

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE OAK BROOK PARK DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**February 16, 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

Vice President Gondek called to order the Regular Meeting of the Oak Brook Park District at the hour of 6:30 p.m. Commissioners Chan, Ivkovic Kelley, Vescovi, and Vice President Gondek 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. President Knitter was absent.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. OPEN FORUM

Vice President Gondek asked if there were any public comments and stated each speaker will have 5 minutes to speak. Vice President Gondek stated that comments are to be respectful and focused and reminded the speakers that the board will not engage with them. No one addressed the Board.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA, MINUTES, AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT

a. APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 16, 2026 AGENDA

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

The motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Vescovi, Ivkovic Kelley, Chan, Vice President Gondek

Nays: None

Absent: President Knitter

b. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

i. January 19, 2026 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Motion: Commissioner Chan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Vescovi, to approve the January 19, 2026 Regular Board Meeting Minutes as amended.

Commissioner Chan explained her reasons for amending the Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

The motion did not pass by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Chan and Vescovi

Nays: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley and Vice President Gondek

Absent: President Knitter

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Vice President Gondek, to approve the January 19, 2026 Regular Board Meeting Minutes as presented.

The motion did not pass by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Ivkovic Kelley and Vice President Gondek

Nays: Commissioners Vescovi and Chan

Absent: President Knitter

- ii. Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Chan, to approve the January 19, 2026 Closed Board Meeting Minutes as presented.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None

Absent: President Knitter

c. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT ENDING JANUARY 31, 2026

i. Warrant 705

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Vice President Gondek, to approve the Financial Statement as amended with exclusion of the legal invoices.

Commissioner Chan explained her reasons for not approving the warrant in its present state concerning the legal invoices being inaccessible.

Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley asked if there is a time limit in reviewing the legal invoices. Dr. Kosey stated that there is no time limit and the Commissioners are permitted to receive a hard copy of the legal invoices if they agree to the acknowledgement that they will not be shared with media and public. Commissioner Chan stated that commissioners have a right to the legal invoices without signing a contract.

Commissioner Vescovi inquired whether there were any legal concerns with releasing the legal invoices to the residents. Attorney Freeman responded that there were no legal prohibitions against doing so. However, noting that the invoices are protected by attorney-client privilege, Attorney Freeman questioned the rationale for a commissioner to disclose legal invoices and advised against making the information public.

Vice President Gondek stated that it was concerning that a commissioner declined to sign an acknowledgement, agreeing not to share the legal invoices with the public. Vice President Gondek noted that commissioners do have access to review the legal invoices.

Commissioner Vescovi communicated that he would like to review the Breakaway Basketball contract before approving the warrant, Commissioner Vescovi believes that the Park District should readjust the percentages and make more money for the Park District.

Dr. Kosey recommended approving the warrant and paying the bills and then renegotiating the Breakaway contract.

Commissioner Vescovi agreed to approve the warrant first then renegotiating the Breakaway contract.

Attorney Freeman suggested pulling the legal invoices from the warrant for Commissioner Chan's concerns. Commissioner Chan stated that she would agree to approve the warrant if the legal invoices were pulled.

The amended motion passed by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None

Absent: President Knitter

5. STAFF RECOGNITION

a. None

## 6. PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

### a. Conference Session Summaries

Dr. Kosey stated that the staff did well with the conference session summaries which are included in the Board Packet. The state and national conferences are beneficial for staff and commissioners.

Vice President Gondek reported that he attended the conference on Saturday and was enlightened by the presenters' knowledge. Commissioner Gondek has received acknowledgement for being a commissioner of well-known Park District. Commissioner Vescovi asked Vice President Gondek what he had learned. Commissioner Gondek appreciated the opening session that focused on not taking everything so seriously which can be applied to this Board. Commissioner Gondek also discussed the tax levy session he attended.

Commissioner Vescovi stated he felt he already understood all that was taught during his session which Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley and Vice President Gondek also attended.

Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley stated that presentation was very good, and she found the Roberts Rules of Order presentation helpful.

Commissioner Chan stated that she did not attend the conference but asked if the commissioners spoke to vendors and other park district staff. Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley stated that she spoke to vendors and other park district staff and commissioners. Commissioner Chan spoke on her understanding according to Dr. Kosey that commissioners were not permitted to speak to vendors and park district staff, so she stated that this is "selective enforcement."

Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley responded that since this was a conference, speaking to vendors, other park district staff, and commissioners were permitted and encouraged.

Dr. Kosey explained Commissioner Chan's concerns about speaking to vendors and other park district staff. The concern comes from Commissioner Chan's requests for historical and present contracts as well as advertising. Dr. Kosey has told Commissioner Chan she will provide them for the last three years; however, she has asked that Commissioner Chan does not reach out to those vendors and requested that she directly ask Dr. Kosey questions concerning the contracts and advertising since proprietary information were involved.

## 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 reminded the Board that the Market Based Salary Adjustment is not the actual salary of the Park District employee but a range. In addition, Dr. Kosey stated that every year there is a transfer from the General Fund to the Capital Fund, and by the end of the Fiscal Year, April 30<sup>th</sup>, there should be three to nine months in the reserve.

This transfer has been budgeted and is transferred six months after the budget has been approved annually.

Dr. Kosey explained that the increase to Out-of-District Summer Family Pool Pass Membership will be voted on tonight due to the need to market this increased fee in the March promotion.

### b. Finance and Human Resources Report

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

Salinas reported that staff are compiling data for the 2026/2027 FY budget for the Budget Workshop.

Commissioner Chan asked why professional services were high. Salinas responded that high professional services were mostly due to increased legal fees, and he read the legal expenses that have been listed in his memo of the board packet.

c. Recreation and Communications Report

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

Pechous reported that Comcast recently upgraded the coax cable network, and at Commissioner Chan's suggestion, he found out that Easy Fiber is not being built to the Park District so could not receive the estimate but will continue to review it. However, due to the high quote for Comcast Fiber and since the present coax network connection is good, the Park District will remain with the coax cable network.

d. Parks and Facilities Report

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

Johnson reviewed the work of Facilities and Maintenance in preparation for the spring, and he reported that Pink 5k registration is doing very well.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Market-Based Salary Range Adjustment

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Vice President Gondek, to approve the Market-Based Salary Range Adjustment.

Commissioner Chan reviewed her points with the Market-Based Salary Range, referring to the data as not being appropriate for the Park District, stating that employee efforts are not accounted for, and for-profit businesses data are included in this adjustment. Commissioner Chan also stated that the Executive Director salary is not included in this salary study and that the study underestimates the true cost since it does not include other added expenses.

Dr. Kosey responded that HR Source has been conducting this research for many years. The Market-Based Salary Range Adjustment is data driven and comes from a reputable third-party company that has ranges based on job title and description.

Commissioner Chan stated that she believes that job salary range should consider staff merit.

Dr. Kosey responded that the study solely reviews minimum, midpoint, and maximum range of salary, so merit is separate. When merit increase is added then, the salary will remain in that salary range.

Commissioner Gondek communicated that this same process takes place in many companies, and this is a comparable range used as a guideline from a reputable firm.

The motion did not pass by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley and Vice President Gondek

Nays: Commissioners Chan and Vescovi

Absent: President Knitter

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

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Vice President Gondek, to approve Resolution 26-0216: A Resolution Amending the Agreement Between the Oak Brook Park District and Advanced Landscaping, LLC. for Turf Grass Mowing.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None

Absent: President Knitter

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

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Vice President Gondek, to approve Ordinance 26-0217: An Ordinance Transferring Funds to and from Several Park District Funds.

Commissioner Chan stated that the fund balance is above the maximum for the last four months, and she believes there is a "slush fund" by overbudgeting so that the Park District is forced to spend it. Commissioner Chan believes the Park District is overspending. Commissioner Chan stated that there is \$1,000,000 in contingency which she refers to as the "slush fund."

Salinas responded that there is no "slush fund" at the Park District and there is not \$1,000,000 in contingency. Salinas reported the actual contingency amount for the General, Recreation, and Tennis Fund which would be used for unforeseen emergencies, for example the elevator repair. Salinas responded to the General Fund is above nine months at this moment, but the fund balance will be below the maximum allowed by the end of the Fiscal Year. The policy states the fund balance needs to be within three to nine months by the end of the year and not during the year.

