

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE OAK BROOK PARK DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**March 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

President Knitter called to order the Regular Meeting of the Oak Brook Park District at the hour of 6:32 p.m. Commissioners Chan, Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, 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 Patrick Miner, District Attorney.

- a. Approval by a majority of the Commissioners present to allow Commissioner Mario Vescovi to attend the meeting by audio conference, as he is unable to physically attend because of personal illness as provided in section I-G-1 of the Board Rules.

Motion: Commissioner Chan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley, to approve Commissioner Vescovi to attend the meeting by audio conference, as he is unable to physically attend because of personal illness as provided in section I-G-1 of the Board Rules.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. OPEN FORUM

President Knitter asked if there were any public comments and provided a summary of the policy for open forum.

Susan Nustra, an Oak Brook resident, analyzed the increase in her property taxes since 2015. Nustra requested reducing property taxes and conducting an analysis on Park District’s bonds.

Greg Ktistou from Breakaway Basketball thanked the Park District for their thirteen-year partnership.

Jim DePhillips, an Oak Brook resident, requested clarification on the CPW parking lot expansion. DePhillips asked when the pickleball courts removal will occur and when the future courts will be built.

Nancy Parenti, an Oak Brook resident, questioned Commissioners Chan and Vescovi in voting against the fund transfers which she believes is not fiscally responsible.

Alice Palach-Spera, an Oak Brook resident, congratulated the Park District on earning the Gold Medal Award and stated that she moved to Oak Brook for the Park District. Spera expressed gratitude for the wide range of available events and programs, particularly those benefiting her son, who participates in Gateway’s Elevate Adult Recreational program. Spera’s son was able to get extra basketball practice during open gym sessions, and his team won fourth place at State for Special Olympics.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA, MINUTES, AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT

a. APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 16, 2026 AGENDA

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Vice President Gondek, to approve the March 16, 2026 Regular Board Agenda.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None

b. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

i. February 16, 2026 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Motion: Commissioner Chan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek, to approve the February 16, 2026 Regular Board Meeting Minutes as amended.

Commissioner Chan explained her reasons for amending all four minutes. President Knitter stated that she had shared Commissioner Chan's amendments to the commissioners.

The motion did not pass by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Vescovi and Chan

Nays: Commissioners Ivkovic Kelley, Gondek, and President Knitter

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Vice President Gondek, to approve the February 16, 2026 Regular Board Meeting Minutes as presented.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, and President Knitter

Nays: Commissioners Chan and Vescovi

ii. February 16, 2026 Closed Board Meeting Minutes

Motion: Commissioner Chan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Vescovi, to approve the February 16, 2026 Closed Board Meeting Minutes as amended.

The motion did not pass by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Vescovi and Chan

Nays: Commissioners Ivkovic Kelley, Gondek, and President Knitter

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Vice President Gondek, to approve the February 16, 2026 Closed Board Meeting Minutes as presented.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, and President Knitter

Nays: Commissioners Chan and Vescovi

iii. March 3, 2026 Special Board Meeting Minutes

Motion: Commissioner Chan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Vescovi, to approve the March 3, 2026 Special Board Meeting Minutes as amended.

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 Vice President Gondek, to approve the March 3, 2026 Special Board Meeting Minutes as presented.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Ivkovic Kelley, Gondek, and President Knitter

Nays: Commissioners Vescovi and Chan

iv. March 3, 2026 Closed Board Meeting Minutes

Motion: Commissioner Chan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Vescovi, to approve the March 3, 2026 Closed Board Meeting Minutes as amended.

Commissioner Chan stated information in the closed session was “leaked” to the Executive Director. President Knitter clarified that it was an honest mistake.

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 Vice President Gondek, to approve the March 3, 2026 Closed Board Meeting Minutes as presented.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Ivkovic Kelley, Gondek, and President Knitter

Nays: Commissioners Vescovi and Chan

c. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2026

i. Warrant 706

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

The motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, and President Knitter

Nays: Commissioners Chan and Vescovi

5. STAFF RECOGNITION

a. None

6. PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

a. Proclamation in Support of The Conservation Foundation DuPage County River Sweep

Dr. Kosey announced that the annual River Sweep will be on Saturday, April 18, 2026 and stated anyone interested in volunteering can sign up on the Park District website.

b. Pickleball Funding Options

Pechous stated staff would like feedback from the Board about the pickleball courts. Pickleball courts do not make money but are used frequently by residents, which is free to them and can be reserved eight days in advance. Nonresidents can use the pickleball courts and pay \$20/hour with a smaller window to reserve them. The pickleball courts are older and have cracks.

