

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE OAK BROOK PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
January 19, 2026 – 6:30 p.m.
Canterberry Room

1. CALL TO ORDER THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE OAK BROOK PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND CONDUCT THE ROLL CALL

President Knitter called to order the Regular Meeting of the Oak Brook Park District at the hour of 6:30 p.m. Commissioners Chan, Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, Vescovi, and President Knitter answered “present” from the Oak Brook Park District Family Recreation Center, Canterbury Conference Room. Also present in Canterbury Conference Room was Laure Kosey, Executive Director; Marco Salinas, Chief Financial Officer; Bob Johnson, Deputy Director; Robert Pechous, Director of Recreation and Communications; and David Freeman, District Attorney.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. OPEN FORUM

President Knitter asked if there were any public comments and stated each speaker will have 5 minutes to speak. President Knitter stated that comments are to be respectful and focused and reminded the speakers that the board will not engage with them.

Elaine Zannis, an Oak Brook resident, requested a town hall meeting concerning the Tennis Center Rebuild project to support more transparency. President Knitter stated Dr. Laure Kosey would follow up.

Tameem Mohsin, an Oak Brook resident, inquired about basketball court and soccer field occupancy, including contract terms, hours, and revenue. Mohsin requested additional open court availability for residents.

A Tennis Center youth member stated that she enjoyed and appreciated her time at the Tennis Center because she was welcomed like a family member.

Carlos Quintero, a Tennis Center member, appreciates the Tennis Center coaches, members, and facility.

Satti Sarai, an Oak Brook resident and Tennis Center member, stated that the Oak Brook Tennis Center is a “Jewel of Oak Brook.” Sarai suggested that the tennis surfaces need work for injury prevention and quality of play, and he supports the Tennis Center rebuild project.

Philip Janiga, a Tennis Center member, supports the Tennis Center Rebuild project. Janiga stated that the courts are in demand, and he referenced current surface conditions needing to be addressed.

Samantha Gurrola, an Oak Brook resident, is a lifetime Park District member and supporter. With nearby competitive clubs, the Park District should invest in their tennis courts to keep them in best shape. Since her children do not attend the Oak Brook schools, the Park District is the heart of the Oak Brook community for her family.

An Oak Brook resident stated the Park District is a great facility, but since it is a public facility there should be more available basketball courts for residents especially when schools are off. The speaker would appreciate advance notice of available open gym hours.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

a. APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 19, 2026 AGENDA

b. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

i. December 15, 2025 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

c. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2025

i. Warrant 704

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek, to approve the January 19, 2026 Agenda.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Vescovi, Chan, and President Knitter

Nays: Commissioners Ivkovic Kelley and Gondek

Motion: Commissioner Chan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Vescovi, to approve the December 15, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes as amended.

President Knitter stated that the commissioners have received Commissioner Chan's amended minutes. Commissioner Chan explained her reason for amending the minutes.

The motion did not pass by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Chan and Vescovi

Nays: Commissioners Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, and President Knitter

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek, to approve the December 15, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Ivkovic Kelley, Gondek, and President Knitter

Nays: Commissioners Vescovi and Chan

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek, to approve the Financial Statement.

Commissioner Chan explained her reasons for not approving the warrant.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, and President Knitter

Nays: Commissioners Chan and Vescovi

5. STAFF RECOGNITION

a. Rob Rojas, Aquatic Facility Manager

The Board welcomed Rob Rojas.

6. PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

a. Fiscal Year vs. Calendar Year

Dr. Kosey presented data on the number of park districts that use a Calendar Year, a May 1 Fiscal Year FY, or Other fiscal year for their budget cycle. The data showed that 163 park districts use a fiscal year other than calendar year, while 78 districts use a fiscal year that aligns with the calendar year.

Commissioner Chan stated that seasonality can be incorporated into the budget and noted that a calendar year budget would allow commissioners to better understand the budget prior to requesting to increase the tax levy.

Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley stated that the Park District operates as a seasonal organization and expressed a preference for aligning with the majority of park districts that use a May 1 Fiscal Year.

