PEKIN PARK DISTRICT

Minutes of
The Regular Board Meeting of Park Commissioners
5:30 p.m. Thursday, August 13, 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, Sue McMillan, Kristen Walraven, Kyle Cain and Steve Sours. Commissioners absent were: Gary Gillis. 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; Shawn Powers, Superintendent of Recreation; Scott Clausen, Superintendent of Parks; Keith Knox, Parkside Fitness Manager; Cory Proehl, Director of Golf; Casey Smith, Superintendent of Marketing & Communications; and Ericka Davis, Superintendent of Human Resources & Risk Management; and Michael Seghetti, Park District Attorney. Staff absent were: Shawna Burnice, Superintendent of IRVSRA.

4. Additions to and/or deletions from the Agenda, if any. None.

5. Public Comments:

   Pekin Marigold Festival Committee member presentation and request for a new venue to be considered at the 2026 Festival.

   Scott Kriegsman presented the idea of beer garden on Diamond #1 at the Marigold Festival that will be called “The Hangout” and sponsored and run by Maquet’s Railhouse. There will be an 80’ by 40’ tent with tables and seating. All proceeds will go to the Pekin Park Foundation after some initial costs that the Foundation has already approved. Commissioner Dralle asked if there were irrigation line concerns with the tent stakes? Scott said he talked with the Supt. of Parks, and they believe there is a way to get it done without hitting any lines. Commissioner Walraven asked if there will be over flow seating for Festive Foods? Scott said yes. You need wristbands to purchase alcohol but people can sit in there to eat the Festive Foods they purchase without purchasing alcohol. Commissioner Cain asked if it rains, what costs would be lost? Scott said the only things that are non-refundable are the dram shop insurance and tent so those costs would be lost. Commissioner Walraven asked if there will be signage stating the revenues are going to the Foundation? Yes, there will be. Commissioner Dralle asked to confirm that anybody can go into the tent and that you need to purchase a wristband to drink? Yes, that will be how it is set up. Commissioner Ranney asked the Supt. of Parks if there were any issues with trucks, etc. on the field? He said there was not.

A motion was made by Mike Dralle to approve “The Hangout” at the Marigold Festival with the proceeds going to the Park Foundation. Second by Steve Sours. All ayes by a roll call vote – Motion carried.

6. Consent Agenda:

   A. Approval of the July 9, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes, and Special Meeting Minutes of June 20, 2026; July 7, 8, 10 and 28, 2026; and August 4, 2026 Special Meeting Minutes.

   B. Approval of the June Treasurer’s Report.

   C. Approval of the Bills and Payroll for 07/07/2026 thru 07/20/2026 in the amount of $64,045.52

   D. Approval of bills paid 07/24/2026 in the amount of $68,108.29

   E. Approval of the Bills and Payroll for 07/21/2026 thru 08/07/2026 in the amount of $256,173.96

   F. Approval of bills to be paid 08/14/2026 in the amount of $25,584.11

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 Kristen Walraven; Second Steve Sours.
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 Greg Ranney; Second Kyle Cain.
All ayes by a roll call vote - Motion carried.

7. Budget Performance Summary Report: (through the end of June)
Commissioner McMillan asked some clarification questions regarding utilities on some of the accounts. The ED indicated that the next report will have the property tax included in the report as this one still did not have that revenue due to it being through the end of June.

8. Illinois River Valley SRA Representative Report:
Commissioner Ranney said that everything was going well with camp, programs and sports, and attendance is great. He indicated they do a great job.

9. Fair Board Representative Report:
Commissioner McMillan said they went over the treasurer's report and that donations are coming in for the fair. She said they discussed the fan project in the LRB and saw it in operation on their tour. The outside of the Arena and LRB was power washed and looked good. They discussed the Queen's pageant. The next meeting is September 15.

10. Pekin Park Foundation Representative Report:
Commissioner Ranney said they talked about "The Hangout" at the Marigold Festival and approved it. They also discussed the bench policy and approved that. He also said that the Business Manager (past Foundation Treasurer) indicated that he applied for and received a $10,000 Ameren Grant through the Foundation for the repairs to the Coal Miners' bridge.