Plan A is to fundraise and take a loan from the Tennis Center to build new pickleball courts. Some of the funds will come from the Wizards and Eclipse capital contributions and other funds will come from

community members and corporate donations. Out-of-District players can still use the courts with a fee for Plan A.

Plan B will include the Tennis Center loan and increase to Family Recreation Center (FRC) memberships. In that case, the pickleball courts would be gated and would need FRC membership to use the courts.

Plan C is to leave the existing pickleball courts and use the capital funds to work on the parking lots by the baseball fields instead of the CPW parking lots.

Johnson reported that the baseball fields parking lot would need resurfacing which will allow for creating additional parking spaces to replace those lost along Forest Gate Road, and the CPW parking lots would be expanded and resurfaced. Completing either parking lot would be beneficial. Dr. Kosey added that the baseball parking lot services the ballfields, and CPW parking lot services the soccer and lacrosse fields and CPW rental and would allow for a turnaround for Winter Lights.

Dr. Kosey confirmed the Board will move with the baseball field parking lot project and not the CPW parking lot.

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 reported that staff are recommending RFP license with Breakaway Basketball.

Commissioner Chan asked if the expanded check register is on the website. Salinas stated that they are on the website. Pechous directed Commissioner Chan to the expanded check register on the website.

b. Finance and Human Resources Report

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

Salinas noted that March and April will have deficits in the General Fund so the surplus will decrease. As of February, there is just under nine months of reserve revenue. Salinas explained the importance of having a monthly report on the fund balance: compliance with policy and monitoring and managing the reserve funds, so monitoring reserve funds should not occur only at the end of the year. There should be a three to nine-month fund balance by the end of the fiscal year for emergencies.

Salinas reminded the Board that the Tennis Fund has no upper limit in the reserve funds since it is an enterprise and not supported by taxes.

c. Recreation and Communications Report

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

Pechous reported that fourteen Oak Brook resident teens registered for Teen Advisory Committee (T.E.A.M Rec) to provide feedback on programs and facilities, and summer brochures will be coming out shortly.

d. Parks and Facilities Report

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

Johnson reported that the Pink 5k is on May 9<sup>th</sup>.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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

Motion: Commissioner Chan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Vescovi, to approve a change in the Park District's Fiscal Year start date from May 1 to January 1 start date.

President Knitter stated that she had spoken to many park districts and found many of them have the May 1 FY. President Knitter believes May 1 FY allows new commissioners to have an input in the budget and a transition to a January 1 FY will cause staff to take more time and work to support that.

Commissioner Chan stated a January 1 FY would allow for the budget to be in place before voting on the tax levy allowing for an explanation for any increase in taxes, and she realized that the first year may be a difficult transition but after that it should be "clockwork."

Commissioner Gondek would like to remain on May 1 FY due to seasonality and programs, and it would be disruptive to change the fiscal year. Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley agrees with Commissioner Gondek. Commissioner Chan believes that seasonality can be built into the fiscal year. Commissioner Vescovi supports the January 1 FY. Attorney Miner clarified the vote.

The motion did not pass by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Vescovi and Chan

Nays: Commissioners Ivkovic Kelley, Gondek, and President Knitter

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

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek, to approve the contract with MYB OpCo, LLC doing business as Breakaway Basketball.

Commissioner Chan stated that there should be more time to discuss. Commissioner Chan asked about the resident percentage for Breakaway Basketball. Pechous responded for the Get Better League, which is involved with Breakaway Basketball, resident percentage is about 13%.

Commissioner Chan prefers contracts to focus more on residents. Nonresidents cause facility wear and tear in these programs, so she questions if they are paying their "fair share" since the resident taxpayers are paying for the Park District. Commissioner Chan cannot see the profitability and added that residents should always have access to a basketball court.

President Knitter stated there are not enough residents participating so she asked who residents will compete against, a vibrant league will allow our residents to compete with other participants. President Knitter also reminded Commissioner Chan that other activities, not only basketball, occupy the courts and she does see there is balance. Commissioner Gondek agrees with President Knitter. Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley stated that her son has played with Breakaway since it began and explained it is a personal preference to participate with Breakaway or the Knights. Because of the exceptional coaching of Breakaway Basketball, more participants are attracted to their program.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, and President Knitter

Nays: Commissioners Chan and Vescovi

c. Personnel Policy Manual Law Updates

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek, to approve the Personnel Policy Manual Law updates.