Commissioner Gondek stated that he is open to considering a calendar year budget and noted that familiarity with the current fiscal year structure is helpful in the budget development process.

Commissioner Vescovi stated that he would like the budget year to be considered for a vote.

President Knitter stated that the budget year vote could be placed on the agenda.

Commissioner Chan expressed support for placing the vote on the agenda.

7. REPORTS

a. Administration and Enterprise Operations Report

Dr. Laure Kosey presented her report, which can be found in the Park District's records.

Dr. Kosey reviewed the Tennis Center Project, noting that eight tennis courts are planned for reconstruction and that the Enterprise Fund has the funds in savings. Pickleball project is a Park District project that does not have funding at this time; however, to save on cost the Park District would like to do the engineering and permitting plan for the Pickleball project at the same time as the Tennis Center project since the cost is lower if that work is completed together. The Pickleball project will only occur when there is funding; however, the engineering and permitting piece would have been completed.

Commissioner Vescovi asked about the Tennis Center and Pickleball Projects cost and demand.

Commissioner Chan expressed concern that the outdoor pickleball courts would not provide significant profit.

President Knitter reminded the commissioners that the Tennis Center Fund can only be used toward the Tennis Center project.

Dr. Kosey reported that the Market Based Salary Adjustment is a range and not the actual salary given to Park District staff.

b. Finance and Human Resources Report

Marco Salinas presented his report, which can be found in the Park District's records.

Salinas reported that there is a big surplus at the beginning of the fiscal year but then it decreases as the year goes on. There will be an operating transfer from the General Fund.

The Park District is working on next year's budget.

c. Recreation and Communications Report

Robert Pechous presented his report, which can be found in the Park District's records.

Pechous reported that Evergreen Bank is covering the cost of rebranding the athletic field following its transition to Old Second National Bank. Open gym had 750 participants. Staff are working to increase gym time; however, the schedule is limited due to badminton, pickleball, and volleyball. Pioneers enjoyed their Holiday Luncheon at Gibson's. The 2026 Sponsorship Booklet is available.

d. Parks and Facilities Report

Bob Johnson presented his report, which can be found in the Park District's record.

Johnson reported that the elevator has a fresh interior and repairs are complete. There is a live video to the company connected to the emergency button on the inside of the elevator. New moisture resistant carpeting has been installed in the locker rooms.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Extension of Contract for Audit Services with Lauterbach & Amen

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek, to approve an extension for audit services contract with Lauterbach & Amen through fiscal year ending April 30, 2026.

Commissioner Chan recommended going out for a Request for Proposal since there was only one submission.

Dr. Kosey clarified that there were three firms who submitted a proposal, four firms declined to submit a proposal, and one firm did not respond. Dr. Kosey believed Commissioner Chan was referring to the actuarial submission.

Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley stated that Lauterbach & Amen provided the best complete deal.

Dr. Kosey confirmed.

Commissioner Chan stated that she still thinks it would be beneficial to go out for RFP, but she appreciated that Lauterbach & Amen had the best price and was able to provide what the Park District needed.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Vescovi, Ivkovic Kelley, Gondek, and President Knitter

Nays: Commissioners Chan

b. Tennis Center Outdoor Tennis Courts Rebuild Project

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek, to approve commencing with the tennis courts rebuild and the pickleball and parking lot expansion projects for fiscal year 2026-2027, by approving the base proposal of \$203,800 and the alternate proposal of \$92,650 from Upland Design Ltd., and approving a contract between the Oak Brook Park District and Upland Design, Ltd. for professional architectural and engineering services for a total cost not-to-exceed \$296,450.

President Knitter reminded the commissioners that this motion is to approve the planning stage before going out to bid.

Commissioner Chan stated that she learned that the Tennis Center Rebuild project has been on hold for two years and questioned why people did not know about the project.

Commissioner Chan would like to know the utilization data for the tennis courts to decide, and she agreed that the tennis courts do need to be repaired but she did not agree to adding the options. Commissioner Chan requested a timeline for this plan and reviewed what she understood to be the timeline.