Commissioner Chan questioned why report the fund balance monthly. Salinas responded that he started the monthly fund balance schedule so to track it. The operating transfers were identified in early 2025 and adopted for the 2025/2026 Fiscal Year, and the purpose of the operating transfers was to fund capital improvement costs since the Capital Project Fund does not have a dedicated funding source. The Capital Project relies on the transfers which is not a "slush fund." Please refer to the Annual Audit Report which is on the website.

The motion did not pass by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley and Vice President Gondek

Nays: Commissioners Chan and Vescovi

Absent: President Knitter

d. Travel Reimbursement for Commissioner Attendance at the 2026 IAPD/IPRA Annual Conference, January 29 - 31, 2026

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Vice President Gondek, to approve Travel Reimbursement for Commissioner Attendance at the 2026 IAPD/IPRA Annual Conference, January 29 – 31, 2026.

Commissioner Vescovi recommended that each commissioner pays for their own way to conferences; he stated he paid for his own way to the conference. Commissioner Chan stated that commissioners and employees should pay for their own way to conferences; she questioned whether what they learn at the conference will be applied to the Park District.

The motion did not pass by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley and Vice President Gondek

Nays: Commissioners Vescovi and Chan

Absent: President Knitter

9. NEW BUSINESS

a. Change in the Park District's Fiscal Year Start Date from May 1 to January 1 Start Date

Commissioner Chan supports moving to the calendar year fiscal year to match the budget with the tax levy vote, recognizing that the first year will be difficult but the process will improve. With this change the Board will have more information to support a tax levy increase. Commissioner Vescovi supports moving to calendar year.

Commissioner Gondek believes the present budget year works fine, and he suggested time could be wasted transitioning to the calendar year.

b. RFP for the License and Use of the Family Recreation Center Basketball Courts

Dr. Kosey stated that the Park District will receive clarification on two proposals that were submitted.

Commissioner Chan stated that Breakaway dominates the basketball court's time use and that discussion of gym utilization is important to decide on the costs. Dr. Kosey responded that Breakaway uses about 25% of the court time. Commissioner Chan would like one court available for residents to use at all times.

c. Personnel Policy Manual Law Updates

Vice President Gondek stated that if the state of Illinois requires a policy, then the Board should adopt it.

Commissioner Chan suggested that Vice President is referring to the Ethics Ordinance. Vice President Gondek restated that if the state requires a policy then the Board should adopt it.

d. Increase to Out-of-District Summer Family Pool Pass Membership

*(Requires waiving the Board Rules to approve at this meeting.)*

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek, to approve waiving the Board Rules to approve at this meeting an Increase to the Out-of-District Summer Family Pool Pass Membership.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None

Absent: President Knitter

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek, to approve an Increase to the Out-of-District Summer Family Pool Pass Membership.

Commissioner Chan stated that since residents pay taxes to the Park District, nonresidents should pay their "fair share" to the Park District. More study should be conducted to see what the increase should be for nonresidents.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None

Absent: President Knitter

e. Increase to Out-of-District Daily Fees and Memberships

Dr. Kosey stated that this increase is not as timely as the Summer Family Pool Pass Membership. Johnson stated that the staff is benchmarking at this time.

10. BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO SHARE COMMUNICATIONS

No communication occurred.

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 Chan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Vescovi, to enter into closed session at 7:58 p.m. 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 Chan, Ivkovic Kelley, Vescovi, and Vice President Gondek

Nays: None

Absent: President Knitter

12. ARISE FROM CLOSED SESSION AND RESUME THE OPEN SESSION

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Vice President Gondek, to arise from closed session and resume the open session at 8:19 p.m.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None

Absent: President Knitter

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

a. A special budget workshop meeting of the Oak Brook Park District Board of Park Commissioners will be held on March 3, 2026, 6:30 p.m.

Vice President Gondek announced the Special Budget Workshop would be held on March 3, 2026, 6:30 p.m. and the next Regular Meeting of the Oak Brook Park District Board of Park Commissioners would be held on March 16, 2026, 6:30 p.m.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Vice President Gondek, to adjourn the February 16, 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 8:21 p.m.



Laure L. Kosey, Executive Director