Commissioner Gondek stated that since this is an update due to a law change, the Park District should make these updates.

Commissioner Chan asked if the Park District does background checks on employees and coaches from contracted companies. Dr. Kosey stated that background checks are conducted on all Park District employees and volunteers.

Attorney Miner reminded the Commissioners that the Personnel Policy applies only to Park District employees and not coaches.

Commissioner Chan recommends a report on travel reimbursements submitted quarterly. President Knitter believes the commissioner's job is not to get involved in the operational elements but to provide policy.

Motion: Commissioner Chan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Vescovi, to approve the Personnel Policy Manual Law updates as amended.

The motion did not pass by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Vescovi and Chan

Nays: Commissioners Ivkovic Kelley, Gondek, and President Knitter

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek, to approve the Personnel Policy Manual Law updates as presented.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, and President Knitter

Nays: Commissioners Chan and Vescovi

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

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek, to approve the new membership rates as presented, effective May 1, 2026.

Commissioner Chan noted that daily fees should contribute to long term Capital replacement since residents are paying for that currently.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

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

Nays: Commissioner Vescovi

e. Settlement Agreement with Judiciocracy

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek, to approve the Settlement Agreement with Judiciocracy.

Commissioner Chan stated that the attorney resubmitted fewer redactions in the attorney invoices for this settlement, therefore, admitting to over redacting them.

President Knitter explained that many Park Districts and the Village were sued by Judiciocracy, and the Park District decided not to go to court, therefore, the need to resubmit fewer redactions on the invoices.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None

f. Fitness Center Flooring Replacement through the Sourcewell Cooperative

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek, to accept the proposal from Direct Fitness Solutions and approve an agreement between the Oak Brook Park District and Direct Fitness Solutions for fitness center flooring replacement for a total cost not-to-exceed \$77,527.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None

9. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Budget for Fiscal Year 2026 – 2027 *The tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance 26-0420 for Fiscal Year May 1, 2026 – April 30, 2027 will be placed on public display for thirty days following the publication notice in the Doings – Oak Brook Newspaper on March 19, 2026. The Budget and Appropriation Ordinance encompasses all previous reviews by the Board of Commissioners. The Public Hearing is scheduled to occur at the April 20, 2026 regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners for the purpose of receiving public comments on the Budget and Appropriation Ordinance. A Legal Notice of the Public Hearing will be published in the Doings – Oak Brook Newspaper on April 9, 2026.*

President Knitter read the notice for the public hearing which will occur on April 20, 2026.

- b. Ten-Year Capital Improvement Plan

Dr. Kosey reported that a summary page with a prioritized list is included in the Ten-Year Capital Improvement Plan.

Commissioner Chan requested the ongoing maintenance costs which she believes are not being addressed. President Knitter stated that maintenance costs are listed “line-by-line.” Dr. Kosey explained that staff constantly review maintenance and their costs.

- c. Ordinance 26-0421: An Ordinance Authorizing the Destruction of the Verbatim Record of Certain Closed Meeting

President Knitter noted that this ordinance will be discussed.

- d. Safety Manual Updates

President Knitter stated that the Safety Manual Updates have been provided to the commissioners.

10. ENTER CLOSED SESSION: For the purpose of the Semi-Annual Review of Closed Meeting Minutes pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21) and 5 ILCS 120/2.06(d) of the Open Meetings Act; and for the Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance, or Dismissal of Specific Employees of the District, or Legal Counsel for the District pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) of the Open Meetings Act

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek, to enter into closed session at 8:15 p.m. for the Semi-Annual Review of Closed Meeting Minutes pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21) and 5 ILCS 120/2.06(d) of the Open Meetings Act; and for the Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance, or Dismissal of Specific Employees of the District, or Legal Counsel for the District pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) of the Open Meetings Act

The motion passed by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None

11. CLOSED SESSION

a. Semi-Annual Review of Closed Meeting Minutes for Release

i. Resolution 26-0422: A Resolution Regarding the Review of Minutes for Closed Meetings from January 1989 through February 2026

b. Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance, or Dismissal of Specific Employees of the District or Legal Counsel for the District

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 at 8:34 p.m.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None

13. THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE OAK BROOK PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS WILL BE HELD ON APRIL 20, 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 April 20, 2026, 6:30 p.m.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek, to adjourn the March 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 8:35 p.m.



Dr. Laure L. Kosey, Executive Director