Commissioner Chan presented Option C, Chan's Plan. Since utilization data is important to understand, investing in software to evaluate courts' use and nonresident rates would be beneficial. Commissioner Chan explained her suggested options and stated that analysis is necessary to justify replacing the courts at a high cost. A detailed repair cost versus replacement cost should be analyzed.

Commissioner Vescovi stated that he would like more detailed information regarding the process.

Commissioner Gondek responded that the cost will not go down by delaying the work.

Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley stated that the courts are unsafe and need to be redone soon considering summer camps are upcoming.

President Knitter explained that although the tennis courts have been maintained, the poor condition has led to repair companies not wanting to assist anymore due to the disrepair.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, and President Knitter

Nays: Commissioners Chan and Vescovi

9. NEW BUSINESS

a. Market Based Salary Range Adjustment

President Knitter stated that the Market Based Salary Range Adjustment was reported during Dr. Kosey's report. Dr. Kosey mentioned that the last time Market Based Salary Range Adjustment was reviewed was in 2013.

b. Resolution 26-0216: A Resolution Amending the Agreement Between the Oak Brook Park District and Advanced Landscaping, LLC. For Turf Grass Mowing

Johnson reported that the lowest responsible bidder last year for turf grass mowing was Advanced Landscaping. The contract allows the Park District to renew it annually for up to three years. Staff are pleased with Advanced Landscaping, so they request renewing the contract.

c. Ordinance 26-0217: An Ordinance Transferring Funds to and from Several Park District Funds

Commissioner Chan suggested that the fund transfers are due to her previous communication from the last meeting.

Salinas reported that there has been an annual fund transfer at this time for the last seven years since he began working at the Park District. This year's transfers were identified and discussed during last year's budgeting. The Capital Projects Fund does not generate revenue so transfers from the General Fund are necessary.

10. BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO SHARE COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioner Chan stated that the Capital Projects list for trails and pathways should include Saddlebrook pathways. The Tennis Center pathway also needs work and should not come from the Tennis Center fund. Commissioner Chan concluded that the meetings should be videotaped to increase transparency.

President Knitter stated that the three commissioners have been vilified on social media by another commissioner. President Knitter reminded the Board that the residents' taxes cover 40% of the Park District, and that she ran to become a commissioner for the community and not for power.

Commissioner Gondek communicated that the tax levy increase is approximately \$25/household (for \$888,780 market value) which is worthwhile in maintaining a strong available park district.

11. ENTER CLOSED SESSION: For the purpose of discussing Pending, Probable, Or Imminent Litigation pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(C)(11) Of the Open Meetings Act

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek, to enter into closed session for the purpose of discussing Pending, Probable, Or Imminent Litigation pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(C)(11) Of the Open Meetings Act.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Vescovi, Ivkovic Kelley, Gondek, Chan, and President Knitter

Nays: None

12. ARISE FROM CLOSED SESSION AND RESUME THE OPEN SESSION

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek, to arise from closed session and resume the open session.

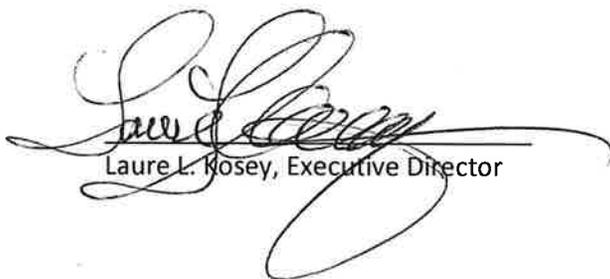
Open Session resumed at 8:19 p.m.

13. THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE OAK BROOK PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS WILL BE HELD ON FEBRUARY 16, 2026, 6:30 P.M.

President Knitter announced the next Regular Meeting of the Oak Brook Park District Board of Park Commissioners would be held on February 16, 2026, 6:30 p.m.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek, to adjourn the January 19, 2026 Regular Meeting of the Oak Brook Park District Board of Commissioners. The motion passed by voice vote, and the meeting adjourned at the hour of 8:19 p.m.



Laure L. Kosey, Executive Director