11. Executive Director's Report:
The ED mentioned that the Board received a thank you card from the Marigold Committee. He also mentioned to the Board that there is an Antique Tractor Preservation Day at the LRB on the 22nd. This is being sponsored through a proclamation that State Representative Travis Weaver got passed in the House. Hopefully it will become an annual event. Commissioner Cain asked if it was like a car show for tractors? Yes, it is. The ED mentioned that the new digital marquee sign is being installed. He also mentioned that Diamonds 3 and 7 at the sports complex are being renovated. He mentioned that the solar at the Arena has been wired and we are waiting on Ameren to approve and turn it on. This work had to be done now before the ice preparation because the power had to be turned off. We are still waiting to get Parkside scheduled and done.

Commissioner Cain asked if the solar people will be mowing on a regular schedule. Yes, they are to follow our mowing schedule.

12. Attorney's Report:
The Park District attorney said that he heard bank from the Busey Bank Trust contact, and they said the donor was agreeable to the fire station our at the sports complex. There are some reasonable stipulations that we will go through with the Board at the next meeting. Commissioner Walraven asked if this opens the door to have more discussions with the donor regarding the sports complex. The ED said that it does. The attorney mentioned that the election packet is pretty much ready to go. He is just waiting on some information to be sent to the District from the County.

13. Staff Reports: None.

14. Commissioner Comments:
Commissioner Cain congratulated the Supt. of Rec. on DragonLand and the lifeguard's high marks from Ellis. Commissioner Sours talked to Fehl and Bianchi to find a solution for the Fountain and asked if it was okay to get together with the Supt. of Parks at some point? Yes, it is. Commissioner Ranney thanked staff for everything they do. Commissioner Walraven told the Director of Golf that she heard golf was going great, and she told the Miller Center Administrator that she talked to someone attending the dementia support class and they said it was great and very helpful. Commissioner Dralle asked if we maintain the turf at the mini-golf? The Supt. of Rec. said yes and he is aware that some of it needs to be replaced.

15. Unfinished Business:

A. Discussion of referendum voter survey PSA, and motion to not place a referendum question on the November, 2026 election ballot asking voters to approve a tax rate increase.

The ED mentioned that he worked with the Supt. of Marketing and Communications who created an informational packet for the website explaining the purpose of the survey, provides the results, and the Park District's decision to not go for a referendum based on the results. The Board thought it looked good.

A motion was made by Mike Dralle to not place a referendum question on the November, 2026 election ballot. Second by Kyle Cain. All ayes by a roll call vote – Motion carried.

16. New Business:

A. Discussion of the Pekin Park Foundation's new memorial park bench policy.

The ED mentioned that the Pekin Park Foundation put together a new policy regarding the memorial park bench program. The purchase of the memorial bench is for 15 years (about the life expectancy of a bench). After 15 years, if the bench needs to be replaced, we will reach out and they can purchase a new bench at a 20%, or the plaque will go on the Pavilion patio concrete retaining wall. Commissioner Ranney asked the Supt. of Parks what is the life span of a bench? He said 10 to 15 years. Commissioner Dralle asked what the cost is of the bench? The ED said approximately $1,500 for the bench, plaque, concrete pad if needed, and labor. But we charge $3,000 in order to build up a replacement fund if needed. Commissioner Cain asked when the 15-year period starts? The ED said now. The Supt. of Parks asked if we are reaching out to existing bench purchasers. The ED said we can and probably should explaining the new policy. The Supt. of Parks asked what about if the plaque has deteriorated? The ED thought the Foundation could pay for that and replace it with the funds built up for benches and other amenities. Commissioner Dralle asked if the glider/swing benches have plaques. The ED said they do, but those will not get replaced because they do not make that style anymore, and others that he has found are not aesthetically pleasing, they are more like playground swing posts. The Foundation will need to work through some more details/specifics based on the questions raised, but the Board felt the policy was fine.

17. 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 Kyle Cain; Second Sue McMillan.
All ayes by a roll call vote- Motion carried.
Time: 6:29 p.m

B. Move to reconvene into open session.

Motion Steve Sours; Second Greg Ranney.
All ayes by a roll call vote- Motion carried.
Time: 7:25 p.m

18. Move to approve the July 7, 8, 9 and 28, 2026, and August 4, 2026 Closed Session Minutes.

Motion Greg Ranney; Second Sue McMillan.
All ayes by a roll call vote- Motion carried.

19. Adjourn.

Motion Steve Sours; Second Kyle Cain.
All ayes by a voice call vote - Motion carried.
Time: 7:26 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted.
Chip Hill
Board Secretary, Pekin Park District
And Cameron Bettin
Asst. Board Secretary, Pekin Park District