

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE OAK BROOK PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
May 18, 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 Board of Commissioners at the hour of 6:32 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 the Canterbury Conference Room were 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. ANNUAL MEETING

a. Election of Park Board President and Vice President

i. President Knitter asked for nominations for Board President.

President Knitter nominated Ron Gondek as President of the Oak Brook Park District Board of Commissioners.

No other nominations were made, and President Knitter closed nominations.

Motion: President Knitter made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley, to elect Ron Gondek as President of the Oak Brook Park District Board of Commissioners by voice vote.

The motion passed, and Ron Gondek became President of the Oak Brook Park District Board of Commissioners.

President Knitter asked for nominations for Board Vice President.

Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley nominated Sharon Knitter as Vice President of the Oak Brook Park District Board of Commissioners.

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek, to elect Sharon Knitter as Vice President of the Oak Brook Park District Board of Commissioners by voice vote.

The motion passed by voice vote, and Sharon Knitter became the Vice President of the Oak Brook Park District Board of Commissioners. Commissioners Chan and Vescovi opposed the vote.

b. Appointment of Board Secretary and Treasurer

President Knitter proposed that since the Board's Secretary has traditionally been the Executive Director, Laure Kosey should be reappointed to serve as Secretary unless majority of the Board member has an objection.

Commissioner Vescovi stated that the Executive Director should not be Secretary of the Board. Commissioner Chan does not agree with Dr. Kosey being secretary of the board.

Motion: President Knitter made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley, to elect Laure Kosey as Secretary of the Oak Brook Park District Board of Commissioners by roll call vote.

The motion passed by roll call vote to elect Dr. Kosey as Secretary of the Oak Brook Board of Commissioners.

Ayes: Commissioners Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, and President Knitter

Nays: Commissioners Chan and Vescovi

Motion: Commissioner Vescovi made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Chan, to elect Tina Chan as Secretary of the Oak Brook Park District Board of Commissioners.

Since the first motion to elect Dr. Kosey as Secretary of the Oak Brook Board of Commissioner passed, the second motion to elect Tina Chan did not take place.

President Knitter asked for nominations for Board Treasurer. President Knitter nominated Ivana Ivkovic Kelley for Board Treasurer. Commissioner Vescovi nominated Tina Chan as Board Treasurer.

Motion: President Knitter made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek, to elect Ivana Ivkovic Kelley as Treasurer by roll call vote.

The motion passed by roll call vote to elect Ivana Ivkovic Kelley as Treasurer of the Oak Brook Board of Commissioners.

Ayes: Commissioners Ivkovic Kelley, Gondek, and President Knitter

Nays: Commissioners Vescovi and Chan

Motion: Commissioner Vescovi made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Chan, to elect Tina Chan as Treasurer of the Oak Brook Park District Board of Commissioners.

Since the first motion to elect Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley of the Oak Brook Board of Commissioner passed, the second motion to elect Tina Chan did not take place.

4. OPEN FORUM

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

Ilene Briner uses the Oak Brook Park District with a Guest Fee. Briner presented her viewpoint on changing the Park District language regarding gender.

Ed Briner presented his opinion on opposing any neutral gender language at the Oak Brook Park District.

Audrey Ridlen, resident and member of the Park District, expressed appreciation for the Oak Brook Park District. Ridlen discovered at Central Park West during the Santa visit that the restroom is an all-gender restroom with multiple stalls which she then contacted Dr. Kosey. Dr. Kosey explained that there will be changes, but it will take some time.

Seamus Laird, an Oak Brook resident, expressed his concerns about gender-neutral language.

Elaine Zannis, an Oak Brook resident, questioned the gender-neutral language and expressed her concerns of gender-neutral in words and action.

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA, MINUTES, AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT

a. APPROVAL OF THE MAY 18, 2026 AGENDA

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek, to approve the May 18, 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. April 20, 2026 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Motion: Commissioner Chan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Vescovi, to approve the April 20, 2026 Regular Board Meeting Minutes as amended.

Commissioner Chan explained her reasons for amending the minutes. Commissioner Chan's amendments have been shared with the commissioners.

