSC Donor Agreement. They are reaching out to the Donor regarding the proposed fire station location to see if they are willing to let us work with the City on getting something figured out. He mentioned that he, the Supt. of HR and Risk Mgt. and the Supt. of Parks met with IPARKS adjuster regarding the bike trail wash-out and other damage from the storms a couple weeks back. We are hoping it all will be considered under one claim, therefore only one deductible. He also mentioned that we are meeting with contractors to determine the best and long term fix to the wash-out. Commissioner Dralle asked if we should contact the guy that did the work at Lick Creek? The ED said we can reach out. The ED mentioned that the voter survey is closed and from preliminary discussion with aQity, the numbers are not great. More detailed information with aQity will be provided at the next meeting. Commissioner Ranney mentioned that there is a damaged solar panel in the northwest corner of the solar field. The ED was aware and let them know. Commissioner Gillis asked what our credit card processing cost per year was? The Business Manager said that we can get that number to the Board.

11. Attorney's Report:

The Park District attorney said that he was working on the donor agreement and fire station. Commissioner Gillis asked who the trustee is? It is Busey Bank.

12. Staff Reports: None.
13. Commissioner Comments:
Commissioner Gillis mentioned that he is having a Tom Elliott Tribute podcast. Commissioner Walraven asked if the bike trail will be blocked off for a while? The ED said that the wash-out area is barricaded but it is only on one side and users can still pass by. The bridge will be closed for a while as we are doing the rebuild. Commissioner Walraven said that she saw someone catch a huge bass at the Lagoon.
14. Unfinished Business:
 - A. Discussion and Approval of the Intergovernmental Agreement with PCHS District 303.

Only discussion occurred as District 303 was still contemplating the agreement and did not get back to Commissioners Ranney or McMillan. Therefore, approval was not considered at this time. Commissioner Ranney told the Board that he would like to be able to tell District 303 that what we have proposed is where we need to be now, and that we do not want to change anything. The consensus of the Board was that they agreed with him.
15. New Business:
 - A. Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement with City of Pekin; Pekin Court Street Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District (for the shared costs of the splash pad project).

Move to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Pekin for the Pekin Court Street TIF District regarding the shared costs of the splash pad project:
Motion Gary Gillis; Second Sue McMillan.
All ayes by a roll call vote - Motion carried.
 - B. Discussion and Approval of naming the Parks Department Maintenance Facility, the Tom Elliott Parks Department Maintenance Facility, in honor of his legacy and recognition of his years of dedicated service working at the Pekin Park District.

Move to approve the naming of the Parks Department Maintenance Facility after Tom Elliott.
Motion Gary Gillis; Second Greg Ranney.
All ayes by a roll call vote - Motion carried.

16. Closed Session:

- A. Move to convene into closed session under Open Meetings Act Section 120/2 (c) (1), to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees, and Section 120/2 (c) (6) to discuss the acquisition or lease of real property or the selling or rental price of real estate owned by the public body; and Section 120/2 (c) (21) discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under this Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06.

Motion Gary Gillis; Second Greg Ranney.
All ayes by a roll call vote- Motion carried.
Time: 6:14 p.m.

- B. Move to reconvene into open session.

Motion Gary Gillis; Second Greg Ranney.
All ayes by a roll call vote- Motion carried.
Time: 6:43 p.m.

17. Move to approve the May 14 and May 28, 2026 Closed Session Minutes.

Motion Mike Dralle; Second Kristen Walraven.
All ayes by a roll call vote- Motion carried.
Time: 6:14 p.m.

18. Adjourn.

Motion Gary Gillis; Second Sue McMillan.
All ayes by a voice call vote - Motion carried.
Time: 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted.
Chip Hill
Board Secretary, Pekin Park District