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 April 20, 2026 Regular 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 APRIL 30, 2026

i. Warrant 708

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

6. STAFF RECOGNITION

a. None

7. PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

a. Review of the Oak Brook Park District Strategic Plan 2025-2029

Dr. Kosey presented the Strategic Plan which is reviewed every six months, and she directed the Board to the feedback on "Voices of Oak Brook."

Commissioner Chan expressed her concern about the gender-neutral language written throughout the Strategic Plan.

8. REPORTS:

a. Administration and Enterprise Operations Report

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

President Knitter congratulated the Park District on a successful Pink 5k. Dr. Kosey thanked President Knitter for participating.

b. Finance and Human Resources Report

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

Preliminary financials from the prior fiscal year (FY) are included in the Board packet. Invoices from the prior FY are coming in to be processed. Auditors will be on site in July and may find additional adjustments, so the final audited numbers will be presented in October.

c. Recreation and Communications Report

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

Pechous introduced TYPTI, a new sport that combines tennis and badminton on pickleball courts.

Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley stated that she has heard a lot of praise for the teen volunteers.

d. Parks and Facilities Report

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

Johnson reported that the Ball Field Parking lot and Tennis Center renovations are upcoming. Johnson also announced that tree saplings and wildflower seeds were distributed for Earth month. President Knitter stated that residents have told her that they have been planting the tree saplings with their grandchildren and created a small forest in their backyard.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Ordinance 26-0518: An Ordinance Declaring Surplus Personal Property and Authorizing Conveyance or Sale Thereof

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek, to approve Ordinance 26-0518: An Ordinance Declaring Surplus Property and Authorizing Conveyance or Sale Thereof.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None

b. General Use Regulations Chapter 1

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek, to approve the recommended updates to Chapter One of the General Use Regulations.

Commissioner Chan expressed that this is where gender neutral language is presented. Dr. Kosey read the actual change in language.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, and President Knitter

Nays: Commissioners Chan and Vescovi

10. NEW BUSINESS

a. Objectives and Key Results

Pechous reported that the Objectives and Key Results (OKRs) are in the board packet and the purpose is to improve the Park District by encouraging staff to be more invested in the Park District and core values. An added eligibility for the OKR incentive is that staff must receive at least 75% "Exceed Expectations" on their annual performance appraisal to qualify.

- b. Ordinance 26-0518: An Ordinance for Transferring Anticipated Unexpended Funds from Certain Appropriation Items to Other Items of Appropriation.

Salinas explained the need to transfer from one budget to another, considering underspending will occur in one item while overspending in another item since the budget is an estimate. President Knitter reminded the Board that the process is explained and go through supervisor approval process.

- c. General Use Regulations Sections 2-3

Dr. Kosey stated that this section is being reviewed incrementally.

11. ENTER CLOSED SESSION: For the purpose of the selection of a person to fill a public office, as defined in this Act, including a vacancy in a public office, when the public body is given power to appoint under law or ordinance, or the discipline, performance or removal of the occupant of a public office, when the public body is given power to remove the occupant under law or ordinance, pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(3) of the Open Meetings Act.

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek, to enter into closed session at 7:31 p.m. for the purpose of the selection of a person to fill a public office, as defined in this Act, including a vacancy in a public office, when the public body is given power to appoint under law or ordinance, or the discipline, performance or removal of the occupant of a public office, when the public body is given power to remove the occupant under law or ordinance, pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(3) 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 at 8:23 p.m.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

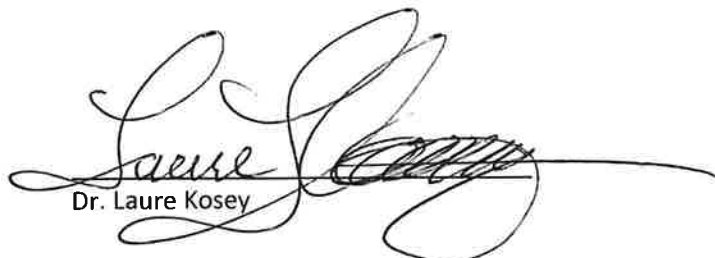
Ayes: Commissioners Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, Vescovi, Chan, and President Knitter

Nays: None

13. THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE OAK BROOK PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS WILL BE HELD ON JUNE 15, 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 June 15, 2026, 6:30 p.m.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek, to adjourn the May 18, 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 8:24 p.m.



Dr. Laure Kosey